

**COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 12, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by President, Ron West.

**I. ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: John Price, Josh McCarty, Rick Mason, Paul Reed, Steve Hollenbeck, and Charlie Canary. John Phil Wilson was present as the Council's attorney.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. INVOCATION**

**IV. APPROVAL OF 9/12/05 AGENDA**

Mr. West noted that the following two items needed to be added under New Business:

1. Health Department – request for an hourly rate for a part-time nursing position
2. Circuit & Superior Court Judges – discuss the possibility of a new court

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the agenda as amended with the additions. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**V. APPROVAL OF 8/8/05 & 8/13/05 MINUTES**

Mr. Canary made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**VII. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS & TRANSFERS:**

**EMERGENCY PLANNING & RIGHT TO KNOW – (212)**

Forrest Sutton, Director, appeared before the Council to request the following transfer of funds that are needed to fund haz-mat technicians classes for Johnson County emergency responders.

Mr. Mason moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Reed seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

From: 212-215.0 – Office Supplies	(\$ 3,000.00)
To: 212-323.0 – Travel/Training	\$ 3,000.00

Mr. Sutton also gave a brief update on the local emergency management plans and the calls they have received after the Hurricane Katrina incident.

**TOBACCO FUND – (463)**

Claudia Ehrgott, Office Manager, appeared to request the following transfer of funds to honor an agreement made with St. Thomas Clinic to pay an invoice for medical supplies.

From: 463-410.0 – Equipment	(\$ 7,000.00)
To: 463-210.0 – Operating Supplies	\$ 7,000.00

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mason and carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION – (202)

Mitch Ripley, Commissioner, appeared on behalf of Don Sanders, Highway Director, to create a new line item to pay for engineering services from BS&S, who work for the county two days a week..

Mr. Price asked why the request wasn't for the remaining balance of that salary line item.

Mr. Ripley responded he was not sure why only \$10,000 was requested.

Mr. Canary made a motion to approve the requests as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion that carried six to one; Mr. Mason voted nay.

From: 202-113.0 – Engineer	(\$ 10,000.00)
To: 202-311.0 – Professional Services (new)	\$ 10,000.00

PROSECUTOR DEFERRAL PROGRAM – (327)

Michelle Murray, Office Manager, appeared to request a title change in line item #327-120.0 from Legal Assistant/Paralegal to Assistant Office Manager. She is also requesting additional appropriations for Books and Dues & Subscriptions.

Mr. Reed moved to approve the requests as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

327-120.0 – Legal Asst/Paralegal to Asst Office Manager \$25,500 to \$32,000	\$ 6,500.00
327-220.0 – Books	\$ 1,500.00
327-312.0 – Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 1,600.00

TREASURER – (103)

Rita Sievertson, Treasurer, appeared before the council to request the following transfers:

From: 103-323.0 – Travel & Training	(\$ 500.00)
From: 103-338.0 – Tax Statements & Duplicates	(\$ 500.00)
To: 103-215.0 – Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00
From: 103-113.2 – Deputy	(\$ 2,207.00)
From: 103-113.5 – Deputy	(\$ 3,659.00)
To: 103-114.0 – Clerical Assistants	\$ 5,866.00

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the requests as presented. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR – (113)

Mr. Canary moved to approve the request as presented. He then withdrew his motion due to lack of information. Mr. Mason then made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mr. Mason then withdrew his motion, noting that he will not approve anything anymore unless he has the information ahead of time specifying why the request is needed.

Susan Wayman then appeared before the Council and explained the additional appropriation is being requested because of the increase on their copiers maintenance agreement. She also noted that for next year, she asked for a new copier through the Commissioners as part of the bond issue.

Discussion was held on whether or not to keep a maintenance agreement on the copier while they are in the process of trying to purchase a new copier. It was decided that Ms. Wayman get more information on the maintenance agreement and the request for the additional appropriation was withdrawn.

