Jasper County Board of Commissioners

**April 23, 2018**

**Work Session Minutes**

**6:00 P.M.**

Comm. Pennamon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Chairman, Carl Pennamon, Vice-Chairman, Craig Salmon, Bruce Henry, and Don Jernigan. Doug Luke was absent.

Staff Present: Mike Benton, County Manager, Clerk, Sharon Robinson, Finance Director, Dennis Pate, Chief Appraiser, Lynn Bentley, Public Works Director, Preston Campbell, Extension Agent, Kasey Hall, and Sheriff Donnie Pope.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:** Preston Campbell

Comm. Pennamon noted this is a Work Session on FY 2019 Budget and Roads.

Comm. Henry noted he would like to start on the road plan first.

Mr. Benton noted he met with Preston and Engineer, Robert Jordan and come up with a plan for Chip Sealing. They have identified 12 roads.

Comm. Pennamon noted he feels we need to change the way we pick roads in an effort to take the politics out of it, he would like staff to pick the roads and commissioners figure out how to fund them. He also would like to have County Manager less involved and have the Public Works Director and the County Engineer handle this responsibility.

Mr. Benton provided handouts for board members. (A copy of these handouts are attached to the official minutes).

Mr. Campbell noted the list of roads on the 2018 Chip Seal Plan as; Stroz Drive, Deerfield Farms, Blackbird Circle, Falcon Circle, Bluebird Court, Bluejay Court, Shirley Drive, Jasper Street, Monticello Street, Macon Street, Jackson Street, and Deer Run Circle. There are 12 roads for a total of 3.6 miles.

Mr. Benton noted GDOT has informed us there are federal funds available for striping and signage with no county match required. There are 63 miles of roads that have been obtained from Sheriff information on highly traveled roads, the roads are Jackson Lake Road, County Line Road, Post Road, Pitts Chapel Road, Aikenton Road, Henderson Mill Road, Bethel Church Road, Clay Road, Fellowship Road, and Fullerton-Phillip’s Road.

Mr. Benton noted the county would be responsible for brooming ahead of the striping machine. This project is for 2019. We will also have to remove the signage.

Mr. Benton also noted that GDOT has asked that if any of the roads listed are scheduled for re-surfacing, please take them off the list. He further noted that he asked if any are taken off can we add some more, and he was told yes we could.

Mr. Benton recommended removing Post Road as we have already done part of this road; he requested Preston and Robert to come up with like mileage roads, and they came up with Rock Eagle Road and Wild Road.

Mr. Benton noted GDOT needs a letter of interest tomorrow.

Mr. Benton updated the Board on Shepherd Road Project. Geotechnical Consultants are performing boring tests for the purpose of recommending depth of full depth reclamation, cement spread rates and new asphalt top layer thickness.

Mr. Benton updated the board on the Lakeshore Drive Speed Humps, noting that the plan is to install 4 additional speed humps for an approximate cost of $3600.

Mr. Benton updated the board on the status of the Road Plan and 2018 LMIG.

Comm. Salmon questioned on the rating system does that mean it is to be completed 2018.

Mr. Benton noted yes it does.

Mr. Benton noted the LMIG payment for 2018 has been received. The county match is $163,877.91; it has been determined that the best option for this road would be full depth reclamation.

Comm. Pennamon noted we will have to have more discussion on LMIG at the May meeting.

Mr. Campbell updated the board on Bridge projects noting, Pitts Chapel Bride and Old Adgateville Road Bridges are done.

Comm. Salmon questioned the status of Pitts Chapel Bridge replacement.

Mr. Benton noted GDOT told him it was in the design phase.

Mr. Benton updated the board on concrete bridges noting; Barr Bridge Road Bridge issues; the bridge has exposed abutment lip on each end.

Comm. Henry questioned if anyone has looked at it since the fall.

Mr. Benton noted he went out and looked at it.

Comm. Henry noted there is a huge piece of concrete rock that has blown out so they may want to go look at it again.

Mr. Benton noted we will get to work on it.

Mr. Benton noted he received MOA’s on Post Road Bridge over Pittman Creek and Murder Creek. He does not agree with the cost and has requested additional information from DOT.

Comm. Pennamon noted he feels we should sit down with DOT, would like to put this on a Called Meeting to sit down with DOT.

Comm. Pennamon noted that Mr. Benton should delegate the work to Public Works and if the money is in the budget get it done.

Comm. Pennamon noted he asked Mr. Benton to look at current budget and what are mandated and obligated costs regardless of any increase in budget requests; then we can look at salary increases.

Comm. Jernigan noted he would like to give the employees pay raises.

Mr. Benton reviewed the total amount of increases requested by departments. The mandated obligated numbers will be provided next week.

Mr. Benton noted the insurance renewal came in at 60% increase; however, our insurance representative is working hard to get this down.

Comm. Salmon noted for the past 6 years health insurance has been hurting us, we came up with HRA, increased deductibles and saved us about $100,000 a year.

Mr. Benton noted it has worked out well for us.

Mr. Benton reminded there is a Comprehensive Plan Meeting tomorrow.

Comm. Pennamon declared the Work Session closed at 6:50 p.m.

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Carl Pennamon, Chairman

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Sharon S. Robinson, Clerk