# Pike County Board

# Meeting Minutes

July 26th, 2021

1. Call to order

Chairman Jim Sheppard called to order the regular meeting of the Pike County Board at 7:03 p.m. in the upper courtroom of the Pike County Courthouse.

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Rodger Hannel gave the invocation and Chairman Sheppard led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Members present were Jim Sheppard, John Birch, Amy Gates, Rodger Hannel, Reta Hoskin, Tom Lewis, Mark Mountain, and Derek Ross. Mark Sprague was absent.

1. Approval of Minutes from Pike County Board meeting on July 1st, 2021

John Birch made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Approval of 6 month reports

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the 6 month report. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-1. John Birch voting against. Motion approved.

1. Appointment of Dan Mefford to the Gray Cemetery for a term to expire May 1st, 2027.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve. Seconded by Rodger Hannel. Voice Vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Approval of 2022 County Holidays

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve County Holiday’s. Rodger Hannel seconded. Voice vote 7-0.

1. Approval of County Trustee Tax Deeds

Mark Mountain approved the tax deed. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Appointment of Josh Martin to the ETSB board for a 3 year term.

John Birch made a motion to approve appointments. Mark Mountain seconded Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Possible action on Lightening Strike and Telephone system updated and repairs.

Brenda Despain, County GIS/IT coordinator updated the board on the status of the two lightening strikes and the phone/internet systems. The Annex building has been without phones for 4 weeks. They are now able to receive calls but still cannot call out. Corey from GFI stated he could use the election network at the Annex to supply internet in the building. He will work with County Clerk, Natalie Roseberry, to get the network information.

Adams network gave an update on the hybrid phone system and recommended a full ip system. Chairman Sheppard and Clerk Roseberry stated that recovery funds could possibly be used for this upgrade.

Derek Ross inquired if we could utilize old physical phones on new ip network, Adams stated we could not. He also inquired to have two separate internet connections to ensure we are back upped.

Mark Mountain made a motion to separate the internet from the Annex Building and the courthouse/Jail. John Birch seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Health Insurance authorization to seek bids.

Amy Gates made a motion to seek bids on the County’s health insurance. Derek Ross seconded. Voice vote 6-1. Mark Mountain voting against.

1. Committee Reports

Finance

Meeting was called to order on July 21st, 2021 at 5:38 p.m. of the Pike County Finance Committee Chair Rodger Hannel. Committee members present were Amy Gates and Reta Hoskin. Jim Sheppard, Board Chairman, was also present.

The committee reviewed and approved monthly bills totaling $87,257.78. The motion to approve was made by Reta Hoskin and seconded by Amy Gates. All approved. Although included in the total amount approve, the Committee is asking the County Clerk’s Office for additional information as to what was purchased through the invoices for Platinum, which referenced the public information website, and Walz Label and Mailing Systems, which referenced Equipment EW.

The committee has submitted a request to the County Clerk’s office that the County Clerk or a representative from her office attend each finance committee meeting to provide information as needed and/or take questions back to the County Clerk’s office for additional information. Jim Sheppard sent an e-mail to Natalie Roseberry making the request.

Under Old Business, The Committee discussed the following:

PayCom System Implementation Issues: Reports typically provided by the Treasurer’s office from the accounting system are not currently correct due to issues surrounding implementation of the paycomsystem. These reports are needed by Board Members and Department Heads. Jim Sheppard will follow up on the issue with the County Clerk’s Office.

The committee is seeking information from the County Clerk as to whether CIC has been informed the County is cancelling the portion of its agreement to receive payroll services from CIC. It is the Committee’s current understanding that there is a multi-year agreement with CIC for payroll and accounting services with a 90-day cancellation clause. Annual payments are made under this agreement.

Accounting for the first payment made under the Federal American Recovery Act Funds will need to be corrected. The hazard pay was completed in July, but the Treasurer’s Office did not have the information necessary to separate the hazard pay from other payroll commitments, so in order to keep time commitments, the entire payroll for that period was made from the Recovery Funds. This will be corrected as soon as the Treasurer’s Office receives the breakdown of the funds needed.

