

Gibson County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Session  
February 17, 2009

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The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on February 17, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. in the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members present:

Bob Townsend, President  
Don Whitehead

Members absent:

Gerald Bledsoe, Vice Pres.  
Attorney James McDonald

The meeting was called to order with all present standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 20, 2009, meeting was approved as read.

Approval of Claims: The following claims were presented for approval: Payroll, 2/13/09. \$283,437.57; Highway, \$69,496.64; Sheriff, \$183,236.92; County General, \$145,352.97. These claims were approved with a motion by Whitehead seconded by Bledsoe and passed 3-0.

Old Business: Health Insurance Renewal: John Dyer, representing Old National Insurance Group, presented a report on past history and projections with different options from multiple companies. Amy Carpenter of Apex Benefits, presented quotes with programs and options available and a short history of the company. After discussion with each Commissioner stating his preference, it was decided to go with Perico, with the \$70,000 (specific level) -\$30,000 (aggregating specific deductible) option, by a motion by Whitehead seconded by Bledsoe and passed 3-0.

Mitigation Grant for Flood Affected Properties: Debbie Bennett-Stearnsman brought to the Board the proposal to start the paper work for the mitigation grant. This grant is for federal money to purchase property affected by the Spring flood of 2008. This grant would pay the 25% that is required by FEMA for the County share of a buy out on the property which is a 75% - 25% split. This application is not binding to the County to participate in the program it is just one step to start the process so the County wouldn't have to pay the 24%. The original program required the County to pay 25% of the purchase price if an individual wanted to sale the property and that is the reason why the County turned down the program to begin with – not having the money to do so. If the property is purchased it has to be maintained as a green property and never have a structure built on said property which would be owned by the County. After discussion it was approved by a motion by Whitehead seconded by Bledsoe and passed 3-0 to start the process and make a final decision at a later date.

New Business: District 10 Planning Council: Townsend stated that the Board needed to replace Don Steinmetz, who resigned from the Council, and the nominee is David Wassmer. After describing what the Council is a motion to approve the nominee was made by Whitehead seconded by Bledsoe and passed 3-0.

Scholarship – Teamsters: Townsend stated that the money to fulfill the Teamsters contract for scholarship funding. The money was not allowed in the Commissioners budget for 2008 and 2009. The payment had been made in 2007. After consulting with the county attorney and being told that it did need to be paid a motion by to pay the 2008-2009 scholarship amounts was made by Bledsoe seconded by Whitehead and passed 3-0.

County Property: Townsend stated a building in Oakland City owned by the County needs to be torn down. There are not sufficient bids at this time. Bledsoe that County attorney McDonald is looking into other properties owned by the County and how to properly dispose of these properties.

New Vehicle for EMA: Terry Hedges had asked for a three quarter ton pickup for the department. He now has a half ton at this time which isn't large enough to pull some of the trailers and equipment. He has checked with Toyota and they have a truck at this time they have one available. This can be purchased with part payment by donation from Toyota and the rest paid by the County. The half ton truck will be sold to help pay for the County's portion. This was approved with a motion by Whitehead seconded by Bledsoe and passed 3-0.

Major Medical Leave: The Highway Department had a request for a major medical leave for an employee. A motion to approve the leave was made by Whitehead second by Bledsoe and passed 3-0.

Proclamation of Riley Champion: The Commissioners had a request from Riley Children's Hospital to declare Jordan Wilkison a "Riley Champion". This is to honor him for his enthusiasm and optimism toward life that he battles on a daily basis due to his medical condition. The proclamation was declared with a motion by Bledsoe seconded by Whitehead and passed 3-0.

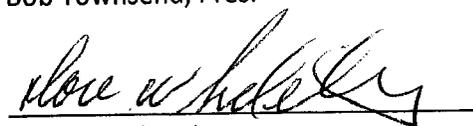
Sheriff Harmon reported that he had purchased three Crown Victoria with all necessary equipment for the \$75,000 that the Commissioners had granted him at a previous meeting. The department traded in six vehicles for the three. He turned in a full report on the trade.

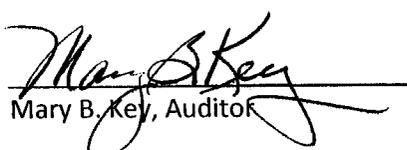
Bill Miller stated his concern of heavy vehicle use of county roads over the winter tonnage limit and the need for better signage and enforcement. This was discussed and that it is one of the circumstances that has to be done by cooperation of the individuals driving these vehicle due to the amount of territory this covers.

Having no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Bledsoe seconded by Bledsoe and passed 3-0.

  
Bob Townsend, Pres.

  
Gerald Bledsoe, VP

  
Don Whitehead

Attested:   
Mary B. Key, Auditor