**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 29th, 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: Absent
* L. Steve Essex: Present

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of the August 15th, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion passed by vote.

Heather Rose from Southern Five came to the board to have pay estimate #3 for the Ambulance Base Grant to be approved for $66,514.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of pay estimate #3 for the Ambulance Base Grant of $66,514. Motion passed by vote.

There a was discussion about the epoxy floor was going in soon. Also, the new smoking receptacles outside the building were denied, since this is a health grant.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of Resolution 08152023-A, a resolution to open a new bank account at Southern Bank for opioid settlement agreement checks the county receives. Motion passed by vote.

Mr. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval of Trustee Resolutions 08-23-001 to 08-23-010. Motion passed by vote.

**New Business:**

ACEMA Director Mike Turner met with the board about IEMA’s plans and concerns for the eclipse, that is supposed to happen in April 2024.

Mr. Turner stated that IEMA would like Alexander County to have a board regarding safety concerns for the eclipse. Mr. Turner stated that we won’t see anything like IEMA is projecting, because we didn’t see it the last time it happened, and this time we aren’t in the total path. Mr. Turner did say he will have a board made up of himself, EMS Director Susan Bigham, Highway Engineer Nathan Bullard, the Alexander County Board, and Sheriff Tim Brown.

County Clerk Zachary C. Price presented the board with a proposal from James Arthur Design Co., for a county seal, for $2,500.

The board liked the proposal and told Mr. Price to proceed with getting the county a seal.

**Public Comment:**

Russ Marsh of Elco wanted to talk to the board about animal control. Mr. Marsh says the county is in desperate need of an animal control, and that there is no one to call when animal emergencies are needed. Mr. Marsh also explains that he helps animals in his own life find forever homes, after being rescued. Mr. Marsh stated that he would like to get on the agenda to discuss it further with the board.

The board stated that the funds are tight, and the last animal shelter in Cairo closed because of funding. The board asked Mr. Marsh to get on the September 26th agenda, and come with a plan next time to discuss options.

Mr. Esses made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to pay claims between August 15th – August 29th, 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. Essex made motion, and Mr. Griggs second the approval to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by vote. Meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zachary C. Price, County Clerk