

**COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 9, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President, Charlie Canary.

**I. ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Josh McCarty, Steve Hollenbeck, Beth Boyce, Ron West, Anita Knowles and Brian Walker. Phil Wilson was also present as the Council's attorney.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. INVOCATION**

**IV. APPROVAL OF 2/09/09 AGENDA**

Mr. Canary moved the request from the Highway Department to the beginning of the agenda because of another commitment the Highway Director needs to attend.

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

**V. APPROVAL OF 1/12/09 MINUTES**

Mr. West moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**VII. APPOINTMENT:**

**Johnson County Park Board**

Mr. West moved to appoint James Kirkman to serve on the Johnson County Park Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2012. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

**VIII. SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, REDUCTIONS, & TRANSFERS:**

**HIGHWAY – (203)**

**CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND – (206)**

Gary Vandegriff, Highway/Fleet Director, appeared to request additional appropriations for Highway and Sheriff vehicles. He also requested money from the Cumulative Bridge Fund for Bridge Inspection, Olive Branch/Morgantown Road, and Bridge 503.

He reviewed the information that the Council received in their packets in reference to the vehicles and Bridge Projects.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the following requests as presented. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

201.41601.000.203 – Other Equipment (vehicles)	\$ 38,204.00
206.36800.000.206 – Bridge Inspection	\$ 7,500.00
206.46900.000.206 – Olive Branch/Morgantown Road	\$ 250,000.00
206.49501.000.206 – Bridge 503	\$ 135,000.00

**CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT – (254)**

Mr. Vandegriff distributed a revised Sheriff Fleet recommendation because after conversation with the Auditor there is \$295,000 available from the 2006 GO Bond to purchase Sheriff vehicles instead of \$90,000. He lowered his original request from \$86,705 to \$14,156 from the Cum Cap Dev Fund.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walker seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

254.47500.000.254 – Sheriff Vehicles	\$ 14,156.00
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**DRUG FREE COMMUNITY – (331)**

Lori Adams, Johnson County Citizens Against Substance Abuse Program Coordinator, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$13,000 for Administrative costs. She explained the funds reverted back at the end of 2008.

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

331.34005.000.331 – Administrative	\$ 13,000.00
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**SUPPLEMENTAL JUVENILE PROBATION – (296)**

Suzanne Miller, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, appeared to request \$7,000 be appropriated for a grant that they received last year from Johnson County Against Substance Abuse. The money was approved last year; however, it reverted back at the end of 2008.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

296.31000.000.296 – Professional Services	\$ 7,000.00
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**HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – (371)**

Forrest Sutton, Johnson County Emergency Management Director, appeared to request a transfer from Professional Services into GIS Tech (salary supplement), Social Security, and PERF. The Grant has already been approved; however, it was not presented in the specific line items.

Mr. West moved to approve the request.



**SURVEYOR – (106)**

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$19,645.12 for office equipment. The equipment was damaged from the flood and insurance reimbursed the county the money. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

100.44000.000.106 – Office Equipment (insurance) \$ 19,645.12

**WIC – (215)**

**MARCH OF DIMES – (360)**

Mr. Canary noted he spoke with Tracy Smith WIC Coordinator and she could not attend the meeting. He explained the requests were for reimbursements; grant money and money received for pregnancy tests from the March of Dimes.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the requests as submitted. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

215.31000.000.215 – Professional Services \$ 1,800.00  
215.32120.000.215 – WIC Peer Counselor \$ 3,000.00  
360.20000.000.360 – Claims \$ 51.85

**HEALTH – (210)**

**HEALTH MAINTENANCE – (214)**

**TOBACCO SETT/HALTH – (463)**

Mr. West moved to approve the following requests as submitted. Mr. Walker seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

210.10006.000.210 – Director of Nursing \$ 9,309.38  
210.31000.000.210 – Professional Services (insurance) \$ 1,633.34  
210.44000.000.210 – Office Equipment (insurance) \$ 375.81  
214.36102.000.214 – Contractual Services (insurance) \$ 8,589.59  
463.31000.000.463 – Professional Services \$ 8,833.34

**HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – (371)- (continued)**

John Price, County Commissioner, appeared to answer questions the Council had in reference to floater positions. He noted they are currently in the process of hiring someone in their department that in the future could be a floating position. He did note his concerns of having someone being paid from three departments and the accountability especially with the State Board of Accounts.

Discussion was held on “Floating Positions” and the position of Ms. McKnight and the accountability.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried five to two, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Knowles voted nay.

