

The commissioners were presented a claim to Portland Rockets for \$3,500. The council approved the additional appropriation at their meeting on May 8th after being approved by the commissioners March 25th. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

There were two claims from the sheriff's department brought forward for approval as they were higher than initially approved by commissioners. The first was to Municipal Emergency Services Inc for new firearm equipment totaling \$17,747.21. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim for \$17,747.21. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The second was to Dell Technologies for two new laptops for their vehicles at \$2,483.98. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the second claim. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to Skymax Containers for the three containers at the highway department of \$7,844 was presented for commissioner approval. Two of the containers will be used for sand bagging operations and one will be used for tire storage for the Highway Department. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim to Skymax Containers. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to First Financial Bank of \$85 for a safety deposit box. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

There were two additional county vehicles that were added to the auction for the evening of May 13th, A 2005 Chevrolet Venture Van from the Retirement Center, which was no longer in running condition and the Surveyor's 1999 International Dump Truck. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the signing of the titles for the two vehicles. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business, Rex Journey made a motion to adjourn at 11:08 a.m.; Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker
Chad Aker
Brian McGalliard
Brian McGalliard
Rex Journey
Rex Journey
Attest: Shirley Ann
Jay County Auditor

MAY 28TH, 2024

The Jay County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 28th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium in the courthouse. Attending was Rex Journey, Brian McGalliard, auditor Emily Franks, attorney Wes Schemenaur, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. Rex Journey made motion to approve the minutes from May 13th, 2024. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

LIFESTREAM

Brandon Lemming, project manager, came to the commissioners to receive approval for the Q1 claim of \$203,750. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the quarter one claim for Lifestream. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Linda Conn, consultant for the Jay County Humane Society, came to the commissioners to request Chad Aker serve on their committee. The committee was established to research and look at local animal control ordinances and make recommendations. Rex Journey made a motion to appoint Chad Aker to the Jay County Humane Society board to study animal control ordinances. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Schemenaur stated he had been working with the organization to update ordinances to make it easier to enforce by law enforcement.

ECI REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT

Bill Walters, director, came to the commissioners to give an update on the last eighteen months of operations. He first discussed their work on broadband for the area. The Next level Connection application has been submitted and they are ready to work on the submission for the BEAD program. They put together a golf tournament with \$2,000 of the proceeds going towards the Jay County Special Olympics. The Owner-Occupied Rehab Application was released this morning. They have

had one home inspector and one engineering firm and will work on Request for Qualifications (RFQ). They will work on getting the applications into groups for review by the county ahead of OCRA. The county could purchase the radon kits for homeowners to complete their own radon inspections as required by OCRA

Mr. Walters discussed the SS4A (Safer Streets for All) Grant Program. The region was awarded \$400,000 for Delaware, Grant, Blackford and Jay County to look at accident areas and bicycle trails. There is a total of \$10 million eligibility to put towards construction once the study is complete with an 80/20 or 50/50 match. There will be public meetings held along with the statistics in order to make the decisions. The project will be roughly a two-year process. Mr. Walters also discussed their USDA BEST (Business Enterprise Services & Training) Grant for \$100,000 in the district with their sixth year just approved. The grant includes training and support for project planning, business counseling, market research, feasibility studies, professional/technical reports, and enhancements to products and services. The project has been one of their most successful, with over 400 individuals served with no cost to them. Mr. Aker asked the information be placed on the county's Facebook page.

Lastly, Mr. Walters informed the commissioners about two EDA grants including the Resiliency Grant from 2021-2025 with about \$80,000 left to be spent. The money has been used for interns, as an example an intern will be in the office with Nate during the OOR Application period. The second EDA grant is for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) granted in March 2023. They are hoping the first draft will be ready for review by the end of June 2024. Once they combine all of it together it will go out for comment ahead of the final draft. ECI has now started working with Bryant, Pennville and Salamina for the Community Crossings Grants. They have all signed on for them to handle their application and management for the grant.

COUNTY MEAL POLICY

Jon Eads, clerk, came to the commissioners to discuss an increase to the current county meal policy. He would like the amount reimbursed for meals increased to the out of state rate as some meals in his office were not fully reimbursed this spring. Mr. Journey questioned what his preference would be for the reimbursement. Mr. Eads stated he would like to see \$20 for lunch, \$15/17 for breakfast, and \$30 dinner. Brian McGalliard made a motion for the matter to be reviewed by the personnel committee. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COUNTRY LIVING

Cindy Bracy, JCCL, Advisory Board of Directors President, came to the commissioners to discuss having a meeting between the Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors and the commissioners. The commissioners suggested a potential meeting date of June 4th, 2024. Mrs. Bracy will check with the board to see if they are available. She reported Virginia Burkey has recently resigned from the board of directors. Mrs. Bracy presented an option for the vacancy of Laura Garringer, a former JRDS employer and now an employee of the Bowen Center. She has already been out there working with residents and believes it to be a good fit. Mr. Aker requested she bring forward a few names for the tentative meeting June 4th.

