

**Logan County Commissioners Work Session  
November 17, 2020**

Present: Joe McBride, Byron Pelton, Jane Bauder, Alan Samber, Valerie Richards, Trae Miller, Rob Quint, Marilee Johnson, Jerry Casebolt, Jeff Rice and Jennifer Crow.

Chairman McBride called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION** – Commissioner Pelton moved to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 as written. Commissioner McBride seconded and the motion carried.

**REVISIONS TO WORK SESSION AGENDA** – An ambulance collections account will be added to the agenda. Commissioner Pelton added discussion of the third round of CARES Act grant applications and discussion of the Road and Bridge air compressor bids.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SCHEDULE OF BILLS** – Valerie Richards met with the Board to review the Logan County Department of Human Services schedule of bills dated November 17, 2020. The Board approved the bills as presented and the Department of Human Services payroll for the period of October 24, 2020 through November 6, 2020 was approved as presented.

**REVIEW BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA** – Rob Quint discussed the resolutions for the two amended conditional use permits. Both resolutions are correcting errors found in the Conditional Use Permits. Errors were discovered in the Pivot Energy CUP by the title company. The first being that the Iris Drive address should never have been on the permit and the second error listed the property as Agricultural (AG) zoned but is Commercial Highway zoned. The correction to the TCA Microgrid Energy CUP was that the access to the property is required from State rather than the county.

**ROAD AND BRIDGE AIR COMPRESSOR** – Jeff Reeves notified the Board that the air compressor being used for crack sealing is going out. The department has repaired it numerous times. Sealed bids were not obtained, there are no local vendors for this type of compressor. The Board approved the purchase requisition for the crack seal air compressor.

**COURTHOUSE LIGHTING CEREMONY** – The Board discussed the Courthouse Lighting Ceremony for November 27<sup>th</sup>. There will not likely be more than 75 in attendance at the outdoor event. The children's choir will be singing and Santa Claus will turn on the lights. Commissioner Pelton will speak with Trish McClain at the health department. The public may need to stay in their cars. The choir will need to spread out for social distancing.

**COMMISSIONERS CHRISTMAS COFFEE** – The Board agreed that due to Covid-19 the Commissioners Christmas Coffee will be postponed. The Board asked Jennifer to send out Christmas cards instead of the invitation this year.

**LOGAN COUNTY AMBULANCE COLLECTION ASSIGNMENTS** - Commissioner Pelton moved to approve assignment of a Logan County Ambulance debt collections account to Wakefield and Associates, the account number ending in 21001 and allow the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Bauder seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

**CARES ACT GRANT FUNDING** – Trae Miller, Jerry Casebolt and Debbie Unrein joined the meeting to discuss the third round of CARES Act Small Business Grants. Grants will be run through the Finance Office. Trae Miller is the contact person working with the advisory board that reviews the grants.

The City of Sterling returned approximately \$489,000 of unspent CARES Act funds. The Logan County balance as of today is approximately \$700,000 giving roughly \$1.2 million left to distribute. It was decided that there will not be a limit on the grant amounts as long as the costs can be supported with documentation.

The meeting recessed at 9:27 a.m. and reconvened at 9:54 a.m.

**CARES ACT FUNDING DISCUSSION CONT'D** – Incomplete or partial applications will be rejected due to the time constraints to get the grants awarded. The funds must be spent by December 31, 2020.

The Board went through the application and removed the section allowing future modification as there is not time to get the modifications done. Businesses must prove negative impact to the businesses due to Covid-19. Grants will be for operational expenses only. It is not clear whether lost revenue can be reimbursed. Federal and State regulations are differing on the matter.

It was agreed that wages covered by the federal Payroll Protection Program are not eligible for this grant program. Inventory can be reimbursed if perishable inventory had to be replaced. Or to purchase seasonal inventory due to lost revenue in Covid closures. There were many applications approved for inventory purchase.

The Board agreed to cover rent and operational expenses through December 31, 2020. Operational expenses. The application will accept anticipated future expenses through December 31, 2020. Proof of payment will be required as soon as the expense is paid, i.e. copies of checks or invoices, or bank statements.

At home businesses will be allowed to include partial mortgage payments according to current IRS rules for the percentage of the home that is office. The whole mortgage payment will not be allowed. The schedule C from the business's tax return will be required for claims for partial mortgage payments for At Home businesses.

It was suggested that the application include language clearly stated on the front encouraging

businesses to apply even if they received the \$7,500 grant in the first round. Businesses must be able to prove that expenses are over and above the \$7,500. Water, electric and gas are huge expenses for many businesses. Trae will e-mail everyone who received payments in the first round of applications and tell them they are eligible for another grant. The businesses must deduct the first \$7,500 grant for this application.

Applications received prior to this round can be considered for additional expenses over and above the \$7,500 without having to reapply. Applicants will be notified to contact Trae Miller or Logan County Finance with questions.

Commissioner Bauder, Debbie Unrein and Trae Miller will be the committee that reviews each application to expedite the grant approval process.

Farming enterprises weren't shut down due to Covid and are not eligible. One manufacturer made extra purchases for their inventory, however there was a question where the negative impact due to Covid-19 was on that application. If the businesses staffing is from the halfway house, they may be able to show they had staffing issues due to Covid.

Applications from businesses that weren't in business prior to March 1 but were preparing to open may be considered with proper documentation of expenses. One application for the previous grant was from a business that leased a building in October, 2019, and was preparing to open. The business was paying rent and paying for business expenses prior to March 1, however they could not open due to Covid. That applicant will be told to re-apply with the new application.

Debbie will discuss large applications with Greg Etl.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.