From: 371.31000.000.371 – Professional Services	(\$ 8,657.73)
To: 371.11251.000.371 – GIS Technician	\$ 7,406.10
To: 371.14200.000.371 – Social Security	\$ 566.57
To: 371.14300.000.371 – PERF	\$ 685.06

**SHERIFF – (105)**

Mr. West moved to approve the requests as submitted. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

100.19900.000.105 – Overtime (OPO/DUI/BCC)	\$ 3,544.05
100.44100.000.105 – Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 23,075.25

**PLANNING & ZONING – (117)**

Dan Batta, Johnson County Planning & Zoning Director, appeared to request an additional appropriation for office equipment (insurance-flood related) and to discuss the accumulated compensation time for the Planning Engineer. He requested to lower the amount for office equipment from \$34,310 to \$25,310 because they have not received all the insurance reimbursement at this time. He originally requested \$14,361.30 to pay the Planning Engineer for accrued comp time; however, they decided to withdraw that request and facilitate time off for the Engineer to utilize 300 of the 560 hours between now and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Then in October this would be reviewed with the Board of Commissioners and Council to fully resolve all the hours by the end of the year. The employee is now exempt and cannot accumulate comp time.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the appropriation as amended. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

100.44000.000.117 – Office Equipment (insurance)	\$ 25,310.00
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Mr. Batta distributed information about the Johnson County Comprehensive Plan and invited the Council to attend a meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room.

**ANIMAL SHELTER – (219) – tabled (also see January 12<sup>th</sup> minutes)**

Emily Williamson, Animal Control Warden, Dawn Phelps, Administrative Assistant, and County Commissioner, John Price, appeared to discuss the salary ordinance amendments that were tabled from the Council’s January meeting. They proposed to transfer from several line items along with an additional appropriation to increase the salaries.

Mr. Canary stated if the transfers are granted he wanted the department to realize he would not vote to approve additional money. He was concerned that the new facility would cost more to operate.

Ms. Williamson expressed that the new building would be more energy efficient.

Mr. West noted he met with the Animal Shelter staff. He is in support of salary increases for the employees and suggested waiting until the new facility is up and running in order to review the revenue, which he thinks, will be increased. In May or June there should be adequate conservation in the 100's series to make salary adjustments at that time.

Ms. Williamson explained they have lots of plans to increase their revenue in the future. Her goal is to become a self-sufficient facility. She reviewed the spay/neutered policy the shelter is performing because she is a veterinarian.

Discussion was held on the compensation for Ms. Williamson because she is a veterinarian and if a separate line item should be an avenue the county needs to explore. The requested additional amount of compensation is \$23,786 annually.

Mrs. Knowles expressed with having a veterinarian on staff that is an asset to the county and brings additional revenue into their funds.

Mr. West stated he is opposed in competing with other veterinarians and does not feel that is the function of Animal Control.

Mr. McCarty commended Ms. Williamson and the staff for their excellent work, however with the state of the economy he could not support such salary increases. Mr. Hollenbeck concurred.

Tom Kite, County Commissioner, stated the Animal Shelter's issues and complaints have decreased since Ms. Williamson has taken over and Ms Williamson should be compensated. A separate line item for being a veterinarian is what he supports.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the requests as submitted excluding the salary increase for the Animal Warden. She would support a \$10,000 line item in the Commissioners Budget for veterinarian services. The motion died because of a lack for a second.

Ms. Phelps explained the Dispatcher/Deputy Warden (account #11362) currently performs the same duties as the other Deputy Wardens and has been employed for the same amount of time. She asked if \$1,020 could be transferred from Microchips to fund the position.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the following transfer and salary amendment for account #11362. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. West voted nay.

From: 219.22600.000.219 – Microchips	(\$ 1,020.00)
To: 219.11362.000.219 – Dispatcher/Dep Warden \$ 27,599	\$ 1,020.00



Mr. West moved to establishment the effective date for the GIS Tech. account number 371.11251.000.371 as of 1/01/09. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried five to two, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Knowles voted nay.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **County Assessor-Report on the Status of the 2008 Assessment Process and the Schedule for 2009 Tax Bills**

Mark Alexander, County Assessor, appeared to report that for 2008 payable 2009 they are scheduled to send the sales ratio study and workbook to the Department of Local Government Finance by March 1<sup>st</sup> for approval. He noted they have four hundred Property Tax Board Of Appeals hearings scheduled.

### **Compensatory Time**

Mr. West noted he would favor the County doing away with comp time policy because of the financial liability and pay overtime to the employees. He would like to discuss the issue with the Board of Commissioners because they establish policy.

There being no further business, Mr. McCarty moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that carried unanimously.