**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**

**August 1st, 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: Absent

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of the July 18th, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Approval of the June 20th, 2023 Executive Session minutes were tabled until the August 15th, 2023 meeting.

There was a discussion with Gayla Jones, and Scott Spurlock from Pulaski Co. Detention Center, over the new contract proposal.

Both parties agreed to lower the 20% late fee down to 5%, and to eliminate that if a prisoner is hospitalized for more than 48hrs Alexander Co. is responsible for security coverage and if we can’t provide an officer for security, they wanted Alexander County to pay for their officer being there.

The hospital confinement part of the contract was eliminated, and the late fee was dropped 5%.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval the Intergovernmental Agreement for The Operation of Pulaski County Detention Center Located in Pulaski County Illinois. Motion passed by vote.

Discussion how to pay for Ambulance services was tabled until the August 15th, 2023 meeting.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of Trustee Resolution 07-23-001. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of Ordinance 08012023-A: Ordinance to ban on-site cannabis consumption at cannabis dispensaries. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Price explained to the board what exactly the Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board PY23 Allocated Fund Submission was, based off the information Jessica Barbre from Southern 14 gave him.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of the PY23 Allocated Grant Application Funding Submission. Motion passed by vote.

Treasurer Watkins gave a Treasurers Report. Mrs. Watkins stated that General Fund is low and needed a transfer to cover payroll. Mrs. Watkins advised that the board do not take from ARPA but to do an early distribution from the Trustee Redemption Fund. The board agreed.

Mrs. Watkins wanted to bring something to the boards attention that happened between her office and the County Clerks office. Mr. Griggs tried to explain to Mrs. Watkins that incidents between offices are not the boards responsibility. Mr. Griggs and Mrs. Watkins got into a heated discussion about it, and Mrs. Watkins left the meeting before the board could ask her questions about other business, they needed to discuss with her.

During the heated discussion Treasurer Watkins made what could be presumed as a threat towards Chairman Griggs, twice saying: “you will get yours.”

Mr. Griggs told Mr. Price that he wants to have signature cards made for the ARPA account, and the Opiod account, so that he can sign those checks and have information on it, and not have to rely on Mrs. Watkins. Mr. Griggs asked Mr. Price what he needed to do, Mr. Price said he would call Amy Farrow at the bank to see.

Assessor Matlock explained her home office reimbursement vouchers, and why she should be reimbursed since it is coming out of her GIS account. Ms. Matlock explained that once she retires that furniture will come back to the county. The board agreed to approve her reimbursement vouchers.

Ms. Matlock also vouchered the appraiser Russell Sloan’s invoice for having to come and testify at the Board of Review and Bungee hearing. The board agreed that the voucher should be paid of out ARPA like the appraisal was paid out of.

There were three vouchers made by Treasurer Watkins regarding early distribution that the board needed to ask her to get more information on. Mr. Griggs said he would not sign them, or approve them until she was able to answer the questions about them. The board did not approve those vouchers at this meeting, and were put back in the voucher basket.

 Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay claims between July 18th – August 1st, 2023. 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.

Mr. Sims made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by vote. Meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zachary C. Price, County Clerk