Under New Business, the committee discussed the following:

Arrears/Hazard Payment: Two department heads, who are appointed rather than elected, have requested the hazard payment. The Committee recommends this issue be added to the County Board’s agenda for discussion (in the context of the board previous decision) and possible action. The Committee discussed whether any such action would be applicable to other individuals as well. To resolve this discussion, Jim Sheppard sent an email to Natalie Roseberry asking for a report of who received the July Hazard payment and who, among those paid by the County, did not. The report is requested in time for the July Board Meeting.

Under Public Comments, the committee discussed the following: The Treasurer’s office made the committee aware that an employee of the County had recently discovered the Social Security Administration was not showing any wages reported for the employee for 2020. At this point, thoughts are that this may be an IRS reporting issue, but we will follow the situation to ensure there is not any action needed by the County.

A motion to adjourn was made by Amy Gates and seconded by Rodger Hannel. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve to Finance committee report. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Highway

The Road & Bridge Committee met Wednesday, July 21st, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the County Highway Department. The meeting was called to order at 4:13 p.m.

Members present were John Birch, Reta Hoskin, Mark Sprague, and Jim Sheppard. Chris Johnson and Gary Laux were also present.

A motion was made by Reta Hoskin, seconded by Mark Sprague to pay claims per claim reports dated July 21, 2021. All in favor. Motion carried.

The six month report will be resented at next month’s meeting.

A motion was made by Reta Hoskin, seconded by Mark Sprague to approve the Hutchinson Engineering, Inc. Engineering Services agreement regarding the reconstruction and resurfacing of 9.4 miles of CH-2, Section 18-00101-00-PP, in the sum of $203,434.00 and to appropriate $250,000.00 by resolution for preliminary and construction engineering which will be presented at the full board meeting on July 26th.

County Engineer advised that the oil and chip project was completed.

A motion was made by Reta Hoskin, seconded by Mark Sprague to adjourn meeting at 4:40 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mark Sprague made a motion to approve the committee report. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Rodger Hannel made a motion to approve project 18-00101-00-PP. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0.

John Birch made a motion to approve the Highway Committee minutes. Tom Lewis seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Building and Grounds

None

GIS/IT

The GIS/IT Committee was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on June 13th, 2021. Those in attendance were committee members Derek Ross, Amy Gates, Jim Sheppard, and Reta Hoskin. Also in attendance were Brenda DeSpain, Dan Brennecke, and Jason Trent (via phone) from GFI.

Under old business, Chief Judge McCartney has tv’s installed and moving forward and continuing from February, with the WTH proposal is still in consideration and an ETSB should be happening this month to hopefully decide whether to continue.

New business 6/25/2021 and 06/28/2021 lightening damage: Brenda is looking into potential phone options. She also stated that departments are still getting her information from the claims and replacement of equipment is ongoing. In speaking with Jason Trent from GGI, he is checking on if we have a back-up internet, how does it switch over if the main internet goes out? He will get back with us. Brenda is checking what servers are in the Annex building and what purpose they serve.

Brenda will reach out to Kasey regarding ambulance department emails.

The committee determined that all bills relating to the lightening claims be submitted to Brenda and the committee will address getting them paid.

A motion was made by Amy Gates and seconded by Derek Ross to go out for bid for the group health insurance. Amy and Derek voted in yes. Reta Hoskins voted present, the motion passed.

Brenda expressed she would prefer not to stream board meetings. Reta had volunteered to stream meetings. Dan Brennecke said there are issues that need to be resolved at this time but will keep us in the look what options will be available. Other topics were tabled until next month’s meeting.

Brenda would like to know what to do about Public Announcements. The committee suggested that Brenda contacts the department heads to have them let her know if they need announcements posted on the Webpage or Facebook.

Cindy Shaw had a letter of Authorization to pay Pro Val $8,000.00 (or less) out of her budget to upgrade the County to Pro Val version 9.x.

