

PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 5, 2021 @ 8:30 AM

Mark Flint  
Jeff Nelson  
Ryan Coleman

**REGARDING CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mark Flint, President of the Board of Commissioners called the meeting to order with all Commissioners present. Others in attendance included Pike County Attorney Val Fleig, Pike County Auditor Judith Gumbel, and Commissioners' Assistant Kristi Dischinger, Carla Kidwell Interim County Extension Director, Brooke Goble and Alex Mahrenholz Extension Educators, EMS Director Chris Young, Pike County Librarian Stephanie Rawlins, Director Pike County Economic Development Ashley Willis, Pike County Highway Superintendent Josh Byrd, Pike County Highway Office Manager Melanie Britton, Deputy Sheriff Dallas Killian, EMA Director Ryan Benner, and County Health Nurse Amy Gladish.

**REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 15, 2021**

Commissioner Ryan Coleman seconded by Commissioner Jeff Nelson motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed 3 – 0.

**REGARDING APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR APRIL 5, 2021**

President Flint asked if there were any comments regarding the claims.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the claims. Motion passed 3 – 0.

**REGARDING OLD BUSINESS**

**Open Mowing Bids**

County Attorney Val Fleig opened and read the mowing bids:

Brycen Knepp Lawn Care:            Old Town Cemetery - \$100 per Mow/Trim

Alex's Lawn Service:            Old Town Cemetery - Mow and Trim, \$60 per Service  
   Coleman's Cemetery – Mow and Trim, \$45 per Service

Persimmon Ridge Green Works: Old Town Cemetery – Mow and Trim, \$80 per Service  
   Coleman's Cemetery – Mow and Trim, \$90 per Service

Commissioner Flint stated that Alex's Lawn Service at Old Town Cemetery, \$60, and Coleman's Cemetery, \$45, were the lowest bids. He asked if there was a motion to accept the lowest bid?

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to accept Alex Benefiel's bids for mowing service for Old Town Cemetery - \$60 and Coleman's Cemetery - \$45. Motion passed 3 – 0.

## **REGARDING NEW BUSINESS**

### **Recorder's Office-Fidlar Contract**

The contract has not been received so the Recorder asked that this be tabled.

### **Highway Transfer**

Highway requested a transfer \$6,029.00 from 1173-002-02-2050, Rock, to 1176-008-03-3059, Building and Structures. Commissioner Flint asked if there were any question on the transfer?

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve the transfer. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Highway Additional**

The Pike County Highway requested an Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$2,375.00 for Fund 1176 MVH for 1176-008-01-1075 Workers Compensation. Commissioner Flint asked if there were any questions. If not, he asked for a motion to approve.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman made motion to approve. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Highway also requested an Additional Appropriation for \$6,029.00 for Fund 1135 CUM Bridge into 1135-000-02-2050, Rock. There were no questions.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Purdue Extension Contractual Services Agreement**

Carla Kidwell, Interim CED of the Pike County Extension Service explained that it was time to renew the County's contract with Purdue Extension. She stated that the contract protected the County in cased there was a vacancy in the office, Purdue would still have to provide services to the County.

The Contract amount was \$44,820.00 for Extension Educators. Commissioner Flint asked where the money came from.

Ms. Kidwell explained that the money was appropriated during budget time. She explained that this amount is the County's part of the contract and that State and Federal dollars also kick into provide the service. She explained that this is required by Indiana Code and that code also requires Office Space provided by the County. Commissioner Coleman asked if the contract was the same as previous years. She stated that it had remained the same for three (3) years due to County's facing financial difficulties.

Commissioner Flint asked if there were any further questions. If not, he called for a motion.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the contract. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **E911 Director Position**

On behalf of the 911 Advisory Board, Chris Young requested that the Commissioners approve the appointment of Ryan Benner, current EMA Director, to concurrently hold the position of 911 Director. With the addition of the 911 responsibilities the recommendation included raising Director Benner's salary to the same level of the EMS Director. Commissioner Flint clarified that the two positions would be separate positions but Mr. Benner would hold both positions. Mr. Young agreed. Commissioner Flint stated he would like to first approve the appointment of Ryan Benner to the positions of EMA Director and 911 Director.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the appointment as stated. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Commissioner Flint then stated that the Commissioners could not approve the salary, but they could recommend to the County Council that the salary be equal to salary of the EMS Director.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to recommend that the EMA/911 Director be paid a salary equal to the EMS Director. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Employment Status 911 Staff**

Director Benner stated that there is currently one (1) full-time position open in 911. There will probably need to be two (2) part-time trainees hired. There is currently one (1) trainee who is almost ready to be hired into the open full-time position. This position has been open since Briar Meadors left the position. It is not a new position.

