

## **Logan County Commissioners Work Session**

**November 30, 2021**

Present: Jane Bauder, Joe McBride, Alan Samber, Shannon Graves, Debbie Unrein, Jerry Casebolt, Marilee Johnson, Karah Quint, Aaron Tilden, Brett Erickson, Jeff Rice and Jennifer Crow.

Vice-Chairman Bauder called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION** – Commissioner Bauder moved to approve the minutes from November 23, 2021 as written. Commissioner McBride seconded and the motion carried.

**REVISIONS TO WORK SESSION AGENDA** – Commissioner Bauder added a \$500,000 donation for an addition to the Event Center at the fairgrounds. Commissioner Bauder also added backup communications and NewCloud contracts. Jennifer Crow asked to add discussion of a reception in the Logan County Courthouse after the Christmas Parade.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE HUMAN SERVICES SCHEDULE OF BILLS** – Shannon Graves met with the Board to review the Logan County Department of Human Services schedule of bills dated November 30, 2021. The Board approved all bills as presented. The Board also approved the Human Services Department payroll for the period November 6, 2021 through November 19, 2021.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE SCHEDULE OF COUNTY BILLS** – Debbie Unrein met with the Board to review the Logan County schedule of bills dated November 30, 2021. The Board approved all bills as presented. The check for Paramount Technologies is still being held.

**REVIEW BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA** – The Board reviewed the Business Meeting agenda for November 30, 2021.

**DONATION TO FAIRGROUNDS** - Brent Erickson met with the Board. Commissioner Bauder has been working with him beginning in March 2021. A private citizen would like to donate \$500,000 for an addition to the Event Center for a large room to use for wedding receptions etc. Commissioner Bauder explained the proposed location of the addition would be on the west side of the Event Center in the grassed area and where the bingo pavilion is located. The Exhibit Center kitchen could be expanded to serve both the arena and the new addition. The bathrooms could be made to serve both areas as well as be available from the outside. Two entrances could be included as well as a stage for a band. The county has needed a large room for nice wedding receptions where the dirt does not need to be packed every time.

In exchange for \$500,000 the donor would like the addition named after the donor. If the county cannot do the expansion for \$500,000, the donor would agree to put the donation into improvements to the current Event Center for upgrades to heating and air conditioning and a large dance floor. In exchange for the \$500,000 donation for building upgrades, the building would be named after the donor.

If the addition would cost more than \$500,000, the county would need to commit to more funding or the donation could also work for matching funds for a grant application. Commissioner Bauder will get a rough estimate of what kind of square footage can be built for that amount. Commissioner Bauder mentioned a T-mobile grant available four times per year for fairgrounds and community center improvements or the county's sales tax money could be used. The Board agrees that there is definitely a need for the addition.

Mr. Erickson noted that if construction is not started within 18 months, that the county must refund the money to the donor. The Board approved accepting the \$500,000 donation with that stipulation and the requirement that the donor's name be on the building addition or event center. There will be no time limit on the naming of the building. Commissioner Bauder will work to get estimates for the building from Mike Yarrington and Rob Hamil.

Alan Samber mentioned that a City of Sterling water or sewer line runs through the fairgrounds. The Commissioners will check with Chance to determine where the water/sewer line is located.

**BACKUP COMMUNICATIONS** – Jerry Casebolt met with the Board to discuss backup emergency communications. Casebolt has been working with a local Ham Radio Club to provide emergency backup communications for the county. He reached out to the State Land Board to request permission to allow other users or additional uses for the land. In order to put the club's equipment on the county television translator tower, the state wants to collect an additional \$5,065 per year with an annual escalator included. Other options are being investigated as the Reirdon Hill option is not feasible for the club. The State Land Board was very unwilling to work with the group on the cost. The TV Translator is listed on the State Lease. Any other use requires the state's approval. They are looking at the Peetz Tower.

**NEW CLOUD CHANGES** – Jerry sent Alan Samber's suggested edits to the New Cloud contract to Joe Young of NewCloud. Hopefully they will get that worked out before the end of the year. They are discontinuing the SIP trunks coming into the building as of December 31.

**LOGAN COUNTY ARTS LEAGUE (LOCAL)** – Mandy Ritter has requested permission to host a reception in the Courthouse on December 2 after the Christmas Parade. The Board agreed that the reception can be held if the group will provide people to watch the second floor and to not allow anybody above the second floor. Also, they will need to clear the building when they are done.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.