Mrs. Bracy reported after a recent health department inspection a kitchen island needs repaired as soon as possible. There is a small gap between boards, and a new kickplate is required. It is required to be an easily cleanable surface. She would like the issue to be fixed as soon as possible. Also, the department would like to dispose of their two trucks. Heath Butz, Jay County Health Department, has requested their blue truck for use in mosquito spraying. The second red truck is 4-wheel drive and would leave it up to the commissioners on the best way to dispose of it. The trucks are no longer needed as the highway department has agreed to assist the department on the rare occasion a truck is required. Mr. Aker suggested it be advertised for sealed bids along with another vehicle.

The RCAP grant related to the flooring was discussed. A new flooring quote from Medler Furniture was presented for commissioners' approval. John Hemmelgarn, Building & Planning Director, has reviewed the flooring, and it is the same used in Parkview Memorial Hospital. There is no one who is willing to look at the bathroom repairs due to the extensive amount of work required. Therefore, they requested a quote to replace the flooring for the hallways to meet the June 30th RCAP deadline, as an extension was not granted. Medler can start on the flooring in the next few days, but the furniture will need to be moved first for an estimated start date of June 4th, 2024. The new floors cannot be walked on for 24 hours which will require maneuvering for the residents. There will still be a little money left to spend on the grant after the flooring which will go towards screen door replacement, repair work to the Odyssey Van, and paint. All of which have been approved by RCAP. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the expenditures for the RCAP funds of \$25,764.17 and the new addition for \$14,209.99. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the remainder of the money be spent as the board sees fit. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Lastly, pets at the facility were discussed. The advisory board voted unanimously at their last meeting to recommend no pets be at the facility. Their reasoning for the decision includes the safety of people who are visiting, the liability of the dog, and the expense of the food and care. The current resident agreement states no pets should be allowed without written consent of the lessor. Mr. Journey questioned if they had signed agreements with the residents. Kristie Delaney, director, had no record of any signed agreements for any resident at the facility. The facility currently houses one dog, one indoor cat, and one cat in a resident's room. While Mr. Journey agreed a dog could be good for the residents at the facility, the current agreement does not allow pets. Mr. Aker questioned how long the dog had been at the facility. Ms. Delaney believed the dog had been out there for about 3-4 years. The dog was originally taken care of by a resident, but they had since moved out of the facility. Mr. Aker stated he was an animal lover and knew that it is therapeutic. He added he has never had any problems with the dog. Mr. Schemenaur agreed to the liability issue of if the dog bites. Mr. McGalliard questioned the difference between the liability of the dog versus the cattle that used to be at the facility. Mr. Schemenaur confirmed that was one of the reasons for no longer having cattle at the facility. Mr. Aker would like to wait for questions to be answered by the liability insurance. Mrs. Delaney offered to personally pay for the dog. Kilo, to be vaccinated. Mr. Journey stated while he stands by no pets at the facility, this animal could be the exception. Mr. McGalliard agreed that no pets should be inside the building. The matter was tabled to allow time to check with the county's liability insurance carrier.

