**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 27th, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Griggs @ 2:00 p.m.

**Roll Call of Board Members:**

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

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of the February 13th, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of Trustee Deed Resolutions 02-24-001 thru 02-24-003. Motion passed by vote.

Wade Earnhart came before the board to be appointed to the McClure East Cape Public Water District. Done Hileman is finishing up her term which ends 4/30/2024, and that’s the spot Mr. Earhart would be taking. Mr. Griggs appointed Mr. Earnhart to the McClure East Cape Public Water District. Term will be 5/1/2024 – 4/30/2029.

Heather Rose with Southern Five came before the board to give updates on the ambulance base renovation, and grant. Ms. Rose stated that they are about 30 days away from completion.

Ms. Rose had pay estimate #8 for Wissing Construction of $17,405.69.

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of pay estimate #8 to Wissing Construction for $17,405.69. Motion passed by vote.

Ms. Rose had a reimbursement to the County Highway Department for $5,643.30 for materials that they purchased for the renovation.

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of reimbursing the County Highway Department $5,643.30. Motion passed by vote.

Ms. Rose also had a list of deductions for the renovation as well. Wissinger didn’t use 4 trusses, and when Ms. Bigham bought the new cabinets for the renovation she purchased counter tops then, so Wissinger didn’t use his. Total amount of deduction is $5,548.75.

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of deductions for $5,548.75. Motion passed by vote.

ACEMA Director Mike Turner came to the board asking for the Chairman to sign a memorandum of agreement with the Disaster Response Team Rotary International. Mr. Turner explained that the new Director is the former ACEMA Director in Massac, and he has a good relationship with him. Mr. Turner explained that the agreement states that if there is a disaster that the Rotary Team would take over may responsibilities that was very hard for ACEMA to handle in previous disasters. Mr. Turner Explained that the big things they will handle are taking care of the volunteers and volunteer hours, and finding a base to setup at. Mr. Turner stated that the agreement says we will let them use 6 radios, and Mr. Turner said he would inform the Rotary Team that we just do not have that many radios.

Mr. Griggs signed the Memorandum of Agreement between ACEME and the Disaster Response Team Rotary International.

Mr. Turner presented letters from all four of the fire departments in the county, stating what their needs are and what is hurting them. Mr. Turner explained some need trucks, loaders, and air tanks. Mr. Turner was asking the board to donated $60,000 to each fire department.

The Board stated they didn’t know if they could do that much if at all. But they would review the documents and get back to him.

Sheriff Brown came before the board to discuss getting new patrol cars. Sheriff stated that he has one car that is completely done, and another one about to go out. He stated that their life is 2-3 years. Sheriff explained that he was able to find a couple of new cars that have 20,000-30,000 miles and could get them both for around $55,000-$60,000.

Mr. Sims made motion and Mr. Griggs second the approval of getting the Sheriffs Department 2 new patrol vehicles for $60,000, out of ARPA funds. Motion passed by vote.

**Claims:**

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay claims between February 13th, 2024 – February 27th, 2024. Motion passed by vote.

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

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

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

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

**Board Member Comments:**

Mr. Griggs stated that after buying the Sheriffs Department two new vehicles using ARPA, they he wants the board to not use ARPA funds for the next 6 months. The balance as of 2/27/2024 was about $378,000, and minus $60,000 for cars, they expect the amount to sit around $318,000 for the next 6 months.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by vote. Meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zachary C. Price, County Clerk