WIC – (215) (Oct. 1 – Dec. 31)

WIC Coordinator, Tracy Smith, appeared to request approval for the following:

215-111.0 – Registered Nurse	\$ 9,321.00
215-112.0 – Coordinator	\$ 9,763.00
215-113.0 – Clinic Asst.	\$ 4,537.00
215-113.1 – Registered Dietitian (\$15.61 to \$16.00 per hour)	\$ 5,248.00
215-113.2 – Clinic Assistant	\$ 4,888.00
215-114.0 – Insurance	\$ 291.00
215-161.0 – FICA	\$ 2,582.00
215-172.0 – PERF	\$ 2,351.00
215-217.0 – Supplies	\$ 900.00
215-350.0 – Professional Services	\$ 4,667.00
215-322.0 – Postage	\$ 50.00
215-323.0 – Travel & Training	\$ 50.00
215-372.0 – Utilities / Rent	\$ 5,576.00
215-340.0 – Equipment Repair & Maintenance (Jan 1 – Sept 30)	\$ 450.00
From: 215-350.0 – Professional Services	(\$ 6,900.00)
To: 215-217.0 – Supplies	\$ 6,900.00
215-217.0 – Supplies	\$ 2,000.00
215-113.1 – Registered Dietitian	\$ 5,400.00
-Approval of room rate of \$145.00 per night for an out of state conference	
<u>MARCH OF DIMES – (360)</u>	
360-210.0 – Claims	\$ 220.81

Mr. Canary moved to approve the above as requested. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

SHERIFF – (105)

Sheriff Terry McLaughlin was present to seek an additional appropriation to catch up the Sheriff's Pension Fund. He noted that Elaine Beaty with McCready & Keene was also present to answer any questions the Council may have.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the request as presented, noting that payment should not be made until December. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

105-164.0 – Sheriff's Pension	\$ 41,199.00
105-165.0 – Overtime	\$ 2,628.87

JAIL – (124)

Sheriff McLaughlin then asked for approval of the following requests, noting that he is also matching the same amount from the Commissary:

From: 124-226.0 – Operating Supplies	(\$ 20,000.00)
To: 124-309.0 – Hospital & Medical	\$ 20,000.00
<u>COUNTY MEDICAL CARE FOR INMATES – (903)</u>	
903-200.0 – Claims for medical payments	\$ 1,427.34

Mr. Mason moved to approve the above as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reed, which unanimously carried.

CLERK – (101)

Jill Jackson, Clerk, appeared to request an additional appropriation for part-time help. Discussion was held concerning the amount budgeted for part-time help and on finding an alternative funding source. It was suggested that the request for \$5,000.00 for clerical assistants be tabled until the October meeting and be funded from the Clerk's Perpetuation Fund.

Mr. Canary then moved to approve the following requests as presented:

<u>CLERKS PERPETUATION FUND – (313)</u>	
313-410.0 – Office Furniture	\$ 4,000.00
<u>VOTING SYSTEM REIMBURSEMENT – (908)</u>	
908-116.0 – Cust. of Voting Equipment	\$ 2,000.00

Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – (122)

Craig Bartlett, Fleet Director, appeared to seek approval for transfers of funds. Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the transfers as requested. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

From: 122-128.0 – Fleet Director	(\$ 5,000.00)
To: 122-422.0 – Fleet Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
To: 122-221.0 – Vehicle Maintenance Supplies	\$ 4,000.00

Mr. Mason asked if Mr. Bartlett was receiving a supplement for being Fleet Director.

Mr. Bartlett responded yes; he receives \$5,000.00 from the Commissioners' budget, which was the initial offer to see how good of a job he does.

Mr. Bartlett also asked for an additional appropriation for vehicle maintenance supplies for fuel.

Mr. West asked if this line item was solely for fuel.

Mr. Bartlett replied that it is for fuel, license plates and tires.

Mr. Canary asked if this entire request was for fuel.

Mr. Bartlett responded \$10,000 is for tires and the rest is for fuel.

Discussion was held on the use of vehicles and the associated fuel costs.

Mr. Price made a motion to approve the request as amended. Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

122-221.0 – Vehicle Maintenance Supplies \$ 37,000.00

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT – (254)

Mr. Ripley appeared to request an additional appropriation to repair the roof of the Indoor Horse Arena at the Johnson County Park that was damaged by a storm. He commented this money would be used to repair other comprehensive, overdue maintenance to the roof as directed by the insurance company. He also noted that the insurance company has only sent a partial payment to repair the damage from the storm and will not send the remainder until these other repairs are made.

Mr. Price moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

254-417.0 – Storm Damage Repairs \$ 12,000.00

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion of the Proposed Horse Arena

Mr. Ripley commented that after further study of the Irsay Horse Arena Project, it was determined to be more costly to utilize that facility than to build a new one. Tim Davis, Park Director, was also in attendance and concurred with Mr. Ripley.

Health Department – Request for an Hourly Rate for a Part-Time Nursing Position

John Bonsett, Director, appeared before the Council to ask for consideration of an hourly rate for a part-time nursing position. Currently, they have a vacant full-time nursing position and have not been able to find someone to take this position based upon what they are able to pay. However, a person who used to work for them is willing to come back and work on an hourly basis, therefore he would like to establish a rate to pay her. This was not brought up during budget hearings because it was not anticipated that they would be hiring a registered nurse on a part-time basis, and if this works out they will continue this process as long as possible.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

#210-117.0 – Part-time Nurse/Nursing Assistant - \$18.00/hr

Circuit & Superior Court Judges – Discuss the Possibility of a New Court

Mark Loyd, Circuit Court Judge, appeared before the Council stating that he wants to recognize the need that exists in Johnson County for additional judicial assets. He distributed handouts to each member, which outlined the requirements for the creation of additional court(s) and/or judicial officers.

Mr. West noted that by being presented with this information now, the bodies of the Council and Commissioners can have additional time to begin preparations for a special levy request, which would fund this additional court. That opportunity was missed when the Jail was constructed and when Superior Court 3 was implemented. He also read aloud

a letter addressed to Rep. Kathy Kreag Richardson, which recognizes the need for additional judicial services in the County.

Judge Loyd commented that they are requesting additional judicial resources plural, and are outlining a plan for multiple additions to the county in the future due to projected growth within the county. He also mentioned that they are trying to initiate this process now because the Commission on Courts only has two meetings left before the next legislative session; one in September and one in October. They hope to get in on the October meeting. If they miss that, then they have to wait at least another year before they can start this process.

Mr. West stated that it was recommended by the Council's attorney to take a vote on the letter that he previously read and to send it to representative Kathy Richardson.

Mr. Reed moved to approve and send the letter requesting additional judicial assets. Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. West asked for any recommendations or changes on the budgets as read and adopted during second reading.

#### Sheriff (#105) & Jail (#124)

Sheriff McLaughlin appeared, noting that he would like to make the following changes:

#105-170.0 – Special Teams Pay – reduce to \$33,000.00

#124-171.0 – Special Teams Pay – new line item - \$9,000.00

He also submitted some corrected 2006 salary adjustments for the Sheriff (#105) and Jail (#124) budgets.