HIGHWAY

Bob Howell, superintendent, came to the commissioners for the CCMG Award letter for 2024. The original plan was for the Seventh St. Bridge but was halted due to right of way issues. The current project is to pave 100 S, 150 S and Knox Road off Highway 1. There were two bids submitted for the little over 3-mile project. The first was from Brooks Construction Company Inc out of Fort Wayne, IN for \$1,880,045. The second was from Milestone Contractors LP out of Richmond, IN for \$1,296,250. Rex Journey made a motion to award the paving project to Brooks Construction for \$1,880,045. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Howell discussed the need to replace two 2018 CASE mowers. The first of the two went down two years ago, and the second has gone down recently. They received two quotes for new mowers. The first from Hoosier Equipment quoted \$41,560 for two side mount mowers. The second quote from Kalida Truck and Equipment out of Kalida, Ohio, came in at \$32,700. Mr. Howell's recommendation was to go with the mowers from Kalida. They have had no issues with their type of mower, and it is easy to get parts for repair. Mr. Journey questioned how long they had the mowers from Kalida. Mr. Howell believed it had been 4 years with not the first bit of trouble. Mr. Journey made a motion to approve the purchase of the two side mount mowers from Kalida for \$32,700. Mr. McGalliard questioned if there was a local dealer to provide a quote for the mowers. Mr. Howell said they could not get a local quote because the mowers are special and must be fabricated. Mr. McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Lastly, Mr. Howell introduced Randy Knach, Great Lakes Chloride, a vendor of the department. Mr. Knach has investigated the roads where soft spots have appeared and reported two roads that need quite a bit of work. He recommends renting a reclaimer for the price of \$7,920 as there is no base underneath the road at the soft spots. The quote is from Klink trucking, which includes them bringing in a grinder to grind the road up for repair. The quote does not include the price of any material for the project. Mr. McGalliard questioned the location of the soft spot in question. Mr. Howell informed the board the areas were at 500 S E of HWY 27 between HWY 27 and Boundary Pike. Mr. Knach stated their process includes potholing the road to see what is underneath for drainage etc. They recommend 4-6" of base but could not find any base under the chip and seal. If there is no base, the water will get underneath and damage the road. A good base will allow the water to seep out to the side ditches and keep the base in good shape. Mr. Howell asked if there were any issues with the 2023 Operation Report as presented at the last meeting. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the 2023 Highway Operational Report. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JEMS

Gary Barnett, shift supervisor, came to the commissioners to give an update on monthly operations. He reported their expenditures for April remain steady and their revenue is slightly up over the prior year. The title for the new ambulance was presented for commissioners' approval as it took more than 60 days to receive it from the manufacturer. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the signing of the title for the new ambulance. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Aker informed the board there was an individual interested in purchasing the wrecked ambulance. The amount to buy back the ambulance from the insurance company will be \$1,500. As such, he recommends they advertise the acceptance of sealed bids of at least \$1,500. Rex Journey

made a motion to accept sealed bids for the wrecked ambulance and buy back the ambulance. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Heath Butz, environmentalist, came to discuss recent findings from an IDEM inspection of the Jay County Country Living Facility, all of which were minor. The bleach used in the basement must have a secondary containment and they request labels be placed on the wells, source taps and pressure tanks. One of the valves on a pressure tank was shut. Mr. Butz was not sure why, so the valve had remained shut. The inspection calls for it to be cut and capped and not just shut off. There are two wells put in the mid to late 2000s. One of them has been disconnected since at least 2022 for unknown reasons but they want it to be operational or properly abandoned. He is not sure what all that would entail to make it operational and back in service. The other option would be to use it as a non-potable water supply for gardening and the outbuildings. Mr. Aker believed the non-potable water would be the best option. Mr. Journey believed it was best to have both wells working and to test to see if it is good. Mr. Butz informed the board they have 30 days to put together an action plan and submit to IDEM. He requested the commissioners to give him a direction. The commissioners agreed he should move forward with using the well for outdoor use.

Mr. Butz went over recommendations from the inspection. Those included the installation of a high-water alarm and a dehumidifier for the well house. He recommended the high-water alarm as the sump pump float had gotten stuck a short while back and would like to get ahead of any potential problems. The dehumidifier was recommended because the tanks are fairly rusty. Mr. Aker stated the expenditures should be able to come out of the maintenance budget for the retirement center.

The last recommendation on the report included the number of checks required. They are requiring he check three times a week which includes logging time in, time out, pressure readings, adjustments made, etc. Mr. Aker questioned if the checks could be completed by someone else. Mr. Butz will check to see if that is something the director or staff could do, or if it is required to be him. The transfer of the truck from the retirement center to the health department was mentioned. Mr. Butz confirmed he would like the truck transferred to his department for use in mosquito spraying. Rex Journey made a motion to transfer the truck from the Retirement Center to the Jay County Health Department. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

TOWN OF BRYANT PARK BOARD

Paul VanCise, park board member, came to the commissioners to request money to complete phase one of their park project. They have lost the trees, benches, and bicycle racks due to the increase of costs from the award of the grant. They used windfarm monies as the match to a Portland Foundation grant for playground and equipment. They would like the county to help contribute to an outside drinking fountain, a bike rack by the restroom facilities, park like trash cans and a leaf blower to maintain the trail. The total request is \$10,000 for these projects, however, if he saves money somewhere he will use it towards something else. Mr. Aker commended them for all the footwork, grant funding, and fundraisers for the project. He added he was in favor for using economic development money for it. They have been working with Nate for more grant money for future phases. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the \$10,000 with the funds coming from whichever fund the council recommends. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