President Flint asked if there was a motion to allow Director Benner to fill his staff.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to allow the staff to be filled. Motion passed 3 – 0.

## **REGARDING BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS**

### **Resolution & Notice to Sell County Owned Land**

The Commissioners discussed the property and notice as described in Pike County Board of Commissioners Resolution No. 2021 - 12 in regard to Parcels #63-02-22-404-002.000-012, #63-02-22-404-001.000-012, #63-02-22-007-024.000-012, #63-02-22-407-041.000-012, excepting real estate described in Exhibits A and B in a deed from Pike County Board of Commissioner to State of Indiana and recorded as Instrument #202000001885 at the Pike County Recorder's Office subject to all easements, restrictions of record and zoning ordinances. This is done in accordance with I.C. 36-1-11-5 after due notice by publication.

Attorney Fleig stated the property does not require survey and will be offered first to adjoining landowners at the assessed value. If there is no interest, negotiation on price etc. can follow.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve Resolution No. 2021-12. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Nationwide Investment Changes**

Commissioner's Assistant Kristi Dischinger received two (2) packages of information from Nationwide.

- a. The first is a process the company does almost every year wherein they assess the performance of the Investments that are in the package and make any line-up changes they deem necessary. Nothing has to be done by the Commissioners unless they want to opt out of the recommended changes.
- b. The second is a survey containing two questions that involve the SECURE Act. One of the questions is a new optional plan that allows members to withdraw up to \$5,000 for a qualified birth or adoption of a child distribution and the other allows in-service withdrawals for employees starting at age 59½ through 72 or whatever age the county might want to establish. There would be no negative impact to the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Coleman to make no changes to the recommended Nationwide line-up changes and to allow members to withdraw up to \$5,000 for a qualified birth or adoption of a child and to stay with the default age of 70 ½ for in-service distribution age. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Commissioners' Additional**

Ms. Dischinger explained that she needs additional appropriation to pay the higher than anticipated insurance premiums due to the Courthouse Insurance that was approved last month. She requested a little more than she needs right now because the Drone insurance will be due later in the year.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve an Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 into account 1000-030-03-3030 for insurance premiums. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Solid Waste Transfer**

Again the problem is higher insurance premium, but this can be covered by a transfer of \$100.00 from Rock to Insurance.

President Flint asked if there were questions.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve a \$100.00 transfer from 1000-022-02-2050, Rock to 1000-033-03-3030, Insurance. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **Emergency Declaration**

Ms. Dischinger explained that this is a request to continue the County's Local Disaster Emergency Declaration in regard to COVID-19.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman moved to extend the Pike County Local Disaster Emergency Declaration until May 3, 2021. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### Courthouse Status-COVID

It was mentioned that the Governor's declaration now states that wearing a mask is now a personal decision that the decision is at each County and Town's direction.

County Health Nurse, Amy Gladish stated that things were going pretty good in the County. To date, 4240 have had the first dose of the vaccine and 3,149 are fully vaccinated. Total case count is 1,293. The positivity rate is down.

### **REGARDING BUSINESS BY PUBLIC**

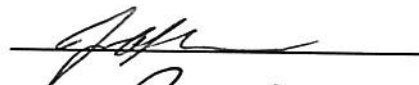
Pike County Librarian Stephanie Rawlins asked that the Commissioners fill the vacancy that exists on the Library Board so that they will be able to have a quorum present especially with the budget season coming up.

### **REGARDING MOTION TO ADJOURN**

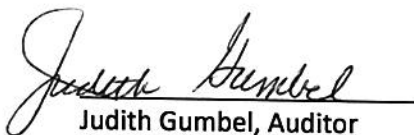
Hearing no further requests, President Flint called for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motion to adjourn. Motion passed 3 – 0.

County Board of Commissioners



Attest:

  
Judith Gumbel, Auditor

4/19/21  
Date

