

Franklin County Commissioners
July 18, 2016
Commissioners/Council Meeting Room 203

Commissioners: Tom Wilson, Tom Linkel and Eric Roberts
Commissioners Secretary: Carol Westerman
Auditor: Stephen Brack

Open: The meeting was called to order by President Tom Wilson and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Wilson then asked for a moment of silence for those officers who have lost their lives and in the violence's that have occurred and the safety for the men and women who have the job of protecting our lives.

Petition to Vacate Alley: Tammy Davis, Attorney for Michael Rose, asks for petition to vacate a portion of the north end of Street Car Road. Attorney Davis has advertised the request and also spoke with Co. Surveyor Joe Gillaspie. Following the discussion a motion was made by Tom Linkel to grant the request and was 2nd by Tom Wilson. Motion carried.

BARC: Dr. Jere Schoettmer spoke about the Batesville Area Resource Center and stated that she was not here to ask for money but wanted the Commissioners support in pursuing any Federal Grants. She also noted that the Commissioners would not be liable and the center is working with Susan Craig of SEIRPC. A motion was made by Tom Wilson to help support and sponsor BARC and a 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Minutes: A motion was made by Tom Wilson to approve the minutes of June 20 and July 5 and was 2nd by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

VSO/Clerk: A motion was made by Tom Wilson to acknowledge the June reports of both the VSO and the Clerk and was 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Claims: A motion was made by Tom Linkel to approve claims and was 2nd by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2016-23: A motion was made by Tom Wilson to approve Ordinance 2016-23 for Minimum Internal Control Standards and Procedures and establishing the Materiality Threshold of \$100.00 and 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Franklin County Highway – Ted Cooley: gave his weekly update. It is noted that the Community Crossings Grant application is due by July 29, 2016. Bridge 139 replacement project – Wolf Creek Road pre bid site meeting would be the next 2 Wednesdays at 1:00PM and the bids are due Friday, July 29 at 3:00PM and presented to the Commissioners Aug. 1st. Paser Study: Mr. Cooley gave the Commissioners a summary of the 150 page final report. The Commissioners criticized the report. Commissioner Roberts pointed to an error in Blue Creek Bridge. The map they were given was extremely small that only could see the color coded status of the roads. Commissioner Wilson was concerned as to how Mr. Strange could determine the ratings. The road rating for all Franklin County roads is 5.36 out of 10. He also disagreed with which roads are major connector roads: St. Mary's, St. Peters, Blue Creek, Fairfield

Causeway, Vanetta, Buena Vista and Hamburg. These would be roads that would receive grant money as they have a higher traffic count. Commissioner Wilson stated that Vanetta Road is not a major connector. Commissioner Wilson stated that he knows which roads in his district need repair and he would prefer to apply for grant funding on his own observation. Mr. Cooley agreed to apply for the funding that Mr. Wilson wanted. Commissioner Roberts stated that we must go by the Paser Study. He stated that we need to adjust the repair list to that of the study. Mr. Cooley noted that the county's application much match the pavement study if the county wants to be successful in getting the money. Commissioner Roberts noted plans for Liberty Pike and Drewersburg roads. The Commissioners will ask Mr. Strange to attend the next meeting.

Old equipment – Auction: discussion was held concerning old equipment as to how to dispose of such as an auction or just by advertising. The Commissioners Secretary was to send a notice to all departments to see if they would have old equipment to dispose of.

Payroll: Commissioner Roberts had several questions regarding payroll. First was why a new employee would be receiving pay for the 4th of July? Second – why did an employee who quit in mid-June was paid for the July 4 holiday. Mr. Roberts stated that as long as an employee remains on the payroll, he or she would be a liability to the county and could in essence apply for a workman's comp. claim. Commissioner Linkel noted that they deserved the holiday pay. Commissioner Wilson stated that some get paid out and some don't. He said that no one would be hired until the former employee has collected their unused vacation pay. Commissioner Roberts stated that the employee can still soak the county for another month of insurance and another holiday. Third was the fact that the employee exit form was not completed nor was it sent to the auditor or Commissioner Secretary so they would know the person is no longer employed. Fourth Commissioner Roberts debated with Commissioner Linkel about what is meant by separation date. Is it the last day they worked or when they got their final paycheck? Commissioner Roberts wants to pay the person on their last day. Fifth: Commissioner Roberts wants the employee to sign an exit form when they and quit and that could simply save the county money for possible unemployment claims. Commissioner Wilson agreed to consider a policy change as long as the new employee was not hired until after the former employee received their last check. Also Commissioner Roberts alerted the Auditor that a part-time jailer has been hired full-time and overtime should be computed as appropriate. Following the discussion a motion was made by Eric Roberts to approve payroll and was 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Vote Centers: President Wilson read a portion of a letter from the Franklin County Election Board stating that they were in the process of transforming into a vote center county. These vote centers would allow residents the option to vote at any center location, unhindered by their specific home address and former polling place. The Board also asks that one Commissioner be appointed to the committee to help with the study. Their goal is to convert to the Vote Center by the 2018 Primary Election with the latest being 2020. A motion was made by Tom Linkel to appoint Eric Roberts and was 2nd by Tom Wilson. Motion carried.

Zimmer Tractor: a discussion was held concerning the need for a new side mower. The tractor that is used is in good shape but not the mower. It is noted that all 3 districts would have the same type of equipment. The bid from Zimmer is \$23,495.00 and Commissioner Roberts stated that for the record the bids from last April were from \$25,000 to \$29,000 so this is a competitive bid. A motion was made by Tom Linkel to approve and was 2nd by Tom Wilson. Motion carried.

Comments: John Estridge asked what the estimate of Wolf Creek Bridge is and as told \$260,000.00. He also asked President Wilson about the Auditor's office. President Wilson remarked that he spoke with Veronica Voelker, Treasurer and the EFT'S were caught up, a new Deputy has been hired and LOW is in the process of training.

Adjourn: With no further business being discussed a motion to adjourn was made by Tom Wilson and 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Others in attendance: Betty Lecher, Mildred Simmermeyer, Heidi Reuss, Ray Lovins, Sara Duffy, John Estridge, Michael Rose, Tim George, Ted Cooley, Jere Schoettmer, James Sprague, Tammy Davis. The names are spelled correctly per sign in sheet.

AYE

Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson

Tom Linkel

Tom Linkel

Eric Roberts

Eric Roberts

NAY

Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson

Tom Linkel

Tom Linkel

Eric Roberts

Eric Roberts

Attest:

Stephen Brack

Stephen Brack, Auditor