

**Commissioners Meeting**  
**August 2, 2021 8:00 a m**

**Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening and Chuck Emsweller**

The August 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioners meeting was opened by President Koors who welcomed everyone; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill out and turn in at the Auditor's office.

County Attorney Ken Bass led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; a prayer was offered by County Sheriff Dave Durant.

(Meeting minutes and claims are emailed to each Commissioners, each Friday before their Monday meeting)

Mr Emsweller moved to accept the July 19<sup>th</sup> minutes; Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Minutes are approved.

Mr Buening moved to approve the claims; Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Claims are approved.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the July 23<sup>rd</sup> payroll for county employees; Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

**Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr** gave several updates as his crews continue to repairs due to the recent flood: he asked Commissioners what their plans are for Bridge 131 because the **"INDOT's call for projects for Federal Aid"** is November 2021; so, spend \$475,000 to repair it or \$2,956,000 to replace it which the County's part would be \$591,200 as our 20% match? It would be a 2028 construction. Mr Buening moved to wait and put it in the *call for projects*, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. The progress of the Community Crossings Grant projects was slowed due to the floods; crews continue to trim trees, put pipes in on bridges, finishing dirt work on County Road 880 East then the paving can be scheduled. Bridge 116 is another bridge which was closed after inspection. It's a 3-ring stone-arch bridge which crews should finish repairs on this week; then onto evaluating the Westport Covered Bridge to insure it is sound before starting the cosmetic work. Commissioners agreed with **County Attorney Ken Bass'** recommendation to take each request to 'vacate an alley or street' on an individual basis as each request is fact sensitive. Mr Mohr then asked if there isn't a structure in the alley or street, the County will not close? Commissioners answered yes.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** presented 2 ordinances for the Commissioners' review. **Decatur County Ordinance 2020-10, petitioner Mark Sebastian** requesting an A1 to A2 rezone, on 2.99 acres, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Emsweller moved to approve Ordinance 2020-10, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Decatur County Ordinance 2021-11, petitioner Kyle Johannigman** requesting an A1 to A2 rezone, on 2.99 acres, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Buening moved to approve Ordinance 2021-11, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Ms Duvall reminded Commissioners the APC and BZA meet Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Building Inspector Kenny Buening** reported Ms Duvall completed 20 building inspections while he was on vacation and he had done 28 building inspections in July. There were 28 new building permits issues in July, 2 complaints received- an abandoned house and a property littered with trash and junk and he issued 1 red tag for a lean-to being added onto a dwelling without a permit. Mr Bass said he would give his successor the status of the Lake McCoy case- the partially burnt house and have him meet with Kenny. Mr Bass told Commissioners all parties have been given notice of the court case filed.

**County Treasurer Diane Wenning** told Commissioners that 2 men with **Double E Roofing** have checked the roof over the Treasurer's office and the roof is not leaking. They thought it might be the drain box plugged up causing it to overflow during heavy rains. They suggested that Mrs Wenning get a dehumidifier and air purifier which should cost less than \$1,000 to help the mold issues in her office. Mr Emsweller stated it maybe another 1 or 2 months before the **American Recovery Plan** funds are available, could she wait? Mr Koors has an estimate from **Mills-Fahnestock** for caulking windows at that end of the Courthouse and thought he'd ask them to take a look at the south side of the Courthouse. Mr Emsweller moved to pay for the dehumidifier and air purifier and have the ARP funds reimburse the County. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

**Visitors, Recreation and Tourism Director Philip Deiwert** told Commissioners the arborist with **Tree-Centric Solutions** said the Courthouse tree looks pretty good, probably in part due to all of the rains. Tourism budgets

\$5,000 each year to cover maintenance for the tree and he expects Tree-Centric's invoice plus the installation of the water line to be around \$4,400. Mr Deiwert asked Commissioners to cover any amount over the \$5,000 budgeted. He will check with Josh Tressler and Barry Bailey about the needed WiFi.

**Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins** told Commissioners he hopes the **Small Business Grant** funds will be released this week to the businesses who were awarded grants after completing the grant applications. He asked everyone to complete the local survey online which provides information when applying the **READI Grants**.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve **Main Street Greensburg's** request for use of facilities- the Courthouse Square- for their **Holiday Walk**. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. They will setup on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Holiday Walk on the 4<sup>th</sup> and tear down on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mr Koors presented a quote from **Joe Mills of Mills-Fahnestock** to re-caulk the Courthouse windows and the brick to stone areas where there has been a lot of water penetration. The quote for the original Courthouse is \$31,800 and \$132,400 for the 1997 addition. Mr Emsweller made a motion to move forward with the old part of the Courthouse. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. The Commissioners will send *Request for Proposals* for the other part of the Courthouse per statute.

Commissioners will co-adopt the county's official **American Recovery Plan** with the County Council once the ARP Committee finalizes the plan.

**Communications Center Director Erika Free** told Commissioners a vent over their breakroom leaks when it's windy and rains hard. Mr Koors will check on this and contact someone to take a look at it.

Three bids were received by the Auditor's office for the **2026 Reassessment: Ad Valorem- \$507,900; Tyler Technologies- \$418,640; Lexur- \$433,900**. Mr Buening moved to take these under advisement so **County Assessor Dorene Greiwe** may review and compare these so she can make a recommendation to the Commissioners at their next meeting.

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

**The next Commissioner meeting will be 8:00 am on Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in Room 106.**

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_