

OHIO COUNTY COMMISSION
8/25/2020

The Ohio County Commission met in regular session by phone due to COVID-19 at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2020.

On the phone were President Timothy P. McCormick, Commissioners Randy Wharton, Don Nickerson, Solicitor Don Tennant, Finance Director Rodd Archey, and Administrator Gregory L. Stewart.

Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2020 Commission meeting. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Grants

2020 SVAW Award

Administrator Stewart said you have a copy of the Stop Violence Against Women grant award. It is in the amount of \$71,967.00. We have applied for this grant for twenty-two years and have been successful every year in getting funds. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the SVAW grant award. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Addressing

Dave Weaver said we have one road for your approval tonight. Connie and Scottie Graham have put a double wide on the back part of their property and there is more room for development. They are requesting a road name of Maco Drive. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the new road name. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dues

Administrator Stewart said you have a copy of the annual invoice we receive from the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce. If the Commission so approves, we will pay the invoice and be a member for another year. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to renew our membership. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

2020/2021 Audit RFP-Scoring Committee Results

Administrator Stewart said as we do each year the State takes control of the audit and they decide if we bid out to a CPA firm or they handle it internally. Again, this year they asked us to bid out the County Audit. You have the audit proposal score sheet in front of you. The audit committee consisted of the Brenda Miller, Circuit Clerk, Lisa Tyler, Chief Tax Deputy in the Sheriff's office, Sondra Elson our Accountant and Rodd Archey our Finance Director. You see there we had four firms submit, and the highest scoring given was for Kozicki Hughes Tickerhoof, PLLC. They have handled our audit for several years. The committee would recommend that the County Commission would contract again with them this year. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the audit firm of Kozicki Hughes Tickerhoof PLLC as the audit firm for the next two years. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Bid Items

Court Security Xray Equipment

Administrator Stewart said there is a new Xray screen device for the security entrance here at the City County building that we would like to bid out. We have a fairly new machine there but now that the store front has been completed and we freshened up the lobby and it looks good the Sheriff would like to move forward with a new one that will be funded by a Court Security Grant. Then we would like to move the Xray scanner we have down there over to the AEP building entrance. If the Commission approves, we will bid the Xray scanner out. Administrator Stewart said we should only have to add \$7,000.00 approximately to \$18,000.00 from the grant to pay for the new scanner. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve bidding out for a new scanner. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

County Clerk Server

Administrator Stewart said the County Clerk needs a new file server. County Clerk Mike Kelly is getting more and more of the records digitized and available through his website. His current server was installed in 2013 and is showing its age. The estimate on a new server is \$25,684.00. His revenues have been very good the last few years so our guess is the budget revision would come from his revenue budget and would cover this expense easily. If the Commission so approves, we will get bids out for this and bring them back to a future County Commission meeting. Commissioner Nickerson said Mike Kelly does a great job and has brought everything up to the twenty first century. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the request to bid out for a new server. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

JAG-PPE Equipment/ Supplies

Administrator Stewart said we have a Cares Act grant through JAG for \$58,0008.00. There is a list attached for multiple PPE items that the Sheriff is requesting. We would imagine that the grant will cover the full bid. If the Commission so approves, we will bring the bid back to a future meeting and acquire the equipment and get reimbursed by the grant. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the bid for the PPE for law enforcement. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Hotel Tax Request

Wheeling Heritage Trail Bicycle Tour (2020)

Administrator Stewart said we have one for the Wheeling Heritage Bicycle Tour and you have the hotel tax budget as it is up to date. President McCormick said we gave them \$2,000.00 last year. They are doing a virtual bike tour due to the COVID-19. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve \$2,000.00 for the Wheeling Heritage Bicycle Tour. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

OVRTA Radio Agreement

Administrator Stewart said you have a copy of our Memorandum of Agreement with OVRTA to join our County radio system. If you recall this is the same document we used when we brought the Board of Education on, as well as the City of Wheeling and Marshall County. As we had discussed a while back OVRTA would like us to purchase the radios and pay us back over a five-year term. The total cost for the radios for OVRTA is \$133,175.00. They will pay us \$2,220 per month for a five-year period until those are paid off. In addition, to cover the cost of maintenance, they will pay us \$20.00 a radio for a total of \$720.00 per month. This has really been a blessing for all of us. Nobody must come up will millions of dollars and we can all communicate with one another when needed. We are on a maintenance agreement with Motorola, so this just goes to cover that cost. If the Commission so approves, we will enter into the agreement with OVRTA. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Ohio County Commission and OVRTA. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Certificate of Re-entry

Administrator Stewart said we have a certificate of re-entry submitted by the Assessor to enter a parcel back onto the tax rolls. This involves some coal rights; it came from Attorney Jake Altemeyer. When we initially got it, everything did not quite match up for us. We took it down to our County Clerk, Mike Kelly and he investigated and found the original submission did contain an error. This is now one parcel. So, with that we recommend approval to place this back on the books. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the re-entry. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Election/ Voter Registration

Administrator Stewart said we have a few items for your review. The first is the updated tentative schedule. We had the ballot drawing this morning here in the boardroom and if you remember there was some discussion as the ballot drawing may change. Well for this election it did not. The Republicans are first, the Democrats, then other parties. There were just a few people at the drawing this morning. Next, we need to decide if we want to send absentee ballot applications out to all registered voters in the County. The Secretary of State's office has approved Counties to pay for and mail out the applications to all registered voters. We are thinking it would cost \$15,000.00 to do this. President McCormick asked is there a way to make sure that someone that has already requested a form not to receive one in the mailing. Rodd Archey explained the process to the Commissioners noting that when we send the list to Supermail, the people that have already requested will not show on that list. Commissioner Nickerson said I know it is a cost but there are a lot of people that may be afraid of going to the precincts. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve to mail out absentee applications to all Ohio County registered voters. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

BONDS

Administrator Stewart said we do not have anything tonight.

BUDGET REVISIONS

Administrator Stewart said we do not have any tonight.

STAFF REPORTS

Administrator Stewart said we have a holiday coming up, Monday, September 7, 2020 which is Labor Day. All offices will be closed except those that are required to remain open.

BILLS

Administrator Stewart said you have a copy of all the bills as they are up to date. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to pay the bills. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

EXONERATIONS

Administrator Stewart said you have a copy of ten exonerations before you. Six involve real estate and four involve vehicles. All are credits reducing a tax and all are recommended by the Assessor. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the exonerations. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

President McCormick said I have another item for the agenda. I68 Authority is asking for \$4,000.00 to be sent to them to defray their costs. President McCormick said my recommendation is to continue the policy of not funding them as in the past. Commissioner Nickerson asked if we had already decided this issue previously. President McCormick said it is for the I68 Authority for their expenses. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to table this and bring to the next meeting. Second by Commissioner Wharton. Motion carried with all voting in favor. President McCormick asked does anyone from the public wish to speak. Nothing from the public.

FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

President McCormick said the next meeting will be on September 8, 2020 with the Ohio County Development meeting at 5:00 p.m. and the Ohio County Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

President, Timothy P. McCormick

Administrator, Gregory L. Stewart