Barb Davis, First Deputy Auditor, stated that the Council needs to reduce the Capital Outlay line item in their budget by the total amount increased in salaries for departments #105 and #124.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve departments #105, #124 and #135 as read at second hearings with the changes listed below. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#105-111.0 – Salary Sheriff – increase to \$91,061.00

#105-113.7 – Lieutenant – reduce to \$34,309.00

#105-115.1 – Deputy – increase to \$35,586.00

#105-115.4 – Deputy – increase to \$34,677.00

#105-115.8 – Deputy – reduce to \$40,024.00

#105-116.1 – Deputy – reduce to \$40,024.00

#105-116.2 – Deputy – increase to \$34,141.00

#105-116.4 – Deputy – reduce to \$40,416.00

#105-116.9 – Deputy – increase to \$38,884.00

#105-117.5 – Deputy – reduce to \$40,024.00

#105-117.8 – Deputy – increase to \$38,884.00

#105-117.9 – Deputy – increase to \$38,179.00

#105-118.0 – Deputy – increase to \$36,446.00

#105-118.1 – Deputy – reduce to \$39,239.00

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#105-118.2 – Deputy – increase to \$37,379.00  
 #105-126.0 – Bookkeeper – reduce to \$27,342.00  
 #105-127.4 – Sheriff Sale Clerk – increase to \$24,205.00  
 #105-128.1 – Dispatcher – reduce to \$26,186.00  
 #105-128.2 – Dispatcher – reduce to \$29,818.00  
 #105-128.7 – Dispatcher – increase to \$24,363.00  
 #105-131.0 – Dispatcher – reduce to \$24,877.00  
 #105-170.0 – Special Teams Pay – reduce to \$33,000.00  
 #124-125.0 – CO Shift Supervisor – increase to \$29,459.00  
 #124-125.1 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$23,947.00  
 #124-125.2 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,742.00  
 #124-125.4 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$24,183.00  
 #124-126.1 – CO Assist Shift Supervisor – increase to \$28,545.00  
 #124-126.2 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$24,183.00  
 #124-126.3 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$24,183.00  
 #124-126.4 – Training Officer – reduce to \$28,887.00  
 #124-126.5 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,864.00  
 #124-127.0 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$27,807.00  
 #124-127.1 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$26,064.00  
 #124-127.2 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$23,947.00  
 #124-127.3 – CO Assist Shift Supervisor – increase to \$28,545.00  
 #124-127.4 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,988.00  
 #124-127.5 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,011.00  
 #124-127.6 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$27,807.00  
 #124-127.7 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$27,807.00  
 #124-127.8 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$24,183.00  
 #124-128.0 – CO Assist Shift Supervisor – increase to \$28,545.00  
 #124-128.1 – Assistant Shift Leader – increase to \$28,545.00  
 #124-128.2 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$24,183.00  
 #124-128.3 – CO Assist Shift Supervisor – reduce to \$27,136.00  
 #124-128.4 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$23,947.00  
 #124-128.5 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$23,947.00  
 #124-128.6 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$24,183.00  
 #124-128.7 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$23,947.00  
 #124-128.8 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$25,011.00  
 #124-128.9 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,864.00  
 #124-129.0 – Claims Clerk – increase to \$23,500.00  
 #124-129.1 – Administrative Clerk – increase to \$23,500.00  
 #124-130.2 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$23,947.00  
 #124-130.3 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,864.00  
 #124-130.4 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,864.00  
 #124-130.5 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$23,947.00  
 #124-130.6 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,864.00  
 #124-130.7 – Correctional Officer – reduce to \$25,127.00  
 #124-131.1 – Correctional Officer – increase to \$25,619.00  
 #124-162.0 – Salary Cook – reduce to \$22,982  
 #124-162.1 – Head Cook – reduce to \$26,577.00  
 #124-162.2 – Salary Cook – reduce to \$23,209.00  
 #124-171.0 – Special Teams Pay (new line item) - \$9,000.00  
 #135-410.0 – Capital Outlay – reduce to \$1,645,743.00 (amount reduced by \$10,746.00  
 due to salary adjustments in the #105 and #124 budgets)

Election Board (#114)

Jill Jackson, Clerk, appeared to make the following changes:

#114-113.0 – Deputy Clerk – reduce to \$23,441.00

#114-113.1 – Deputy Clerk – increase to \$24,908.00

Mr. Canary made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Health (#210)

John Bonsett, Director of the Health Department, appeared to request an increase in the hourly rate for their part-time nurse.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

#210-117.0 – Part-time Nurse/Nursing Asst – increase to \$20.00/hour

Cumulative Bridge (#206)

Commissioner Ripley appeared asking to reverse the change that was made during second reading of budget hearings because although the bridge construction itself was put on hold, preparation work done by the engineering firm has been completed and bills will be coming in that need to be paid.

