

## Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting  
September 10, 2020  
9:00am

**Commissioners Present:** Horace Daniel, Doug Watkins, Edward Burten, James Hitchcock, Frank Simmons

**Prayer**

**Pledge**

**Call to Order**

### **Approval of Past Minutes**

- A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the minutes from the previous regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion to approve those minutes passed with a show of hands.

### **Bills**

- A motion was required to approve the bills for the past month as follows:
  - Administrative & Other \$104,901.09
  - Road Department \$65,606.83
  - Sheriff Dept. & Jail \$60,573.55
  - Courthouse \$39,914.18
  - EMA \$386.29
  - E-911 \$6,346.77
  - Landfill \$60,683.17

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the bill for the past month, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

### **Road Department Update**

- Mr. Waller stated that the Road Department was thankful to the commissioners for the new lighting installed in the shop building, as visibility is greatly improved. He stated that the work detail has been productive since beginning in July and has removed many bags of trash off the County rights-of-way. He reminded the public that the dumpster sites are for household garbage only, which does not include items such mattresses, couches, toilets, etc.
  - Commissioner Watkins asked how many tractors were running at this time. Mr. Waller stated 3, with 2 of them currently at the shop for repair. Commissioner Hitchcock asked if any of the down tractors were the newer Massey Fergusons that were purchased within the last couple of years, to which Mr. Waller replied 1. Commissioner Burten inquired what the other down tractor was, to which Mr. Waller answered as the New Holland having transmission issues.
  - Mr. Waller stated that, going into the winter, he is currently 5 workers short of where the Road Department needs to be. He stated that finding and keeping quality workers is very challenging, since it is becoming more difficult to find the workers with the skills required to operate equipment and machinery.

## Appointments

- Fieldstone Subdivision – Keith Foster
  - Mr. Foster did not attend the meeting to discuss any issues.

## New Business

- Elections Building – Electrical Work
  - The County Administrator explained that electricians from Mel Daniel Heating, Cooling, & Electrical and Helton Electric were allowed to inspect the building's current electrical system and provide feedback about items that needed replacing or updating. A list of items was made for each company to provide quotes on, in which Helton Electric was the lowest quote. Helton Electric provided a quote in the amount of \$7,467.80, while Mel Daniel submitted a quote for \$9,350. He stated that Helton Electric was the recommended quote.
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to award the work to Helton Electric. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to award, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Repair of Dumpsters
  - Mr. Waller stated that the Road Department currently have 50 dumpsters with deteriorated bottoms. He stated that those dumpsters could be repaired and be used just as easily as new ones. He stated that the cost to acquire the steel needed to repair the dumpsters is \$7,000. He stated that he has spoken with welders in our community and in others, with the lowest price coming from a welder in Dublin that would be \$200 per dumpster, not including the pickup or delivery of the dumpsters. He stated the dumpsters would be repaired 5 at a time.
  - Commissioner Hitchcock asked if there were any local welders that were competitive. Mr. Waller stated that the lowest quote from anyone locally was \$450 per dumpster. Commissioner Hitchcock asked about the painting of the dumpsters. Mr. Waller stated that the Road Department would handle the painting.
  - Mr. Waller stated that he would search around more for welders, but would like to move forward with the purchase of the steel.
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to purchase the require steel for \$7,000. Commissioner Hitchcock made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Fuel Station
  - The County Administrator explained that fuel station was in need of a new fuel system, which would cost approximately \$46,000. In addition, from records located at the Road Department, the fuel tanks located at the County fuel station will only last another 6 to 10 years. The current tanks were installed in 1998 and are rated to last between 26 and 30 years. He stated that he had spoken with Atkinson Oil about using their fuel station and getting fuel from them in as an alternative to getting a new fuel system. Atkinson Oil submitted a proposal to provide gasoline and diesel for \$0.05 above the daily rack price.
  - Ms. Alexandria Orr, office manager at the Road Department, stated that the tank monitors are tested twice per year in which both the gas and diesel systems are checked and must pass a test according to EPA guidelines.
  - Commissioner Hitchcock asked about the taxes paid by the County. Ms. Orr stated that the County only pays the GUST and LUST taxes for fuel. Commissioner Burten asked if we would

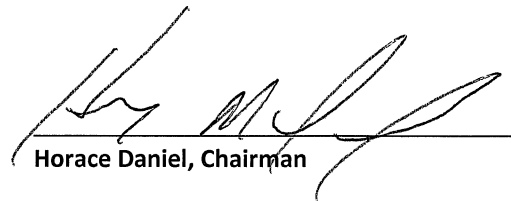
need to remove the tanks if Atkinson Oil is allowed to provide fuel at their station, to which Mr. Waller confirmed that the County would need to remove the tanks. Mr. Waller went on to state that how much longer the tanks last is also dependent on the soil type used around the tanks, with more acidic soil taking more of a toll on them. Ms. Orr stated that the County's toughest problem as of today is with the system and meeting the EPA guidelines. She stated that they will work with the County to get in compliance, but eventually will charge a \$50,000 fine for lack of progress. She also stated that the probes are prone to breaking when they are checked each month, which costs approximately \$1,700 to replace.

- The County Administrator explained that a decision does not need to be made today, but the discussion needed to be started in order to arrive at a decision sooner than later. He stated that he will gather more information and do more calculations to help aid in the decision process.
- Executive Session – Property
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to enter into executive session. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to enter, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - No votes were taken as a result of the business discussed regarding Lamars Creek Road.

**Chairman Comments**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Public Comment Session**



Horace Daniel, Chairman

**Attest:**



Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk