

Ringgold County Board of Supervisors Minutes March 11, 2019

The Ringgold County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Monday, March 11, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Kraig Pennington, Ron Landphair and Lyle Minnick.

A motion was made by Lyle Minnick and seconded by Ron Landphair to approve the agenda. AYES: Unanimous. NAYS: None.

Sheriff Rob Haley met with the Board to request approval of an invoice from Johnson Controls. This company provides inspection for the jail and found areas that need repaired. The total of the proposal is \$2,540.70. The Board moved forward with approval.

At 10:03 a.m. Minnick moved to open the public hearing for the proposed FY20 budget. Motion second by Landphair. Motion carried. Present: Conservation Director Kate Zimmerman, RCSS Director Cathy McGahuey, Assessor Melinda England, Spencer Lumbard, Tom Hawley, Walt & Bev McGinnis, Jim & Joy Goins, Ann Werner, Paulette Hartsook, Michele Maguire Beck, Martha Landphair and Jan Shervheim. Pennington began with an overview of the budget, including a 3% pay increase, down from the original recommendation of 5% from the Compensation Board and explained the reasoning of the expenditure over revenue figure. Pennington stated roughly \$521,156 are funds dedicated to spending down the secondary roads budget. Included in this figure are one-time payments for projects. This allows for a fund balance decrease from 40% to 28%, roughly. The excess in budget balance is primarily due to the loss of an engineer, therefore not allowing the department to move forward with larger projects; the weather also played a significant role.

Jim Goins stated due to the farming economy it is hard to make ends meet. Pennington questioned what services do we cut. The Ringgold County Development Corporation requested \$25,000 to hire a Director of Economic Development for the county. The Development Corporation will match the county with funds and the City of Mount Ayr may donate as well. The primary purpose of this position is to seek grant funding and businesses to improve the economy of the county. The Board feels this is important, especially now with the loss of Shopko, they said. Hartsook questioned whether the county will require results before providing funding. The Board said yes, they will.

Werner questioned who will benefit from the 240th street road upgrade. The Board explained the City of Mount Ayr and the County both will benefit from the upgrade as the concrete plant is on the north side of the road, within city limits, and the United Farmer's Coop is on the south side of the road, in the county. Werner stated the city should have skin in the game, covering their share of the costs. Pennington stated this is the intent.

Beck suggested forming a committee to brainstorm ways to reduce costs within the county. Perhaps perform a time study within each office, she suggested.

Jim Goins stressed the group would appreciate the Board taking another look at the budget and consider lowering the general basic levy. Taxing at this levy year after year is not acceptable, he said. The Board added while the general basic levy is exceeded, they were able to lower the overall levy for FY20; expenses are also down from current year. Pennington questioned the group of which services they would like to see cut, as this will be the next step if the levy is required to be reduced to \$3.50. The Board assured the group they would convene following the hearing and take another look at the budget to see what can be done.

Lyle Minnick excused himself at 11:50 a.m.

The Board recessed at noon for lunch.

At 1:00 p.m. the Board returned to meet with Road Superintendent Rod Shields and Assistant to Engineer Justin Frost to get secondary roads updates. Shields reported the crew is currently hauling spot rock today then tomorrow will be brush cutting. Wednesday and Thursday the crew will participate in safety meetings held on-site. There have been several reports of water running over the road, or nearing, due to clogged/frozen pipes. The crew is working on these throughout the week, weather permitting. The group discussed a bridge currently closed in Riley Township, Riley 12. Shields outlined steps needed to repair the bridge and increase the weight limit. The group discussed utilizing a railcar. This method would also be ideal for the Union 6 bridge (north of Sun Valley).

Another suggestion from Shields is to utilize refurbished bridge decking material for low water crossings. This would be a low-cost alternative to some current bridge closures.

Shields and Frost will work with Interim Staley on the Riley 12 bridge project. The crew will move forward with removing the bridge until design work can be completed for replacement.

Frost updated the Board on the 110th street project in Tingley Township. It is their recommendation to outsource part of the dirt work, as a cost savings measure as well as time for the crew.

RESOLUTION RC19-47

WHEREAS, the Ringgold County Board of Supervisors do hereby approve the quote from Johnson Controls in the amount of \$2540.70.

THEREFORE, a motion was made by Lyle Minnick and seconded by Ron Landphair stating such.

The vote on the resolution: AYES: Unanimous. NAYS: None.

ATTEST: Amanda Waske, Auditor. Passed and approved March 11, 2019.

RESOLUTION RC19-48

WHEREAS, the Ringgold County Board of Supervisors do hereby approve claims to be paid Wednesday, March 13, 2019 (see separate claims register).

THEREFORE, a motion was made by Ron Landphair and seconded by Kraig Pennington stating such.


The vote on the resolution: AYES: Unanimous. NAYS: None.

ATTEST: Amanda Waske, Auditor. Passed and approved March 11, 2019.

A motion was made by Ron Landphair and seconded by Kraig Pennington to approve the minutes.

There was no further business. A motion was made by Lyle Minnick and seconded by Ron Landphair to adjourn the meeting at 3:53 p.m.


Board of Supervisors Chairman

ATTEST: 
Ringgold County Auditor