

**Jackson County Board of Commissioners Meetings Minutes**  
**June 17, 2003 - Regular Meeting**  
**Jackson County Commissioners Chambers: 7:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Rice called the June 17, 2003 meeting of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION:**

Cmr. Shotwell

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

(12) Present: Cmr. Herl, Adams, Brittain, Day, Baxter, Videto, Shotwell, Mahoney, Lacinski, Wilson, Elwell, & Rice

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Moved by Mahoney supported by Brittain to Approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried.

**AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:**

A. Employee of the Month of June - Bill Koski, Maintenance Technician, Sheriff Department. This will be presented next month, as Bill Koski was unable to attend.

B. Moved by Elwell supported by Brittain to Adopt a Resolution for Earle Chiles, Probation Officer, Circuit/Family/Probate Court, with 25 Years, 6 Months of Service. Roll call: (12) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously. Presented by Elwell with remarks by Charles Adkins, Circuit Court Administrator.

C. Moved by Elwell supported by Mahoney to Adopt a Resolution for Theresa Crawford, Sergeant, Sheriff Department with 28 Years, 5 Months of Service. Roll call: (12) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously. Presented by Elwell with remarks by Sheriff Dan Heyns.

D. Moved by Elwell supported by Brittain to Adopt a Resolution for Gary Hicks, Investigator, Prosecutor's Child Support Office, with 26 Years, 9 Months of Service. Roll call: (12) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously. Presented by Elwell with remarks by Prosecutor Zavislak. At this time Prosecutor Zavislak also made remarks on behalf of Sgt. Crawford.

**COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

None

**SPECIAL ORDER/PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

A. Public Hearing on the Melling Tool Company Project Plan - Deborah Kelly, Executive Assistant & Research Associate from the Enterprise Group.

B. Presentation of Road Commission Audited Financial Statements - Chair Elwin Johnson, Laure Fiero, & Doug Atkins, CPA. Moved by Lacinski supported by Shotwell to Receive the Road Commission Audited Financial Statements. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public Comment began at 7:25 p.m. with State Representative Gene DeRossett, candidate for U.S. Congress. Public Comment ended at 7:30 p.m.

**SPECIAL MEETINGS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Moved by Mahoney supported by Brittain to Approve the Consent Agenda items A through L as contained in the following Consent Agenda list: Elwell requested that Item E be pulled.

A. Approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2003 Committee of the Whole

B. Approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2003 Regular Board Meeting

**County Affairs:**

C. Approve the 2003 Taxable Value Report as prepared by the Equalization Department and authorization for Board Chairman to sign said report.

D. Give second and final reading to revised Board Rule 4030, Meetings of the Board, which changes the Board's Annual Meeting from November to October of each year

E. Withhold filling the Civil Engineer/GIS position in the Drain Commissioner's Office until the June 30th County Affairs meeting in order to have a discussion with the Drain Commissioner.

**County Agencies:**

F. Approve the Sheriff Department applying for the FY 2004 Community Correction Funds

**Human Services:**

G. Approve the June 2003 Health Department budget adjustments as recommended by the Health Officer

H. Receive the 2002 Health Department Annual Report and file same with the County Clerk

**Personnel & Finance:**

I. Approve the requested Chanter Road Jail budget supplement in the amount of \$546,797, which includes \$380,672 in personnel costs (19 new positions) and \$166,125 in additional expenses (medical contract, food services), anticipating additional revenue of \$200,000 and transferring-in the balance needed from the Jail Millage Fund

J. Create 19 New Positions to staff the Chanter Road jail Facility as follows:

1. 1 Lieutenant
2. 3 Correction Officers
3. 1 Maintenance Tech

K. Approve the District Court request to carry over 2002 District Court Drunk Driving Assistance Equipment Funds (31,025) to the 2003 Equipment Fund.

L. Appoint Commissioner Gail Mahoney to the Board of Directors of the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Jackson County Motion carried.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. County Affairs:

Item E from the Consent Agenda. Moved by Day supported by Elwell to Withhold filling the Civil Engineer/GIS Position in the Drain Commissioner's Office until the next County Affairs Committee meeting. Elwell offered the friendly amendment to Temporarily Withhold filling the Civil Engineer/GIS Position in the Drain Commissioner's Office. This amendment would remove a specific date. Brittain indicated that he wanted to table the matter indefinitely. Elwell stated that by passing the motion this way, there is no time frame involved. Motion carried.

1) Moved by Day supported to Receive the Resignation of Mindy Reilly as the Remonumentation Program Grant Administrator. No support. Motion dies from lack of support.

2) Moved by Day supported by Mahoney to Approve the Re-Appointment of Tony Samon to the County Building Authority. Motion carried.

