

PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING-TELECONFERENCE
APRIL 6, 2020 @ 8:30 AM

Mark Flint
Jeff Nelson
Ryan Coleman

President Mark Flint called the meeting to order with all commissioners present, County Attorney Val Fleig, Auditor Judith Gumbel, Commissioner's Assistant Kristi Dischinger, County Treasurer, Marta Query, and Sheriff Kent Johnson in attendance. Ms. Dischinger verified that notice had been made to the public and Press Dispatch Editor Andy Heuring had received special notification. This was a historic meeting in that it was Pike County's first meeting held via webinar. This was an emergency situation due to COVID-19.

REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 16, 2020

Commissioner Ryan Coleman seconded by Commissioner Jeff Nelson motioned to approve the minutes. Roll call vote followed: Coleman – Aye, Nelson – Aye, and Flint – Aye. Vote 3 – 0 in favor.

REGARDING APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR APRIL 6, 2020

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman moved to approve claims. Roll call vote followed: Nelson – Aye, Coleman – Aye, and Flint – Aye. Motion passed 3 – 0.

REGARDING OLD BUSINESS

Award Mowing Bids

Ms. Dischinger stated that the low bid for Old Town Cemetery was by Jason McKinney at \$85 per mow and for Coleman Cemetery was Persimmon Ridge at \$90 per mow.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman moved accept the two low bids. Roll call followed: Nelson – Aye, Coleman – Aye, and Flint – Aye. Motion passed 3 – 0.

REGARDING NEW BUSINESS

Highway Additional

The Pike County Highway Department requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$434,357—for Fund 9123 (Community Crossings State Match) into the following line items:

\$20,506 into 9123-000-03-0050
\$40,809 into 9123-000-03-0150
\$38,015 into 9123-000-03-0151
\$61,912 into 9123-000-03-0200

\$28,806 into 9123-000-03-0275
\$39,404 into 9123-000-03-0325
\$37,318 into 9123-000-03-0375
\$25,031 into 9123-000-03-0500
\$91,786 into 9123-000-03-0900
\$50,770 into 9123-000-03-0950

Melanie Britton Office Manager for the Pike County Highway explained that this money is from the Community Crossings Grant State Share that has been awarded, but the appropriation needs to be made so that the County can spend the money.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the Additional Appropriations Request. Roll call followed: Nelson – Aye, Coleman – Aye, and Flint – Aye. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Tax Collection

Pike County Treasurer Marta Query stated that tax coupons should be received in citizens homes by no later than April 13th. Taxes will be due on May 11th. However, Governor Holcomb issued an Executive Order stating that citizens would not be penalized for late payment through July 10th. The hope is that most people are able to go ahead and make their payments on time. The penalty clause does not apply to taxes being held in escrow accounts so they will be paid on time. Marta's concern was how to collect the funds since the Courthouse is closed to the public with no known date as to its reopening. She also expressed that she does not want to handle the cash due to the possibility of contracting the COVID – 19 Virus. It was agreed by the group that Marta would run a notification in the Press Dispatch that all Tax Collection in 2020 must be paid by either check, cashier's check, money order, online, or credit card.

REGARDING BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS

Appoint Work One LEO

Commissioner Nelson motioned seconded by Commissioner Flint to nominated Commissioner Coleman for the Pike County Work One LEO. Roll call followed: Nelson – Aye, Coleman – Aye, and Flint – Aye. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Trash Site Leases

Ms. Dischinger shared the contents of the leases for the Otwell, Stendal, and Coe Trash Sites. They were reviewed by County Attorney Val Fleig. The leases are for a period ending December 31, 2020. The Commissioners authorized Ms. Dischinger to mail the leases to the owners for their signatures.

Courthouse status (Amy)

Ms Dischinger stated that she had a few questions that she needed clarification about. She

was told to email the commissioners so that they could review them before commenting on them.

Amy Gladish, Pike County Public Health Nurse shared information about COVID-19. The numbers of COVID Cases across the United States is growing rapidly. It took a month from the first diagnosed case to get to reach 1,000 deaths and it took 2 days to grow to 2,000 deaths. In Indiana today (4.6.2020) there were 4,411 diagnosed cases and 127 deaths. As of the 6th there were no Pike County known cases. One of the issues with known Indiana cases is the length of time that it takes to get results from the tests on hand. Dr. Box with Indiana Department of Health said yesterday that Indiana was scheduled to receive some rapid tests for the virus soon.

The Health Department is checking temperatures at the Courthouse as employees come into work. Thus far no one has been sent home.

Ms. Gladish stated that her biggest problem right now was getting local business to comply with the Stay at Home order given by Governor Holcomb. She stated that there was a lot of gray error in what was an Essential or Non Essential Business. She stated that she was working with Sheriff Johnson in that area. She noted that the Governor is scheduled to update the Stay at Home Order in the afternoon today. The anticipation is that he is going to extend the order. He does plan to review the order every 2 weeks.

She stated that Washington Nursing Center is currently transferring their patients out with the intent of making it into an alternative site for patients who needed hospitalization other than for COVID Care, leaving the rooms with more extensive equipment available to the COVID patients in the Washington Hospital.

Commissioner Coleman asked if there were any available test kits in Pike County. That answer was no. There is one in Daviess County.

Commissioner Flint noted that there were currently 4 counties in Indiana that have no cases. Ms. Gladish stated that she felt certain that it was in the counties, just not known.

REGARDING BUSINESS BY PUBLIC

Ms Dischinger asked if the Commissioners had thought about how they were going to proceed with the closure of the Courthouse. The discussion was that they would proceed on 2 – week periods following the Governor's lead with a redetermination at each time period.

Commissioner Flint stated that from his perspective the County's first Webinar was pretty successful and thanked people for their participation.

REGARDING MOTION TO ADJOURN

With no further business being brought to the floor, Commissioner Flint called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman moved to adjourn. Roll call vote followed: Coleman – Aye, Nelson – Aye, and Flint Aye. Motion passed 3 - 0