Mr. Price moved to approve the following changes:

206-469.0 – Morgantown Rd/Olive Branch Bridge #69 – increase to \$150,000.00

206-480.0 – Paving – reduce to \$137,000.00

Mr. Reed seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Highway Maintenance & Repair (#204) & Commissioners (#122)

Libby Dalby, Highway Bookkeeper, appeared before the Council to request that the Fleet Director position be totally paid from the Commissioners' budget and that the line item for this position that was also paid out of in the Highway's budget to stay as is, so that another mechanic could be hired.

Discussion was held on whether or not to fund the Fleet Director's whole salary from the Commissioners' budget and to keep a full-time mechanic position in the Highway's budget.

Mr. Mason made a motion to approve the following:

#122-128.0 – Fleet Director – reduce to \$10,000.00

Mr. McCarty seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

Commissioners (#122) & Council (#135)

Mr. Ripley commented that in the Commissioners' meeting that morning, they approved to lower the bridge rate to .015 and to use that money to help supplement the employees' health insurance. He also noted that the Commissioners have allowed this in good faith

and want a commitment from the Council that they will continue to research alternative funding sources; otherwise, next year, the Commissioners will re-establish the bridge rate at the maximum amount.

Mr. McCarty expressed his feelings that the Council has been more pro-active in making good decisions within the last eight or nine months, than in the previous years.

Mr. West stated that the only available option that they have been presented with to date that will generate additional revenue is the Food & Beverage Tax, of which they passed. He noted that the Wheel Tax does not help the General Fund, and presently the EDIT Tax does not help the General Fund either.

Mr. Mason made a motion to approve the following as requested. Mr. Price seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

#122-144.0 – Emp Group Health Insurance – increase to \$1,700,000.00

#135-410.0 – Capital Outlay – reduce to \$1,145,743.00 (amount reduced by \$500,000 as a result of the bridge rate lowered to .015 and the increase in the health insurance)

#### Appeal of Sheriff's Pension Fund

Mr. Canary moved to approve the appeal for the Sheriff's Pension Fund. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

#### White River Township Assessor (#113)

Susan Wayman, White River Township Assessor, appeared before the Council asking them to re-consider putting \$600.00 back into her #113-324.0 – Communications line item. She stated that she needs that money to pay for the contract that she has signed with Verizon and noted that when she cancels her contract, she will have to pay around \$225.00; she cannot cancel her contract until they receive new cell phones, and does not know when that will be.

After further discussion, it was decided that they would leave line item #113-324.0 – Communications as is until the Commissioners have something in place for getting new cell phones to the assessor's office; Ms. Wayman may need to come back next month and ask for an additional appropriation to help get through the remainder of this year.

#### Property Reassessment (#265)

Marla Hash, County Assessor, appeared before the Council and requested to delete her Communications line item.

The request died due to lack of a motion.

#### Adoption of 2006 Budget

Mr. West stated that based upon the recommendation of their financial consultant, the Council created a new line, titled Capital Outlay, and placed the amount that was cut from the budgets, which equates roughly to \$1.7 million, into that new line item. The reason for this was to demonstrate to the State Board of Accounts that the special appeal for the Sheriff's Pension Fund was bonafied in that there is not enough revenue to cover the needs. He also noted that the Council would never appropriate the funds in this line item.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the 2006 budgets as amended on final reading. Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which carried six to one; Mr. Reed voted nay.

There being no further business, Mr. Reed motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mason seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.