Amy Gates made a motion and Reta Hoskin seconded to pay bills in the amount of $12,4007.86. The motion passed.

Amy Gates made a motion and Reta Hoskin seconded to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve the minutes. Tom Lewis seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Agriculture

None

Public Safety

The Public Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Pike County Ambulance building. Members present were Tom Lewis, Amy Gates, Jim Sheppard, and Ambulance Administrator Kasey Kendall. Absent was Derek Ross. Also present was employees of the Pike County Ambulance Service.

Bills in the amount of $37,161.37 was approved by a motion from Amy Gates and seconded by Tom Lewis.

In the administrators report, Kasey stated that there were 2016 calls for the month and 46 transfers for the same time. With Covid cases being up all Ambulance crews have to be Covid screened at the beginning of their shifts, this way the crews don’t have to be screen each time they enter the Hospital. Kasey also stated that he is in the process of getting all of the Ambulance Employees (full and part time) county Email accounts. Kasey discussed the current fee schedules and what he is proposing and that will be added to the county board members packets for approval. Amy is going to do a 10-year spread sheet for the increase.

Under old business, bids for the Chevy Trail Blazer were open and the bid of $2,027.13 was accepted and Kasey will take care of completing the necessary work to release the vehicle to the bid winner.

With no more business, Amy made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Tom meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Amy Gates discussed the fee schedule and that it is not set in stone for a 10-year period, but a suggestion and data for consideration.

Jim Sheppard stated that our billing company can have it implemented by August 1st and we need to be able to offset our equipment costs and become more in line with our area services.

Tom Lewis thanked Amy Gates and Kasey Kendall for their work on this.

Reta Hosking expressed concern over raising rates and felt that individuals will have a hardship paying the additional rates.

Tom Lewis made a motion to accept the new fee structure. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-1. Reta Hoskin voted no. Motion passed.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve the Public Safety Committee minutes. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

ETSB

The Emergency Telephone Systems Board of Pike County met at 6:00 p.m. Monday July 19th, 2021, in the upstairs conference room of the Pike County Jail. Members present were; Jon Fesler, Tom Lewis, Jason White, Larry Bradshaw, Jim Sheppard, and 911 coordinator Stephanie Reinhardt.

The committee reviewed an approved bills in the amount of $9,878.58 on a motion by Tom Lewis and a second by Larry Bradshaw.

The main topic of discussion was the lightening strikes. The strike on the 25th took out dispatch and while our vendor Clear Talk was onsite quickly, there were some issues between them and Motorola, the manufacturer of the equipment. On a related note, Larry Bradshaw made a motion to spend up to $2,000.00 for a standby radio provided by BK Electric. Tom Lewis seconded; motion carried. We also approved a quote for $7,524.54 to swap out the batteries on the backup generators at the radio sites.

Stephanie informed the board that Trent Crane has stepped away from his duties as chief of the Spring Creek Fire department and that Josh Martin has replaced him. This leaves a vacancy on the ETSB board that will need to be addressed.

Next ETSB meeting will be September 7th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

1. New Business

None

1. Old Business

None

1. Chairman’s Remarks

Chairman Sheppard stated that the County Board had received a thank you note from a current employee thanking them for their hard work on the payroll transition.

1. Summary of Expenses for the Month/Mileage & Per Diem Report

Amy Gates made a motion to approve expenses and Mileage and Per Diem. Tom Lewis seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Questions from Press and Visitors

Jim Filbert clarified that there was in fact a no vote on the approval of the 6-month report. Clerk Roseberry confirmed.

1. Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 20/2.06(d) Semi-Annual review of Closed session Minutes and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Pending, probable, imminent litigation.

On a motion by Amy Gates and a second by John Birch, voice vote of 6-1, with Mark Mountain voting no, closed session was entered at 8:42 p.m.

Closed session exited at 9:02 on a motion by Gates and a second by Lewis, voice vote 7-0.

No action was taken.

1. Adjournment

Tom Lewis made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Amy Gates. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Natalie Roseberry