PEDC AMENDED AGREEMENT

Mr. Schemenaur explained the commissioners had originally signed a letter of intent including agreeing to pay for a survey, leaps and bounds survey, and wetland survey on Tyson Road in Portland. PEDC has since requested a change to ensure whatever the final arrangements are they would retain some road frontage or a permanent easement in order to not landlock the remaining acreage. The amended letter of intent will also reset the clock on the 30 days to get those items completed. Mr. Journey stated he would call the company to get started on the wetland survey after approval by the board. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the amended letter of intent with PEDC. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

DEPUTY REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

A reimbursement agreement with two new sheriff deputies James Robinette, and Brinnin Wasson were presented for commissioner approval. The deputies have already signed the reimbursement agreement with the county requiring repayment of costs if leaving employment within two years. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the settlement agreement with Mr. Robinette and Mr. Wasson. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE 2024-07- AMEENDEMENT TO THE 2024 SALARY ORDINANCE

An amendment to the 2024 salary ordinance was presented for commissioner approval. The amendment would change the amount of premium paid by the county as a result of a refund based on 2023 claims. The amendment was drawn up based on the commissioners decision at their May 13th

meeting. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve ordinance 2024-07. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The amendment states as follows;

All qualified full-time employees will be eligible for a per month credit to offset the cost of available county health insurance coverage. The amounts as are follows:

Paid by employees from December- May for coverage January-June 2024.

Single plan participants HRA: \$728.54 per month

Employee and Children plan participants HRA: \$1,083.38 per month

Employee and Spouse plan participants HRA: \$1,212.79 per month

Family plan participants HRA: \$1,465.48 per month

Single plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$850.39 per month

Employee and Children plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$1,281.27 per month

Employee and Spouse plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$1,425.34 per month

Family plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$1,872.02 per month

Paid by employees from June- November for coverage July- December 2024.

Single plan participants HRA: \$731.12 per month

Employee and Children plan participants HRA: \$1,246.08 per month

Employee and Spouse plan participants HRA: \$1,382.41 per month

Family plan participants HRA: \$1,869.62 per month

Single plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$904.33 per month

Employee and Children plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$1,568.13 per month

Employee and Spouse plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$1,731.20 per month

Family plan participants TRADITIONAL: \$2,421.02 per month

EGR6 AGREEMENT

The Economic Growth Region 6 Agreement from last meeting was discussed after receiving the prior agreement requested. It was clarified the county would only be liable for any grant funds misspent in Jay County and would not be responsible for other counties in the region. The organization also had some money in reserves to defray any such costs. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the agreement with EGR6. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

MISCELLANIOUS BUSINESS

The payroll docket was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the payroll docket. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The claims docket for May was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claims docket for May. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

An agreement with Comcast business to have services provided to the Jay County Extension office during the fair was presented to the commissioners. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the agreement. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The clerk's report for April was presented for commissioner approval. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the clerk's report. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The draft policy for cameras in county vehicles has not been returned to the county. Ms. Franks will follow up on it for the next meeting.

An emergency claim to Matrix Integration LLC for \$18,174.85 was presented for commissioner approval. The invoice was submitted after the claims due date but is due before the end of June. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the claim to Matrix Integration LLC. Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

An emergency claim from the highway to Stone Co for \$129 was presented for commissioner approval. The invoice came in after the May claim due date but needs paid before the end of June. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim to Stone Co. Rex Journey seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business, Rex Journey made a motion to adjourn at 10:58 a.m; Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker
Brian McCalliard
Rex Journey
Attest: Jay County Auditor

JUNE 4TH, 2024 EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Jay County Commissioners met in executive session on Tuesday, June 4th, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium in the courthouse with the Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors. Attending was Rex Journey, auditor Emily Franks, attorney Wes Schemenaur, and Chad Aker, president, presiding, Brian McCalliard was absent. The meeting was held per IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(9) to discuss a job performance evaluation. The executive session adjourned at 6:46 p.m. for the open special session. The members of the JCCL Advisory Board of Directors present were Harold Towell, Jon Eads, Christina Nixon, Rebecca Thornburg and Cindy Bracy, president.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker
Brian McCalliard
Rex Journey
Attest: Jay County Auditor

JUNE 4TH, 2024 SPECIAL SESSION

The Jay County Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, June 4th, 2024, at 6:45 p.m. in the auditorium in the courthouse with the Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors. Attending was Rex Journey, auditor Emily Franks, attorney Wes Schemenaur, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. Brian McCalliard was absent. The meeting's purpose was to clarify roles and responsibilities between the two boards. The members of the JCCL Advisory Board of Directors present were Harold Towell, Jon Eads, Christina Nixon, Rebecca Thornburg and Cindy Bracy, president.

