

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Tuesday, February 19, 2024**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 6:00 p.m with Pledge to the Flag. Present: Bryan Lewis, Rick Ranstead, David Sommers, County Attorney Holli Shorter-Pifer and Auditor Representative Chantal Rensberger.

**ABATEMENT** – Lauren Adley presents for Ramco Tax abatement with Mr. Marvin Ramer. Ramco building supplies and Ramer properties. Due to expansions through out county and other counties, wants a larger building for expansions. Lauren expresses on the business side, petitioned for a tax abatement, asking for blessing for the tax abatement. Asking the recommendation of 10 years. Motion to approved carries 3-0 with Rick motioning and Dave seconding. They will present at Council meeting 2/20/2024.

**FULTON COUNTY ANIMAL CENTER** – Janet Showley from Fulton County Animal Center shares 2023-year end county report. States it was the best year for cat adoptions and save rates were steady for cats and dogs down 1%. At vaccine clinic saw 917 animals and profited \$30,000. Hired 3 part time veterinarians due to vaccine clinic going very well. The received a \$12,000 grant from Petsmart Charities in which the money will hire a part-time staff member. Pet food pantry is a huge need for the community as well as the volunteer program is likely the largest in Fulton County.

**FULTON COUNTY H.O.P.E.** – Amy Roe presents on the behalf of Fulton County H.O.P.E. Looking at hosting mental health chats to be at the Library. 4C Health will be doing the chats. Substance Use Symposium bringing the community together to make sure that needs are being met in regards to substance abuse. Brick and Mortar Wrap around Services. This project looks like making sure people understand resources and provide information to those in poverty. Self Sufficiency Program happening in Kosciusko County, HOPE will find out more information about this. Domestic Violence, March 15<sup>th</sup>, Beamon Home is having strategic planning session in order to meet the needs of the community. Communication methods, looking at ways to update communication and finalizing website. A survey will go around in regards to transportation with coordination from IUK Students who helped put the survey together in regards to transportation needs in Fulton County. Finally, pairing with Gail Karas in regards to warming stations for the homeless in Fulton County.

**HIGHWAY** – John Geier asks for permit request to install a driveway for Garrick Lease, 250 ft with 8 in Culvert. Motion carries 3-0. Rick motions, Dave 2nds. Nipsco asking permit for a driveway 24-7. Rick motions, Dave 2nds, Motion carries 3-0. Started working on Old 31 South, 11 new culverts before paving begins. They will be changing a lot of signs and cutting a lot of brush. On February 29<sup>th</sup>, ADA and Title 6, will have training with Christina Haughs and Department heads. Department heads will go back and train staff. LPA consulting contract discussed, Bridge #161 for construction inspection. Not to exceed \$205,000.00 with USI. Motion approved 3-0. Dave motions, Rick seconds. Zartman's here due to highway cutting out 3 trees that were not approved to cut on Nyona Lake Road, but actually owned by the county. Property purchased in 1938 by the State, 1976 State gave to County. Mr. Zartman speaks about where the trees split the road, over the years wife and him have tried to preserve this area. Ruts were left in the area, requesting a couple loads of dirt and have the stumps removed completely and furnish some trees and they will take care of the rest. He does not feel the trees that were cut needed to be cut. He is hoping that the county is open to helping preserve that area. Dave states we can get the trees and John says he will try and get good black dirt. John asking for blessing for travel request to the Road School.



**COMMUNICATIONS/EMA** – Gail Karas talks about communications, Travis got his radios and emergency buttons. Have not received for fire department yet, working on getting more IDs. EMA, Dawn Sewell here Monday, Tuesday, Friday. She will attend night meetings and has prior first responder background. Went to Caston School a couple weeks ago and had a good meeting with different projects. EMA will due a clean up February 24, 2024, where someone is interested in kitchen. Asking for approval for removal of kitchen, Motion approved 3-0.

