

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
COUNTY BOARDROOM  
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022  
MINUTES  
4:30 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Chairman Burditt.

**2. Roll Call**

Ansel Burditt, Blake Parsons, Albert Durst, Justin Faulk were all present. Donald Tolan was excused. Alternate Jerry Smith was also present.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**a. Approval of March 7, 2022 minutes**

Motion to approve March 2022 minutes made by Parsons, seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*

**4. Public Input**

None

**5. Approval of Claims**

**a. Approval of April 2022 Claims**

Motion to approve April claims made by Parsons, seconded by Faulk. There was no discussion on the claims. *Motion passed.*

**6. Coroner**

**7. Sheriff**

**a. Domestic Hot Water Boilers for PSB Replacement Bids**

The Public Safety Building has needed to replace the hot water boilers for over ten years. But something always comes up and the boilers get pushed back. Two quotes were received – 1) purchase of Lochinvar boilers and installation through Ruyle for \$26,395, or 2) purchase of Raypak boilers for \$13,254 from Donelson and then Ruyle would need to install for \$18,829. The Sheriff recommends going with the Lochinvar boilers for \$26,395. Motion to approve purchase of Lochinvar boilers from Ruyle for \$26,395 made by Parsons, seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*

**b. Card Reader Access Project Bids**

Addition information is coming, so this will be on next month's agenda.

**c. Retaining Wall Replacement Bids**

The south parking lot north wall has deteriorated over the winter and needs to be replaced immediately. There is only one quote at this time, but Maintenance is waiting on two more. The Sheriff asked if a short meeting could be held before the Board meeting in hopes the other quotes would be available then. We will hold a short meeting before the Board meeting to discuss and have action on this item.

**d. 1833 Elections Project Informational**

Last year it was approved to update 1833 Main to be used as a voting center. That project is moving forward and will be started in June and ready for used in the November election.

**e. PSB Door Replacement Informational**

Due to the settling of the Public Safety Building, the door to the south has rusted and is nearly impossible to open, or if it does open, is nearly impossible to close and is creating a security issue. A new frame has been ordered and will be installed.

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f. Sheriff/ EMA Vehicle Replacement Update

The vehicles that were approved have been ordered. However, there is a delay. They are still not scheduled for production, but we have not been notified that we have been removed from our place in line. We are looking at possible production in June with delivery later in the year. It was asked if all cars are in use. The used cars we purchased are equipped and in use. Two cars that were in accidents are waiting on some interior parts – air bags, etc. – before they will be in use.

g. Maintenance Department Vehicle Replacement

A used maintenance department vehicle has been budgeted for. The Sheriff has found a few used ones that would possibly fit our needs. However, they don't last long. Once a vehicle is found, we need to jump on it. The Sheriff would like a resolution not to exceed the \$28,550 that was approved and paid in vacation so that once a vehicle is found, he can purchase it right away. He is looking for a crew cab pick-up. Motion to approve the purchase of a vehicle not to exceed \$28,550 and be paid in vacation made by Parsons, seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*

h. Spring Bay Patrol Contract

The Spring Bay Police Department was been disbanded. They have reached out to the Sheriff's Department to have them cover Spring Bay for 40 hours a month. The past 6 months the Sheriff's Department has been covering Spring Bay with no compensation. The Chief Deputy met with the officials, showed them our standard contract and they are excited to sign. This would be a one year contract. The first year would be \$19,223. The second year's price are unknown at this time but would more than likely increase. Spring Bay wants to start this May 1<sup>st</sup>. This would be handled with on duty people. The contract has been approved by the State's Attorney's Office. There are not specifics on how the 40 hours would be divided, but more than likely the majority of hours would be evening and weekends. It was asked how many towns/municipalities the Sheriff covers and it was stated that the only towns we do not cover are El Paso, Eureka, Metamora and Goodfield. It was asked how they figure the rate to charge each town. The Sheriff is not trying to make money, but to break even. They use hourly rate of pay, vehicle cost, training, insurance, liability, etc. to figure costs. It comes out to be about \$40.05 per hour. It was mentioned that this seems to be on the cheap side. Hourly rate for new officer is \$24.90. This coverage would be only for Spring Bay proper. Motion to accept Spring Bay Contract and move to the full Board made by Smith, seconded by Parsons. *Motion passed.*

i. EMA

No information provided

**8. Animal Control**

a. Discussion/Action on animals held by Heather Leman in court case

There is one dog left. This dog is blind and deaf. Discussion on what the County's responsibilities are, our obligation, and how long to pay Ms. Leman for holding the dog. All other dogs have been placed or taken to a shelter. The dogs in this case were forfeited to the County. The County Animal Ordinance states that a dog will be held for only 10 days. The State's Attorney stated that the dog is now county property, so he is not sure the 10 day rule applies. Heather is charging the County \$10 a day to keep the dog. This dog will bite anyone other than Heather that goes near it. It was recommended that Mr. Abney pick the dog up and have it euthanized. The State's Attorney will contact Ms. Leman and Mr. Abney will arrange for this to happen.