Cindy Bracy first wanted to clarify they have been a working board of directors adding it has been a daunting and hard task with decades of neglect and a lack of oversight. There have been some bumps and fizzles along the way. Their understanding is that the board can only make recommendations. However, they are requesting any final decision by the commissioners or council be sent directly to the board and not to staff or online. In return, she suggested all advisory board recommendations be sent immediately out to the commissioners or council. Mr. Aker was in favor of the suggestion to allow them time to look into matters personally before having to take final action.

Harold Towell cited a recent incident involving pets at the facility where the board had made a recommendation for no pets. Mr. Aker stated the commissioners were unaware of how they had come to the decision and whether they had talked to residents or the insurance company. Mr. Towell responded by discussing the lease agreement approved in spring of 2022, which stated no pets without written approval. Mrs. Bracy restated the board advises the commissioners and will make sure votes in meetings are immediately forwarded to the commissioners. Mr. Aker stated the lease agreement might need to be looked at in the future as it was more of a boilerplate lease agreement. Ms. Franks reported she had spoken with the insurance broker and would discuss details with the insurance company on Thursday. The first incident of biting or aggression would be considered an accident and should be covered under the county's current policy. However, the dog would need to be removed immediately after any such incident as a second such incident would be considered gross negligence and not covered under any insurance policy. The dog would also be required to stay current on all vaccinations.

Mrs. Bracy presented those present with a copy of the admission criteria and procedures from Howard County. She asked they be reviewed and to bring any suggestions back to the next meeting. The items in red are those she had a question about for different reasons. Mr. Journey asked for

clarification if the current pets were to fall under the exception to the no pets policy. He added he would prefer the board or director make most of these types of decisions moving forward. Mr. Towell questioned if the dog had been in the house and if all the cats had been removed. Ms. Delaney believed the dog had been in the house in the past and one cat still remained in the home.

Mr. Towell stated he would like all final decision by the commissioners to be reported directly to the board as a whole and not just one member. Mr. Aker asked if the suggestion was to include all board members on any correspondence. The board members agreed they would all like to be included on email exchanges. Mr. Schemenaur clarified the day-to-day operations should be handled by the board and only rule changes, budget or staff issues would need to come before council or commissioners.

Mrs. Bracy reported the flooring has been delivered and ~~they~~ they are projected to start Thursday, June 6th, 2024. She also reported an application has been submitted for a potential partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank. This would allow them to order available food for a \$50-75 delivery fee or they could pick it up for free when the truck is in town weekly. They believe this would help the budget by providing base needs and require them to purchase less.

Kristie Delaney, director, gave an update. They are holding off on pest control until they find out what kind of mattress covers they would like them to use. The members from both boards asked the pest issue be addressed as soon as possible. Ms. Delaney reported there were 22 residents at the facility, with two still waiting on funding approval. Harold Towell questioned the number of residents as two had moved out since the last count. Ms. Delaney restated there were currently 22 residents.

As part of the discussion, Mr. Aker asked if the responsibility for approval of residents could be delegated to the Advisory Board moving forward. Mr. Schemenaur believed it be best for the commissioners to set the admissions criteria to the board and then only issues would need to come before the commissioners. Mr. Towell clarified if someone were to be rejected by the board, they could then appeal to the commissioners. Mr. Journey recommended it be written the same for removal of a resident for the facility. The members from both boards agreed that would be the best procedure to put in place.

Mr. Aker questioned why a resident was not removed after a recent altercation. Mr. Schemenaur explained the residents have tenant rights that need to be followed. He recommended policies and checklist for incidents be completed along with employee training. The policy should establish at what point does the director need to be involved, or when a trespass warning should be issued. Mr. Aker agreed with the suggestions and asked for the addition of a three strikes policy. He asked every incident be documented and to have violations by severity. If too severe, it might require immediate removal. Mr. Schemenaur also recommended having a procedure for how records are to be kept. He suggested files by resident to include items such as admission records, lease agreements and policy violations. Lastly, Mr. Aker suggested the rules be posted in common areas such as hallways and the cafeteria.

