

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
April 16, 2024

April 16, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chair Anderson, Commissioners Barta, Brintnell, Suda, and Skorheim.

At 9:00 am the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order and bills were reviewed.

Skorheim moved to approve the April 2, 2024 minutes and monthly bills, seconded by Brintnell. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Suda gave an update on the Region 4 Housing Study and Action Plan Build session that she attended in Minto. A discussion about the housing needs in the county was had.

Ron Jurgens and Tanya Wieler gave an update on the jail project. They are expecting the final drawings of the jail at their upcoming meeting with Elavatus. The jail committee asked for approval to hire Jennifer Guerndt to handle the public relations campaign. They would like to get her in place so she can assist with handling the special election that would possibly happen between the primary and general election. **Suda made a motion to hire Jennifer Guerndt to handle the marketing and public relation campaign for the new jail, seconded by Skorheim.** The cost would be approximately \$25,000 and would be paid out of ARPA funds. All voted in favor; motion approved.

Allen Anderson introduced Sarah Dusek, who recently started with the Walsh County Health District. Sarah was hired for the Adult Home Visiting Program, which is a new program that the health district implemented this year.

Allen Anderson presented the commissioners with quotes from CivicPlus, Revize, and Odney for a new website for the county. After a discussion, it was decided that Allen would return after receiving feedback from the department heads.

Kelley Cole joined the meeting and gave an update on the cases that her office has been handling.

Kelley Cole and Tanya Wieler presented a resolution to combine the Auditor and Treasurer offices. After a discussion was had on what the roles within the offices would look like, **Brintnell made a motion to accept the Resolution to Combine Appointive Offices of Auditor and Treasurer, seconded by Suda.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Sherry O'Toole presented the commissioners with a corrected third quarter financial report. Sherry noted that an error was found on the third quarter financials when she was completing the fourth quarter financial report. Sherry went over the fourth quarter financials in detail with the commissioners. It was noted that the error in the third quarter financials that were presented in December was due to the second quarter financial report's ending balance of \$20,779,259.91 not being used as the beginning balance for the third quarter financials. The correction created a difference in the Third Quarter

Comparison by Year increase from \$2,346,112.96, to the correct amount of \$596,953.42. **Barta made a motion to accept the Fourth Quarter Financials presented by Sherry O'Toole, seconded by Brintnell.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Jason Johnston, Highway Superintendent, appeared for the following:

- Jason presented the commissioners with two drainage permits; the first for Nick Desautel along County Rd 9 and the second one for Brad Suda for Cyril Suda and Sons along County Rd 2, 6, 7, and 9. Jason reported that both have been approved by the water board. **Barta made a motion to approve both drainage permits as presented, seconded by Suda.** All vote in favor; motion carried.
- Jason reported that he received notification that the county was awarded \$1,671,700.00 from the Flexible Transportation Fund for 3 bridges. The county received \$307,100 for preliminary engineering, construction, and construction engineering on the bridge on County 9/Drain 48; \$1,204,600 for preliminary engineering, construction, and construction engineering for a bridge in Farmington and Glenwood Townships; and \$160,000 for a bridge in Golden Township for preliminary engineering.
- Jason reported that there will be a meeting at Homme Dam on May 7th.

Suda made a motion to re-appoint Agatha Frisby, Shannon Brazil, Tracy Laaveg, and Sarah Johnston for the WC Historic Preservation Commission for 2-year terms, seconded by Brintnell. All voted in favor; motion approved.

Auditor Quibell presented the commissioners the Inspector Appointment Resolution, appointing Whitney Weisenberger as the Inspector for 2024. Quibell also asked for approval to fill any vacancies that may exist for the 2024 Primary and General elections. **Brintnell made a motion to approve the Inspector Appointment Resolution and allowing the county auditor to fill any vacancies for the 2024 Primary and General elections, seconded by Suda.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 am

Meeting called back to order at 10:48 am by Chair Anderson. All previous members were present.

Walsh County Housing Authority submitted approval for Ted Green to be appointed as a board member. **Suda made a motion to appoint Ted Green to the Walsh County Housing Authority board, seconded by Brintnell.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am

Karen Anderson, Chair

Attest:

Kristi Quibell
Auditor