

Crawford County Commission met pursuant to adjournment with these members present: Steve Black, Presiding Commissioner; Rob Cummings, Commissioner District 1; Jared Boast, Commissioner District 2; De Dee Hamilton, Representing County Clerk; and the following proceedings were had to viz;

Attendees at the beginning of the meeting included Danny Brown, Cindy Redburn, Mike Zuzack, Tom Donnell, Mary Cummings, Kellie Vestal and Karen Sikes.

9:00 a.m.: The meeting opened with prayer from Steve Black.

9:00 a.m.: Rob Cummings made a motion to accept the Agenda for August 15, 2023, Jared Boast provided a second. All in favor; motion carried.

Jared Boast made a motion to accept the open and closed Commission Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2023; Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

Mail and other correspondence. Steve Black said the county should be receiving the PILT payment soon. Steve Black had received correspondence from the Steelville Chamber of Commerce regarding the upcoming Harvest Festival.

9:05 a.m.: Amy England entered the meeting.

Steve Black asked for updates from county officials. Karen Sikes gave fund balances and said the county had received the other half of the LATC payment. Karen Sikes said no other signatures had been added to the county investment fund account. Steve Black said John Martin was calling the bank and would get the signatures added. Karen Sikes asked Jared Boast about his previous concern regarding herself and the convulsion of county money. Jared Boast stated it was nothing toward anyone; that he may not always be the commissioner and she may not always be the treasurer. Discussion was held regarding safeguards that should probably be considered.

9:18 a.m.: Kellie Vestal addressed the commission regarding the lightning storm and the damage it had caused to various county offices. Steve Black was going to contact the City of Steelville. County offices should contact the county clerk for there to be an insurance claim to cover all losses.

Pat Schwent and a tax payer entered the meeting.

9:35 a.m.: Citizens' participation opened. Mike Zuzack and Tom Donnell were in attendance on behalf of the Crawford County Extension office. Mike Zuzack stated that at their previous meeting, their council had voted 10-1 in favor of moving to the Tutterrow building the county owns. Discussion was held regarding the space that the extension would be allowed and it was agreed they could utilize the lower floor. The commission was going to wait to hear more from the Extension as far as what their plans are for the building.

9:50 a.m.: Pat Schwent asked for a tax redemption at 212 N. Elliston Road for surplus funds in the amount of \$404.35. Jared Boast made the motion to allow the redemption; Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

Tom Donnell exited the meeting. Pat Schwent and the taxpayer exited the meeting.

Corky Stack entered the meeting.

10:00 a.m.: Bids for tuck pointing the courthouse were opened.

Gateway: \$218,934.20 Continental Restoration: \$300,000

Alexander Construction LLC: \$160,616 Staat Inc: \$108,195

It was agreed that the commission would wait for a recommendation from the project engineer. Corky Stack exited the meeting.

10:18 a.m.: Steve Black advised that he had received the appraisal for the garage building the county owned on Franklin Street in Cuba. The appraisal for the lot and the garage was \$130,000. The decision on how to go about selling the property was tabled until there could be an opinion given from legal counsel.

10:40 a.m.: New Business: Discussion was held regarding employee salaries. Steve Black had spoken to John Martin after the employee salary committee meeting. The plan had always been to increase wages for the county employees due to the tax being passed that was to improve all county functions. Pat Schwent entered the meeting.

Rob Cummings reminded everyone that the commission had wanted to be sure the county could sustain an increase to payroll and they knew now that it could. Steve Black said all numbers on the pay ladder would go up \$2.00 per hour. Jared Boast said additional meetings with county elected officials would determine where to put employees on the ladder. The next committee meeting is September 6 at 11:00 a.m., upstairs in the courthouse. Steve Black made a motion to increase the salary ladder by \$2.00 per hour. Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried. Cindy Redburn said she felt this was a wise move by the commission and a good use of tax payer money.

Pat Schwent advised the commission that it is necessary for her to keep some records from the Collectors office forever and she was running out of space to store them safely. Discussion was held regarding the Freeman building remodel and the addition of some fireproof storage areas. Pat Schwent exited the meeting. Cindy Redburn exited the meeting.

Kellie Vestal addressed the commission and their decision regarding the \$2.00 per hour wage increase to the employees. She wanted to know if the commission would approve her new salaries. Steve Black said he thought it had all been agreed upon at the employee salary committee meeting. Further discussion upon where employees would be on the pay ladder will be at the next salary committee meeting.

11:35 a.m.: Jared Boast made a motion to adjourn the August 15, 2023, meeting of the Crawford County Commission. Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

The Commission adjourned to meet August 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Steve Black, Presiding Commissioner