Mrs. Delaney reported there might be one new potential resident, but they have not toured the facility yet. Mr. Aker asked if the items pointed out by his recent inspection had been corrected including some instances of hoarding in resident rooms and the need for more permanent wiring. He asked the work be completed by an electrician who is licensed and insured. Ms. Delaney confirmed the hoarding had been addressed. She was still looking for an electrician and asked if it had to be local company as only Mercer Electric had answered them in the past. Mr. Aker stated they preferred local as much as possible, but asked progress be made even if only one room at a time.

The open board position from the resignation of Virginia Burkey was discussed. The advisory board original looked at both Laura Garringer and Courtnee Burkey for the open position. Laura Garringer has worked with JRDS, Meridian Health and the Bowen Center. Courtnee Burkey is the county health educator and has been working with the facility. The board originally voted to bring forward Laura Garringer for commissioners' approval at their May 28th meeting. Harold Towell asked Cliff Moser, veteran service officer for the county be considered for the position as he is willing and would bring a veteran perspective. Jon Eads made a motion to recommend Laura Garringer as the replacement. Rebecca Thornburg seconded the motion. Harold Towell and Christina Nixon abstained from the motion. After a discussion Cindy Bracy voted for the motion and the motion carried.

Chris Nixon made a motion to also recommend Cliff Moser and let the commissioners decide at their next meeting. Harold Towell seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Jon Eads opposing the motion. Mr. Eads believed he would be for closing the facility and would not be a good fit for the board. Mr. Towell questioned if wanting to keep the home open was a pre-requisite for serving on the board. Mr. Eads believed they should be open to all ideas. Mr. Towell added he also thought his experience as a veteran and veteran service office would be beneficial to the board.

Lastly, potential upcoming events were discussed including a trip to Howard Haven, Howard County's County Home. Mrs. Bracy will send out some potential dates to go and tour the facility. She also recommended a resident and community outreach night once the new flooring has been installed and the pests have been treated. She believed there is a lot of misconceptions in the community this could help clean up. Mr. Eads asked commissioners if there was a number the county was willing to fund for the facility. Mr. Aker believed that was more a question for the county council but noted the numbers were better than in previous years.

Mrs. Bracy concluded their goal as a board was to decrease expenses. Their focus is on the quality of life for the resident, to be fiscally responsible to the taxpayer and to be a shining star.

Jon Eads made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Rebecca Thornburg seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker
Chad Aker, Paul
Brian McGalliard
Brian McGalliard
Rex Journey
Rex Journey
Attest: Shirley Frank
Jay County Auditor

JUNE 10, 2024

The Jay County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 10th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium in the courthouse. Attending was Rex Journey, auditor Emily Franks, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. Absent was Brian McGalliard and attorney Wes Schemenaur. Rex Journey made motion to approve the minutes from May 28th, 2024 and the June 4th, 2024 Joint Session with the JCCL Advisory Board of Directors. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COUNTRY LIVING

Cindy Bracy, JCCL Advisory Board of Directors president, came to the commissioners to discuss four items. The first recommendation was to remove Kristie Delany as director for the center. Rex Journey made a motion to remove Kristie Delaney as director effective immediately. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Mrs. Bracy next brought forward the suggestion to place former director Melissa Blankley in as interim director until a replacement could be found. They are also working on adding more skills and education to the job description. Rex Journey made a motion to appoint Melissa Blankley as interim director effective June 10th, 2024. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The question of animals at the center is still pending a final answer from insurance. Lastly, the appointment for the open position on the board was discussed. The board recommended two names to the commissioners, Laura Garinger, and Cliff Moser, county veteran service officer. All thought both appointments would bring a different perspective to the board. Mrs. Bracy pointed out she believed an appointment needed to be open minded to changes at the home. Rex Journey made a motion to appoint Laura Garinger to the Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

TRAVEL APPROVAL

Robin Alberson, assessor, came to the commissioners for permission to stay overnight for their conference August 27-30, 2024 in Fort Wayne. The commissioners questioned the hours of the conference. Mrs. Alberson reported the conference will be held between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ms. Franks explained the current policy only allows overnight stay over 100 miles or within the Indianapolis area without prior approval by commissioners. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the overnight stay for the conference. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

SHERIFF

Larry "Ray" Newton, sheriff, came before commissioners to discuss the most recent SRO (School Resource Officer) contract with Jay County School Corporation. There have been small changes from the prior contract to include no charge for days officers are not available, and wording changes from shotgun to rifle. Rex Journey made a motion to approve the SRO contract from July 1st, 2024 to June 30th, 2025.