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b. Discussion on fuel, etc. Surcharge

Animal Control has charged a \$10 fuel charge to two different animal owners. When Mr. Abney was hired, he, the Treasurer, and the Assistant State's Attorney went over the fees and fines that could be collected per our Ordinance. All money collected is turned over to the Treasurer and then she disburses it to the proper accounts and Mr. Abney's pay. This past month there were 53 calls, 210 hours put in and over 4,000 miles driven for calls. Mr. Abney sees this as his business, since he had to get a license through the state to operate on our behalf. As his own business, he should be able to make charges as he sees fit that do not go through the County's accounting system, such as the expense of the fuel. While he is an independent contractor, he is doing business on behalf of the County. Discussion on Mr. Abney's contract and if it prohibits the collection of a fuel charge. State's Attorney Minger said that there is nothing in his contract that allows this, and he does not see any statutory authority to collect a fuel charge. Mr. Abney reached out to his personal attorney to define the difference between Tim Abney as a sole contractor and Tim Abney as an employee of the County. When Mr. Abney was hired, this was a part time job and fuel prices were \$2.48. Fuel prices have now more than doubled and this is no longer a part time job. He is on call 24/7 and has even received calls at 3:00 A.M. regarding animals. It was asked who determines what fees he can charge. The Ordinance addresses fees that the County can collect. There is a difference between a County charge and his business charge. The committee questioned if they have the authority to tell a business what they can charge and not charge. Mr. Abney stated that he is trying to come up with a way to keep his head about water. The State's Attorney will review the current practices.

One committee member questioned the amount of time spent and the miles driven. Mr. Abney is not in a business of housing animals like Ms. Leman was. Question if he was operating as a business or a sub-contractor for Woodford County. All activity done by Mr. Abney is done on the County's behalf. The County does not pay Mr. Abney mileage. Fuel charges should be based on mileage, not just a flat rate.

The Treasurer went over how fees are distributed. Mr. Abney turns in a ticket with the amount for fines, and storage fees. The boarding fees are deposited and a receipt is ran through the accounting system. When Mr. Abney turns in his pay request, he included the amount of boarding fees for that month. Ms. Andrews stated that under Ms. Leman, we did not know how many animals were coming in and out of her facility, the Board did not receive any information from her.

The fuel charge being assessed was paid by the owner of the animal, not by Woodford County. This money would not go to Woodford County, but would go to Mr. Abney. If there is a separation between the Board and his business, the County cannot tell him what he can and cannot charge. If the County is dissatisfied with what a sub-contractor is doing, then the County has the right to not use the sub-contractor. Discussion on if he is impounding an animal on behalf of the County then we are involved. Mr. Abney stated he was required to go through the state and start a business to be licensed to pick up animals. He stated that he explains to the owner which fees are being paid to the County

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and which fees he is collecting on behalf of his business. Mr. Abney also stated that he can provide the bill the sale which shows the miles on the truck when he purchased it, and show the miles on the truck to date. This truck is only used for animal control. The County can only rely on the State's Attorney recommendation. The State's Attorney will do some research and report back to the Board in a meeting before the Board meeting next week.

Mr. Abney went over his monthly report. He printed each call he responded to and made hand written notes on each call as to how he responded to the call. He was asked to make one summary sheet instead of individual sheets.

Ms. Andrews reported that an owner with 18 dogs had not registered the dogs. She has sent them multiple letters and has had no response. She informed Mr. Abney, he visited the owner, and the registrations fee of \$570 have now been paid.

**9. Health Department**

a. Discussion/action on CivicPlus quote to make website ADA compliable  
The Health Department has several grants, and has to be in compliance with their requirements to continue to receive funds. One of the compliances is making sure our webpage is ADA compatible. CivicPlus, our webpage manager, has a tool that would look at our website and red flag any of our pages that has an ADA issue, which then we could fix. Ms. Aggertt has some COVID funding that would allow for the Health Department to pay for the first year, and then is asking the County to pay for the second year. The first date to install this tool would be June or July and it would take approximately three months to have it all installed. This installation would not shut the webpage down. It would be behind the scenes and not during the day time. The COVID funds do allow us to spend month on this but do not allow for prepayment, that is why she is asking for the County to cover the second year. This second year fee would be addressed at budget time. Since this is for the whole County webpage, Ms. Aggertt would work with the other department heads to make sure that their pages were not affected in a negative way. The County Clerk has to transition over to a .gov by June which will affect the whole campus. The domain is linked to the page, so the .gov domain will be integrated into the webpage. It was asked what kind of accessibility would this offer to make it ADA compatible. This would offer google searches, can translate pages into other languages, etc. Motion to approve Health Department funding to make webpage ADA compatible for the first year and Woodford County to pay the second year made by Parsons, seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*

Covid update – cases are down, only seeing 1-2 cases per day. Those over 50 years of age can get a booster. The Health Dept. is waiting on the 0-5 age to get approval for vaccination from the CDC. The contract tracing staff has been adapted to help in other areas. Ms. Aggertt reports that 60.1% of the County has been vaccinated. (Ms. Aggertt sent an email stating that she report the 60.1% as a County number when in actuality that is number for one age group. The percentage of County citizens that have been vaccinated is 54.21%)

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**10. New Business**

None

**11. Unfinished Business**

None

**12. Other**

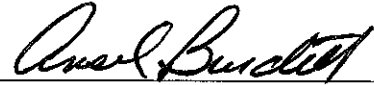
**13. Executive Session – Roll Call Vote**

**14. Any action coming out of Executive Session**

**15. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Parsons, seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*  
Meeting adjourned at 5:53 P.M.

Submitted by: Deb Breyman



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Ansel Burditt, Chairman  
Public Safety Committee