

Commissioners Meeting

April 17, 2017, 8:00 a.m.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors

President Nobbe called the April 17th Board of Commissioners meeting to order. The April 3rd meeting minutes were amended and approved.

The accounts payable and payroll claims were reviewed. Mr Koors moved to approve all claims, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr reported his department is currently compiling the "Pacer ratings" on county roads as required for applying for monies through the **Community Crossings Grant** program. He has learned that grant program will be on a similar time frame as last year- so **INDOT** will announce those recipients in late summer. Mr Mohr asked about modifying the County's cell phone reimbursement policy. Currently the policy requires 'call logs' be included with the copy of the phone bill on each claim. His concern is the time needed to print those logs as well as a couple of his foremen do not have a home computer. Mr Nobbe asked our new **County Attorney Ken Bass** to look in to this; also the Commissioners will contact the **State Board of Accounts** on this issue. Mr Nobbe asked Mr Mohr to get the required documentation for the three current claims so the Auditor's office may process them. Mr Mohr has researched the cost of an 'annual blanket policy on rental equipment' versus the cost for several individual projects requiring rental equipment coverage; in addition having one annual policy would eliminate the possibility of forgetting to call the insurance company for coverage when needed. The annual blanket policy cost through **Assured Partners Neace Lukens** is \$2,900 for one million dollar coverage. Mr Buening moved to go with the \$2,900 premium for insuring rental equipment. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Mohr will contact Neace Lukens to put this policy in place. He named several projects in the County; also someone asked Mr Koors about setting speed limits on County Road 1100 West going out of Westport. A speed study is required when ever changing speed limits on county roads since State Statute sets a speed limit of 55 miles per hour. Mr Mohr reported on visiting Ohio County's Highway Department as well as some others. **Strand and Associates** should be submitting their recommendations on improving/expanding the Highway's facilities in the near future.

Mr Bass doesn't see any liability issues on an **"Adopt a Highway"** program in Decatur County. Mr Nobbe stated once we adopt this program, participants will agree to assume all liability when out picking up trash. The Highway Department will furnish the **"Adopt a Highway"** signs recognizing the participating entity's name.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall advised the Commissioners a letter has been mailed to Decatur County property owners near Hartsville to remove all debris, trash, etc.

Superior Court Judge Matthew Bailey described upcoming changes in personnel in the **Community Corrections Program**. The **Community Corrections Advisory Board** has appointed Ben Buening to succeed Mark Cripe as Director. Mr Cripe tendered his resignation effective June 8th, 2017. Currently Mr Buening is serving as one of two Adult Probation Officers. Mr Buening would like to add a new position- **case manager**- within the **Community Corrections Program** to be paid for through grant monies to cover salary, health insurance and PERF. **Judge Bailey and Circuit Court Judge Timothy Day** believe integrating the **Community Corrections Program** and **Probation Department** would serve the best use of available resources which includes adding personnel. The **County Commissioners** do approve the grant funding for the **Community Corrections Program** as well as personnel serving in this program. Grant monies have been approved for adding a third adult probation officer; so two people will be hired- one to replace Mr Buening and the other to fill the third position. Mr Nobbe asked if additional vehicles will be needed. Judge Bailey believes they're okay for this year; probably will apply for grant monies to cover the cost of an additional vehicle in 2018. Judge Bailey also stated the new hires will be informed the case manager and third probation officer positions are subject to the availability of grant funding; these programs are evaluated by the **DOC**, so they will 'run these' in such a way to qualify for annual grants/renewals. Mr Koors moved to approve Ben Buening as **Director of the Community Corrections Program**. Mr Jerome Buening abstained from voting since Ben is his son. Mr Nobbe seconded the motion. Motion approved. Mr Buening moved to allow **Community Corrections** to hire a case manager

and the **Probation Department** to add/hire a third probation officer. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Kyle Linville presented his request for the **Greensburg Youth Baseball Group** to hold an **“Opening Day Parade”** on April 29th from 8:00 am to 8:45 am on Park Road. The groups would line up at 7:15 am to 7:45 am, at the **Kohler Softball Diamonds** and walk to the **Decatur County Youth Sports Complex**. Mr Linville has contacted the Sheriff’s Department to be present during that time frame. Mr Nobbe stated a request for use of county facilities is not required.

By way of Tax Sale, the County has acquired nineteen lots at the **Lake McCoy Resort**. Mr Nobbe had met with Lake McCoy resident Larry Globe last week since he has expressed interest in purchasing Lots 1 and 18 from the Commissioners. Mr Young did share a state statute which allows the Commissioners to auction off these lots to adjacent property owners. **County Surveyor Andy Scholle** stated he hasn’t been able to find enough data on the original subdivision to do any type of legal survey. He did find a 1928 map, but distances and right-of-ways are not listed on it. He found a five-foot strip next to lots 1 and 18- is it a walking path to the lake or what? Mr Globe stated there isn’t a true road to his house, only easements granted by residents at one time or another- nothing legally recorded. Mr Scholle will need to meet with Mr Bass to decide how to proceed. Mr Nobbe stated this may take some time in order to do it right.

North Decatur Elementary School Teacher Linda Smith requested permission to fly a drone around/near the Courthouse clock tower from 8:30 am to 9:30 am on May 15th or on a calm day. The drone carries a camera/computer so students can skype from their classrooms. They’re very curious – have a lot of questions about the courthouse and the tree. Sixth-grade teacher David Sell has a license to fly the drone and he carries a million dollar insurance policy on it. Classes have skyped around the world including China; so they’d like to share information and pictures about the Courthouse. Mr Buening moved to approve the request, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Buening asked Ms Smith be aware there is work scheduled to be done on the clock tower, so it isn’t in the ‘best presentable state’; it should be by the end of the summer. Mr Nobbe asked Ms Smith to contact the Airport Board to inform them of this project.

Mr Koors reported there isn’t a time conflict with the **Westport BBQ** on a previous ‘request for use of facilities’ for the **Westport Covered Bridge** at 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm on September 9th, 2017. Mr Buening asked the party be made aware of the weight placement limits. Mr Koors moved to approve Grant McLaughlin’s request, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Nobbe requested all required insurance documents be submitted by anyone requesting use of county facilities.

Mr Buening moved to reappoint Jennifer Robbins to the **Greensburg Public Library Board** for another four-year term. Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Auditor Chadwell asked if the County is hiring the **Stephen Legal Group** or Mr Bass as our **County Attorney**. Mr Bass stated he is the County Attorney unless he has an emergency, then he may send someone from the **Group**.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Koors moved to recess, Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Meeting recessed.

The next Commissioners’ meeting will be May 1st, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Richard J Nobbe, President

Attest _____

Date: _____