

## Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

May 10, 2018

9:00am

**Commissioners Present:** Horace Daniel, Doug Watkins, Edward Burten, Melton Jones, 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 \$325,978.92
  - Road Department \$74,820.48
  - Sheriff Dept. & Jail \$42,230.50
  - Courthouse \$35,434.73
  - EMA \$183.57
  - E-911 \$60,574.30
  - Landfill \$47,310.94

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

### Road Department Update

- The Roads Superintendent gave an update on the Lamars Creek Road project, stating that the contractor is clearing rights-of-way before beginning the moving of dirt. The earth moving phase is the largest of the project. He explained that three (3) new water wells were installed at the Landfill Site 3, as prescribed by EPD. Regular operations including grass mowing and dirt road maintenance are well underway.

### Appointments

- Audio in Courtroom – Grant Cooper
  - Mr. Cooper requested that the audio in the large courtroom be checked and improved, due to the difficulty of hearing clearly during proceedings. The commissioners agreed to have the matter inspected.

**Old Business – None**

### New Business

- Beer & Wine License – J & T Food Mart
  - The vote on this license was tabled due to further information required by the Sheriff's Office.
- Senior Meal Agreement
  - The County Administrator explained that this item is a renewal of the current contract with Bateman Community Living to provide meals to senior citizens that attend functions at the Senior Center, as well as delivered meals to those that are not physically able to attend those functions. The overall

cost to provide these meals did not increase from the previous year's agreement. A vote was required to approve the renewal of the contract.

- A motion was made by Commissioner Burten to approve the renewal, seconded by Commissioner Simmons. The motion was passed by a show of hands.
- Lease Agreement – Dept. of Driver Services
  - The County Administrator explained that the State Properties Commission requested an updated agreement with the County, due to the contract not having a definitive time period. The new contract, drafted by the SPC, includes a time period of eight (8) years, but does not alter any of the previous contract's details. A vote was required to approve the updated agreement.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the update to the contract, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

#### Executive Session

- A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to enter into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed by a show of hands.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to re-enter into the regular session, seconded by Commissioner Burten.
- Opioid Litigation
  - Following the discussion had in the executive session, a vote was required to enter into an agreement with the Blasingame, Burch, Garrard & Ashley, PC regarding the federal litigation against opioid manufacturers. This firm was recommended by the County Attorney after further review into the matter over the past month. This agreement will not cost the County any amount if the case is dismissed or fails. If the County receives any damages or awards, thirty percent (30%) of those funds will be subject to attorney fees.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to accept the recommendation by the County Attorney and enter into the agreement with the Blasingame law firm, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

#### Chairman Comments

#### Meeting Adjourned

#### Public Comment Session



Horace Daniel, Chairman

Attest:



Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk