**Alexander County Board of Commissioners Minutes**

**2000 Washington Avenue**

**Cairo, IL. 62914**

 Chairman: Joe Griggs Vice Chairman: Bruce Sims

Commissioner: L. “Steve” Essex

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**February 14th, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Griggs @ 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call of Board Members

* Joe E. Griggs: Present
* Bruce Sims: Present
* L. Steve Essex: Present

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of the January 31st, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Tiffany George with Southern Five provided an update on the Ambulance Departments USDA Emergency Rural Health Care Grant, to update the Ambulance Base. Mrs. George stated that they are closer to receiving the grant. Mrs. George stated that they have published that they are accepting bids on the project. Bids are accepted now until February 23rd, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., at the Southern Five office, then the bids will be taken to the Ambulance Department that day to be opened at 9:00 a.m.

Mrs. George need a Contract for Professional Services signed between Alexander County and Southern Five to service this project. The contract states, the Local Government is contributing approximately $135,667 from its former Revolving Loan Fund and has received a grant amount of $407,000 to renovate the Alexander County Ambulance Base. Also states that Southern Five shall be compensated $32,500.

Mr. Sims motioned, and Mr. Essex second the approval of the Southern Five Contract for Professional Services for the USDA Emergency Rural Health Care Grant. Motion passed by vote.

Mrs. George also wanted to provide an update on the FEMA account close out. Mrs. George gave a brief history of the FEMA buyout, and account from 2019 until now. She stated that it has taken awhile to give IEMA, and IDNR all the documents to all the pieces of land there was in the buyout. But, hopes to close it out soon.

Mr. Griggs appointed Jack Guetterman to the Alexander County Airport Authority board. Term limits: 2/14/2023 – 2/8/2028.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval of Tax Sale Resolutions 02-23-001 – 02-23-068. Motion passed by vote.

Assessor Matlock informed the board that the GIS software she has will be obsolete in two years, and she needs to switch software.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval of the Bruce Harris proposal to switch software’s for the Assessor of $16,050 out of ARPA funds. Motion passed by vote.

The Assessor made the board aware that her full-time employee is retiring in 10 months, and has 10 weeks of personal time saved up to use. The Assessor wanted to ask for a full-time employee. The board agreed that the Assessor can do what she needs to, to run her office.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second to approve the Engineering Agreement with BFW (Bacon Farmer Workman) for Phase I and Phase II Engineering to replace Structure 002-3005 on Grapevine Trail Bridge over Clear Creek. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval of the Federal Aid Agreement for the STR/TARP Resurfacing of Grapevine Trail (CH 4). Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval of Resolution 12-14-2023-A. Motion passed by vote.

County Clerk Price went over the cost study proposal from Bellwether for the County Clerks office, that was tabled at the February 2nd, 2023 meeting. Mr. Price showed the board that on August 22, 2027 Governor Rauner signed HB3036 The Predictable Fee Schedule into law. Which states that the County Board has to approve the predictable fee schedule for the Recorders office. Mr. Price informed the board they only way to get a predictable fee schedule is to have a cost study done.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval for the County Clerks office to have a cost study done by Bellwether. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Sims second the approval to pay claims between February 2nd, 2023 – February 14th, 2023. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay EMA claims. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay Ambulance Department claims. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay Highway Department claims. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay Alexander County Payroll. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Essex second the approval to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by vote. Meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zachary C. Price, County Clerk