

DELAWARE COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

December 5, 2019

The Board of County Commissioners of Delaware County met in Special Session in the County Commissioner's meeting room in the Delaware County Courthouse at 1 p.m. on December 5, 2019. The Agenda was posted December 3, 2019 at 12:19 p.m. and placed in the kiosk located on the courthouse lawn.

Members of the Board present were Commissioner David Poindexter-Chairman, Commissioner Martin Kirk-Member and County Clerk Barbara Barnes-Secretary. The Board of Delaware County Commissioners is hereby authorized to act on the following items:

AGENDA #1-A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Poindexter to approve the minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting dated December 2, 2019. Roll call: Commissioner Poindexter-yes, Commissioner Kirk-yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA #2-Poindexter read the agenda item to approve an intrafund transfer in the amount of \$9,000 from 1102-6-4300-2065 (T-6-3 Insurance) to 1102-6-4300-1110 (T-1-3 Payroll) per request of District #3. "I have some questions first," Poindexter said. "In the short-term, what's your idea of how to replace the insurance money?"

Kirk said in one month he will drop two part-time employees from his payroll, which will amount to approximately \$3,000 a month savings. "We're just going to tighten up our belt and see where we're at," Kirk said. He said he's had substandard equipment since he was first elected. He said he has had to buy gravel because with all the rain his crews couldn't get to borrow permit gravel to work on the roads. "Some of those other accounts sneaked up on us," Kirk said. He said one equipment lease will be paid off at the first of the year, and another in March, which will amount to \$5,000; however he tends to spend that to buy two new graders on a 12-month contract. He said he wants to buy two each year over a span of three years. Kirk said every grader he has is 12 years old or more and the high cost of maintaining them justifies buying new ones. He said when he started he had six graders, three were running. He salvaged one and bought three used ones. He now has eight graders, six of which are running.

Kirk said when he took over the district, all the employees made the same amount, but he began making raises on merit.

Kirk said he has talked to vendors and with trade-ins he can get graders on 12-month payment plans for payments of \$1,700 or \$1,800 each.

Poindexter said he has a new grader bought on the 12-year payback with a payment of \$3,000 a month.

Kirk said he relies on Cherokee Nation and the Civil Engineering District for funds. He pointed out he recently bought a \$50,000 paving machine that will be paid off in a year and a half.

Once again, Poindexter asked how Kirk planned to replace the \$9,000 borrowed from his workers' compensation account. Kirk said if he doesn't have to buy gravel he can replace some of the borrowed money.

Kirk said his payroll account got behind because he thought the payroll was \$44,000 instead of \$48,000.

"You don't have a buffer now," Poindexter said. Poindexter said even cutting the two part-time employees;

Kirk still has 14 full-time employees, more than either of the other two districts.

"Even 16 is not enough to do what we need to do," Kirk said, referring to the fact that he has the greatest number of road miles.

District Attorney Kenny Wright asked Commissioner Assistant Ben Youngblood how much money must be set aside each month for payroll. "It's \$49,000," Youngblood said, "but the \$3,000 for the part-time will go into full-time."

Poindexter said the commissioners' monthly apportionment will go down in winter to "\$65,000 to \$70,000, not \$86,000 like this time."

Wright pointed out the \$9,000 will still need to be replaced.

"I would have to get rid of half my crew to fix this right off the bat," Kirk said.

Wright said that is exactly what happened to the Ottawa County Sheriff. Wright said the sheriff didn't want to lay anyone off when he started going in the hold financially, but in the end he had to let half the staff go. "It would be better to fire one now than several later," Wright said.

Poindexter reiterated Kirk needs "60,000 each month just to cover payroll and lease payments."

Wright said, "I would encourage you to look at it really closely now and project for the fiscal year. I will help or advise you any way I can because unfortunately I've had quite a bit of experience with this."
Wright asked Kirk if he intended to pay his travel account back or just cut down on travel. Kirk said he will just cut down.

The motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Poindexter to transfer the funds. Commissioner Poindexter-yes, Commissioner Kirk-yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA #3 – A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Poindexter to approve an intrafund transfer in the amount of \$2,400 from 1102-6-4300-1310 (Travel) to 1102-6-4300-4130 (Leases) per request of District #3. Commissioner Poindexter-yes, Commissioner Kirk-yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA #4- Poindexter read the item to approve an intrafund transfer in the amount of \$4,200 from 1226-2-0400-2005 (SSF-2) to 1226-2-0400-1110 (SSF-1) per request of the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Harlan Moore said his office is waiting on a DEQ grant to arrive which will pay the salary for the trash cop. In the meantime, he is transferring funds to cover the trash cop salary. The money will be replaced when the grant arrives. Kirk made the motion which was seconded by Poindexter. Commissioner Poindexter-yes, Commissioner Kirk-yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA #5 – A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Poindexter to approve opening the floor for citizens' participation or public comments. Commissioner Poindexter-yes, Commissioner Kirk-yes. Motion carried. There were no public comments.

AGENDA #6-A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Martin to adjourn the meeting at 1:32 p.m.

ATTEST:



BARBARA BARNES, Delaware County Clerk

DAVID POINDEXTER-Chairman of the Board



RUSSELL MARTIN-Member



MARTIN KIRK-Member

