

## MINUTES OF A FINANCE AND FEES MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CITY OF CARTHAGE ON MAY 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by chairman Wayne Bollin at 8:56 a.m. Those in attendance included Tom Bergmeier, Dennis Castlebury, Mark Menn, Wayne Bollin, Harry Douglas, Janet Fleming, Delbert Kreps. Visitors included Sam Harnack, Doug DiPrima, Travis Duffy, Keara Weber, Dale Bolton, Kacey Livingston, Holly Wilde-Tillman, and Stephanie Swisegood who took minutes of the meeting. Absent from the meeting was Mark Hanson.

Ms. Weber introduced herself. She met with AOIC who recommended to do a transitional audit. She has 3 people hired to fill the vacant positions. One employee is on worker's compensation through May 13, but may be longer. She left at 9:01.

Mr. Bolton let the committee members know that he will be leaving at the end of the month. He has turned everything over to Ms. Livingston on May 2. Ms. Livingston stated that Rex Johnson is up for a 2-year reappointment for Farmland Review and Troy Pierce for a 2-year term for the Board of Review. A new deputy was hired for the assessor's office, Sara Underwood. Mr. Bollin asked when taxes were being mailed out. Mr. Bolton said they were mailed on Monday. Mr. Menn asked when taxes would be due. They are due June and September. Motion was made by Ms. Fleming for Ricky Johnson for a 2-year term for Farmland Review and Troy Pierce for a 2-year term on the Board of Review. This was seconded by Mr. Castlebury. All members present voted "aye". Ms. Livingston and Mr. Bolton left at 9:06 a.m.

Ms. Harnack made the committee aware of a situation that has been going on for a while in Hamilton. The industrial park has been annexed in. They have been trying to get sewer and water at the industrial park. They have 2 grants and all of their ARPA money that they are going to spend on this. They had a bid 4 years ago but since COVID prices have risen. They believe they will be somewhere around \$180,000-\$300,000 shy of what they need to complete this project. There are 125 jobs that this brings to the area and they are wanting to expand but if the water and sewer does not get finished they are thinking of pulling out their businesses. Mr. Menn stated that there is a lot of room for development in the industrial park. They have been waiting for over 4 years to have the water and sewer finished. Timewise this is an urgent situation. Mr. Wilde-Tillman asked if Hamilton's TIF money could be used. Mr. Menn wondered how much funding Hamilton might be asking the county for. Ms. Harnack thinks it might be \$50,000-\$100,000. They will be getting an estimate today or tomorrow. Mr. Bollin stated our second trench should be here soon. The Connable Road has \$3 million dollars set aside for it. There are several items being paid today. There has been a request from the EMS for a new rig. We do not know how much money will be left. The danger in giving Hamilton money for the industrial park is who is to say that another town will not come and ask for

money to build a community center. Mr. Menn stated that we should be open to anything that is economically beneficial. Ms. Harnack left at 9:33 a.m.

Mr. DiPrima was in attendance and asked if any of the ARPA money could be spent on a new ambulance. Mr. Bollin said that the board talked about paying for the LUCAS devices, but this is just a short-term fix. Mr. Simon wants a new rig but does not know how that will come about. Mr. DiPrima stated that they have been able to fix some of the ambulance's problems themselves. Mr. Menn asked about the ambulance with the exhaust issue and if it had been fixed, yes it has been fixed. This is the ambulance they use in Hamilton. The motor mount is broke which causes the catalytic converter to go out so they are running the ambulance without a catalytic converter. It has a starting issue but it is better now since they have been running it.

There was discussion about the circuit clerk's salary. A resolution will need to be made for the salary of the circuit clerk from May 18 to November 30, 2022. Mr. Menn asked if we divide that up to what Mr. Neally's salary was, Ms. Wilde-Tillman said yes. Mr. Menn asked is the county board chair has the authority to appoint the circuit clerk. Mr. Douglas stated the feeling is they want us to think they are going to have someone walk in off the street. It is a power play. We have to have faith in our courthouse people. Ms. Fleming asked what party Ms. Weber was, she is republican. Mr. Bergmeier stated that it will be voted on at the Republican party meeting on Tuesday, May 17, at 5:30 and brought to full board at 6:30. Mr. Menn made a motion that the salary of the circuit clerk appointee remain the same as what the current circuit clerk is making. Mr. Bergmeier seconded. Ms. Fleming asked if we could lower the salary. Mr. Bollin stated that we could but we are filling the same responsibilities. He asked if this position will be voted for in the November election, yes since there was over 28 months left before the term was over. All members present voted "aye".

Ms. Wilde-Tillman asked for a resolution to be able to pay the credit card bill when it came due. They still have some complications to sort out with the bills. Mr. Castlebury made a motion to allow the county clerk to pay the visa credit card bill ahead of time. Mr. Douglas seconded. It was stated that if the problems are not sorted out in 3 cycles then we may need to get rid of the cards. Mr. Menn asked if Ms. Wilde-Tillman will pay the bills without receipts, she stated no. Mr. Bollin stated we do not want a finance charge. All members present voted "aye".

Ms. Wilde-Tillman only has 7 certified economic interest letters she needed to mail out. Last week we had 168. She guesses that her office has over 80 hours working on getting these in on time. She has a letter that Mr. Kreps and Mr. Bollin signed allowing her and Ms. Pilkington to have their names put on CDs at Marine Bank in place of Mr. Neally.