3) Moved by Day supported by Herl to Table the Revised Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Resolution (06-03.14) Motion carried.

4) Moved by Day supported by Baxter to Adopt Resolution Approving the Project Plan and Issuance of Bonds for the Melling Tool Company Project (06-03.14). Roll call: (12) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

B. County Agencies:

No report

C. Human Services:

No report

D. Personnel & Finance:

1) Moved by Elwell supported by supported by Mahoney to Adopt Resolution (06-03.15) Approving the Treasurer making ACH and Electronic Transactions of Public Funds. Roll call: (12) Yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Shotwell was concerned as to who is going to be handling the Soil Erosion Permits since the Resolution was tabled and the temporary person in the Drain Commissioners office expires June 30. Chet explained that the Drain Commissioner had contracted with Feller & Finch to perform the service until someone is on staff that is qualified to handle the permits.

Elwell attended an informal hearing at Blackman Township and the Soil Erosion Permits were the topic of discussion. These people are looking to the County to give good guidance and the best resolution for the townships and the County.

Adams doesn't believe this is a health issue and shouldn't be moved to the Health Department. This is a drain issue and a Drain Commissioner issue. Elwell suggested an Ad-Hoc committee of users; the users need to be part of the process. Herl thinks this is a good idea, but they need a copy of the law so they know what they are talking about.

Brittain agrees with Adams that the Administrative staff needs to mend past differences. Mahoney agreed with Brittain. This is not the work of an Ad-Hoc committee; this is a personality conflict and a money issue. The Chair and the Administrator need to work together to overcome the differences with the Drain Commissioner.

Rice received a call from the DEQ in Lansing. The DEQ would like to meet with Administration and Board. This will provide solid information before moving forward.

Chet indicated that he feels that the Health Department is the perfect place for the Soil Erosion permits issue. There is a division of the Health Department called the Environmental Division. It's a permit and enforcement issue. Adams does not see it as an environmental issue; it's rainwater, not sewage.

Elwell feels that the users should be involved in the decision making process. Day agrees with much of what is said, but has concerns for the people who want to build. They have to purchase so many permits; we should be able to do this in a less costly fashion. Wilson interjected that he was also at the meeting in Blackman also and the Trustee's believe the permits belong in the Drain office.

Brittain said that the Drain Commissioner's office has been issuing the permits since 1976, and now we want to hand this over to the Health Department and hire 3 or 4 more people to handle what the Drain Commissioner has been doing. This is a waste of the taxpayer's money.

Shotwell indicated that the DEQ has stated that we must reduce the silt and deposits in the watersheds by half in 10-years. The Drain office came up with a plan, the townships didn't like it, now we are at an impasse. We need to oversee, not only Jackson County, but also some townships that are involved and ultimately the City. Inspections need to be done, and done in a timely manner so that business can move forward. The problem needs to be solved expeditiously.

Rice said that the intent is to bring this issue back before the Board next month, and address everything at one time.

Lacinski agrees with Mahoney that communication is an issue, let the Administration and the Chair deal with the DEQ, then bring the information back and make a decision.

Mahoney suggested a Committee of the Whole meeting before the next regular meeting to discuss the information and be prepared to vote. Rice said that suggestion would be taken under consideration.

Rice asked Videto to report on the findings of the Ad-Hoc committee established to review the Spark's Park traffic issue. Videto indicated that there was a great deal of good conversation at the meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, the following motion was supported by all: To recommend to the City Council, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners, and the Parks Commission to proceed with the modified option #2 plan which includes a 4-lane bridge with no change to the existing Brown St. and Denton St. intersection and the Denton St. and Kibby Rd. intersection. There was another consensus that was not part of the motion, and that was the City closing down 2 westbound lanes on Brown St. from Randolph Blvd. to south side Falls parking area and making the 2-eastbound

lanes 2-way traffic, with additional speed bumps. They want to work with the City and make certain the Park does not become a north/south connector.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**CONSIDERATION & ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:**

Moved by Mahoney supported by Shotwell to Approve the Claims. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public comment began at 8:01 p.m. with Nancy Seydell, Tompkins Township Supervisor. She wanted to say that the bottom line on the Soil Erosion permit issue is money. By holding up construction we are holding up taxpayers dollars. You can eliminate half the permits because the Supervisors know where the water is and the Drain Commissioner knows where the drains are. Time is money.

Public Comment ended at 8:02 p.m.

**ADJOURN TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR:**

Moved by Mahoney supported by Lacinski to Adjourn to the call of the Chair. Motion carried. The June 17, 2003 meeting of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Jim Rice, Chair, Jackson County Board of Commissioners  
Sandy Crowley, Jackson County Clerk  
Respectfully submitted by Erin Foster, Chief Deputy County Clerk