**SHERIFF** – Travis talks numbers on the inmate housing and bond reduction fund. Rick Utter will be SRO, Deputy Scott will train Utter. Hoping to have interviews done soon for the 4 applicants once background checks done.

**CORONER-** Jeri Good talks about waiting on 2 autopsies from 2023. 9 families have passed, all in month of January. 1 family helped in February, only 4 people have passed away this month. LEPC happening on March 11. They will be talking about initial planning for hazardous planning, in person and more action. Coroner training board meeting a week ago and are #2 Nation with great attendance.

Steven Fishburn talks about flags that had a budget of \$2,500 and give the check to the Legion and will divvy them up between the three clubs. Whatever is left will go into the honor guard fund. Said he spoke with Christina Sriver and he needs to do this a different way, a potential funding agreement. He would like to do this as soon as possible.

**MINUTES** – Commissioner motioned to approve the minutes of October 16, Commissioner seconded; carries 3-0. Commissioner motioned to approve the minutes of November 6, Commissioner seconded; carries 3-0. Commissioner motioned to approve the minutes of November 20, Commissioner seconded; carries 3-0. Meeting not recording, minutes are acknowledged to the best of their knowledge. Commissioner motioned to approve the minutes of February 5, Commissioner seconded; carries 3-0.

**FUNDING AGREEMENTS** – Funding Agreements for Crime Stoppers \$2,000.00, Guardian Advocates \$5,000.00, and Fulton County H.O.P.E \$12,000.00 presented and signed.

**TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION** – Travel Authorization forms approved.

**CLAIMS-** Approved as presented

Payroll 2/9/24	\$ 268,354.49
Payroll Deductions 2/9/24	\$ 96,283.37
Insurance disbursements for 12/28-1/3	\$ 19,468.01
Insurance disbursements for 1/4-1/10	\$ 4,943.53
Insurance disbursements for 1/11-1/17	\$ 15,468.94
January insurance fees	\$ 50,650.73
Insurance disbursements for 1/18-1/24	\$ 6,760.83
Insurance disbursements for 1/25-1/31	\$ 8,307.53
January insurance fees	\$ 50,991.91
Insurance disbursements for 2/1-2/7	\$ 38,800.60
February 19 Misc. Claims	\$ 355,362.70
Utility	\$ 19,189.57
Insurance disbursements for 2/8-2/14	\$ 4,224.21

**TRANSFERS** – Approved as presented

Department	Fund	From Account	To Account	Amount
Courthouse	County General	Building/Repair	Furniture	\$19,165.95
New conference room tables and chairs for 1 <sup>st</sup> floor courthouse conference rooms, judges and lawyers meeting rooms				
Annex	County General	Buliding/Repair	Furniture	\$7,899.04
New conference room table and chairs for Commissioners conference room @ annex building				
Commissioners	County General	Bldg & Other Insurance	Contract	\$25,000
To pay Ritter Strategic Services contract				


**OLD BUSINESS** – Security report needs signed by county attorney Holli Shorter-Pifer. Transunion will be the most economical at \$2,500.00. Employees will be informed by personal email and/or mail.

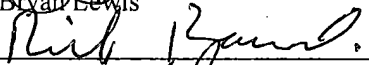
**NEW BUSINESS** – Jeri Good states that EMA is being spotlighted by Gail Karas with her positivity. Looking for passionate people to join EMA because it is one of the best in the state.


Timothy Kinniger is part of the Fulton County Leadership looking to see what the old jail is being used for potential leadership ideas. RHS students are here to see how local government works.

**RECESS** – Commissioner Lewis motioned to recess at 7:10 pm, seconded by Commissioner Sommers -; carries 3-0.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

  
Bryan Lewis

  
Rick Ranstead

  
David Sommers

  
Attest: Christina Sriver, County Auditor

I affirm under penalties of perjury, that I have taken reasonable care to redact each social security number in this document, unless required by law: Christina Sriver

Prepared by: Chantal Rensberger

