

**FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**May 2, 2017 – 10:00 A.M.**  
**COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL MEETING ROOM, #203**

The Franklin County Commissioners met in regular meeting on May 2, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Meeting Room. Those present were Tom Wilson, Tom Linkel, Eric Roberts, Carol Westerman and Karla Bauman, Auditor.

Open - The meeting was called to order and the pledge of allegiance led by Tom Wilson.

Veronica Voelker – Franklin County Treasurer: Veronica Voelker presented two ordinances for the Commissioners approval. Ordinance 2017-08 "Establishing Processing Fee For Mobile Home Transfers and Moving Permits Prepared by the Franklin County Treasurer" and Ordinance 2017-09 "An Ordinance Establishing a Tax List Fee and Further Establishing a County Treasurer Non-Reverting Fund For the Deposit of Such Fees, Together with Excess Tax Sale Fees".

**Motion:** Motion to sign Ordinance 2017-08 Establishing Processing Fee For Mobile Home Transfers and Moving Permits Prepared by the Franklin County Treasurer by Tom Linkel, seconded by Eric Roberts, all in favor.

**Motion:** Motion to sign Ordinance 2017-09 Establishing a Tax List Fee and Establishing A County Treasurer Non-Reverting Fund for the Deposit of Such Fees, Together with Excess Tax Sale Fees by Tom Linkel, seconded by Eric Roberts, all in favor.

**Ted Cooley – FC Engineer – Updates:** Ted Cooley wanted to remind drivers to be cautious with crossing on slabs and roadways when flooded. Fast moving water on roads can carry away a small car and knock over and carry away an adult.

Discussed Account 1135.23802 – Various Bridges & Culverts Supplies - \$50,000

Projects – Blue Creek and Oxford Pike Steel Pipes and Culvert SP-3601, State Line Road – Box Culvert quote.

**Motion:** Eric Roberts motioned for Ted Cooley go ahead and order the box culvert in the total sum of \$7,992 for State Line Road just south of ~~Kerr~~ Rd. and to order that at the direction of the Auditor, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor. *Heard*

**Motion:** Eric Roberts motioned for Ted Cooley to go ahead and order the steel pipes for the Blue Creek, Oxford Pike and River Road Bridge Projects, with the direction of the Auditor's office, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor.

**2018 CCMG Funds Match – 75/25 -** Eric Roberts would like to see the above projects included in the 2018 matching grants. Ted Cooley asked if the money should be moved to the Rainy Day Fund and then to the fund for next year's Community Crossing Grant. The money can be spent in advance and still be included in the projects considered for this grant. Tom Linkel said we may need to put some Highway money into the Rainy Day for these grants.

**Award of Highway Equipment:** Tom Wilson – County Council did approve the money for the equipment bids. Boom Mower – Chambers American Products: Tom Linkel motioned to award the Boom Mower to Chambers American Products in the sum of \$136,000 even, seconded by Tom Wilson. Eric Roberts opposed. Eric Roberts stated that the bid process on this equipment did not go thru the proper bid process. We did not go thru the

proper bid process. We just got a SBOA Audit back finding that we did not following the proper bid procedures. The Bid Notice needed to be advertised two times, one week apart with the last one being advertised at least 10 days before the opening of the bids. Following much discussion, it was determined that the notice was only advertised one time. John Worth stated that it would need to be advertised two times under the law. It was Mr. Worth's suggestion that the process be started over. It will absolutely not be fair to those who have already bid. The Auditor will check with the SBOA.

**Karla Bauman, FC Auditor – Med-Ben Invoice:** The Auditor came before the Commissioners to discuss the Health Insurance Fund and processing of the Med-Ben Invoice by the Auditor's office. In November 2015, Franklin County Council by ordinance established Fund 4701 and 4702. The ordinance established how the Health Insurance monies were to be receipted into the funds and which Fund was to be used for county healthcare expenses. County Council beginning with the 2016 budget year, underfunded the costs of the health plan expenses as provided to the Auditor on the monthly Med-Ben invoice. Since enough money was not appropriated during 2016 to cover the entire cost as shown on the invoice, the former Auditor's office made transfers of money from 4700 to 4702 at the direction of County Council. This gave the appearance on paper that the invoice for Med-Ben had in fact been made with budget appropriated money, but it was not. The Med-Ben invoice (stop/loss premium) should have just been paid out of Fund 4700. The money should never have been improperly transferred to Fund 4702. In addition to the Med-Ben invoice amount being transferred to Fund 4702, the County's monthly contribution portion per the contract was also not paid. Again, the County's contribution was transferred from Fund 4700 to Fund 4702. The whole purpose of establishing 4701 and 4702 was to segregate the employee money from the employer money. Fund 4702 is no longer segregated since money from Fund 4700 was moved to Fund 4702. County Council also directed the Auditor to transfer \$21,456.54 from Fund 4700 to 1000 County General as the Commissioner's appropriated budget was overdrawn in that amount. The proper correction would have been to make an adjustment out of Fund 4702 where the original payment was made. The underfunding caused the shortage to take place in October, 2016. With County Council underfunded the budget appropriations even more for 2017, the shortages will occur most likely by August. Fund 4701 is almost depleted and needs money receipted into it from Fund 4702, which is restricted by the ordinance. The Auditor is requesting direction from the Commissioners in regards to the processing of the Med-Ben Invoice. There were no issues with how it was handled in the Auditor's office until County Council underfunded it in 2016. The Auditor would like the Commissioners to provide a written policy in regards to the Self-Insured Health Plan and administration of not only Med-Ben Invoice, but employee and employer contributions. The Auditor just wants to make sure that all payments per the contract are properly being made and that there will be no liability for breach of fiduciary duties. Motion by Eric Roberts, to submit an additional for \$600,000 from Fund 4702 to cover medical claims and expenses of the health care plan for the remainder of the year, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried. Commissioners agreed to get an attorney that specializes in health insurance funding. Mr. Worth suggested contacting the Attorney General's office. Eric Roberts discussed the internal controls and the \$21,456.54 transfer of money from Fund 4700 to Fund 1000. Mr. Worth also expressed concerns about the employees having a cause of action for a class action lawsuit.

**James Ballinger Claim Correction Amount –** Motion to correct the amount of James Ballinger Claim approved at previous meeting to \$2,573.17 by Tom Wilson, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.

**Harry Graves:** Mr. Graves discussed his concerns with Commissioners about the marking of utilities on private property. Property owners should be notified prior to coming on the owner's property.

**Dale Maxie:** Dale Maxie brought his concern to the Commissioners in regards to a matter that was brought to the attention of Eric Roberts about 4 months. The issue is in regards to what Mr. Maxie perceives to be

criminal activity by a county employee. The matter is being investigated by the State Police. Mr. Roberts apologized for not following up, but will do so immediately.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Tom Wilson, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.

**Others in Attendance:** Mark R. Simmermeyer, Mildred I. Simmermeyer, Betty Lecher, Ted Cooley, Tim George, Harry Graves, James Sprague, Sara Duffy, John Estridge, Veronica Voelker, Dale Maxie, Ray Kersey, Brian Baxter, Daryl Zimmer, J. Steven Cox

Minutes approved May 23, 2017.

Ayes

Nays

Tom Wilson  
Tom Wilson, Commissioner

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Tom Wilson, Commissioner

Tom Linkel  
Tom Linkel, Commissioner

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Tom Linkel, Commissioner

Eric Roberts  
Eric Roberts, Commissioner

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Eric Roberts, Commissioner

Attested By: Karla J. Bauman  
Karla J. Bauman, Auditor