

**Commissioners Meeting
December 2, 2024**

Present: Mark Koors, Jeremy Pasel and Tony Blodgett

Mr Koors opened the Commissioners December 2nd evening meeting by welcoming everyone; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill them out and turn them in at the Auditor's office.

Dr James Howell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Pastor Ted Chalk then offered a prayer.

(Meeting minutes, payroll and claims are emailed to each Commissioner each Thursday before their Monday meeting)

Mr Pasel made a motion to approve the November 18th meeting minutes, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to approve the November 22nd Special Meeting, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel said he spoke to Prosecutor Nate Harter about a claim for a TV remote and asked him to resubmit it. Mr Pasel moved to approve the claims except the Prosecutor's claim, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel made a motion to approve the November 22nd payroll of \$364,775.92, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Todd Houk, Highway Superintendent, presented his 2-week report: highway crews continue to do regular maintenance – dura-patching, sign maintenance and bridge maintenance as well as getting the trucks ready for winter roads. He is waiting on one more quote for HVAC preventative maintenance for the Highway Department; also, he's asked a quote from **Brooks Striping** to paint lane lines from the county line to past **Love's Truckstop**. This will be a temporary fix until paving is done which Love's is doing/fixing the 2 turn lanes. Mr Houk told Commissioners Bridge 106 does not meet the criteria for the **NOFA (Notice of Funds Available) Grant**, so he plans to wait until the Spring for another NOFA 'call'. He's working on cost estimates for deck replacement on a couple of bridges in the **Honda TIF Area** which he will reach out to **Honda TIF** to see if they'll cover those. The **CCMG 2025-1 Grant** opened December 2nd --- Decatur County's match is \$500,000 be eligible for the \$1.5 million from **INDOT**, setting up \$2 million grant to do chip and seal on approximately 114 miles of road. Mr Pasel stated the potholes are back again on Old Highway 421 near Love's and how expensive it will be to replace that road, so Mr Houk needs to let the Honda TIF Group know there's a lot of Honda traffic traveling that road when asking for financial support. Mr Pasel moved to approve the CCMG proposal for 2025 grant, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Koors introduced **Tim Kramer** as the **County's new Building Inspector**. Mr Kramer introduced himself, stating he started on November 21st, has been on 8 of the 24 inspections; there were 6 new building permits applied for plus 2 permit renewals. He said everybody have been very helpful.

Sheriff Bill Meyerrose told Commissioners he currently has 2 cargo-type vans used for prisoner transport: 2011 Ford van with 99,000 miles on it and a 2022 Chevy with 70,000 miles. He is asking permission to trade the 2011 Ford van for a **2025 Voyager from Fletcher Chrysler Dodge in Franklin for \$42,505**. He had gotten 3 quotes and Fletcher was the lowest, plus offering a trade-in of \$8,000. The 2011 Ford van was purchased out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. Sheriff Meyerrose would like to keep both the Voyager and the 2022 Chevy out of the Enterprise rotation contract and pay the \$34,505 balance out of Commissary for the Voyager. The Voyager does come equipped with a prisoner cage. Mr Blodgett made a motion to approve that, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred. He also asked for permission to sell a 2021 Ram truck at auction; Cum Cap also paid for this truck. Mr Blodgett made a motion to keep this truck for the new maintenance position, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Kooks concurred. The Animal Shelter also needs a second truck.

County Attorney Chad Smith made some changes to **Ordinance 2024-14** after public comment. He said the County's real position is the chemicals hidden in certain aspects of the products so he retailored the proposed ordinance to require testing for PFAs at the distributors expense and set a test result level of 50 micrograms/kilogram or greater of PFAs the material shall not be land applied on any land in Decatur County, no exception. This ordinance will be adjusted if the State comes out with different levels/regulations of PFAs. Tonight's meeting is considered the 'first reading' and this proposed ordinance will be available for public review.

Council President Danny Peters told Commissioners the Council had denied a request for \$5,760 in additional monies for the **Solar Eclipse budget** at their November meeting because that event lost \$3,037.57 and the Council had approved only a \$15,000 budget. A lot of people have worked hard to get the Fairgrounds to be self-sustaining. He asked how did the **Fairgrounds Solar Eclipse** make a profit to pay **Power of the Past** \$7,844.91 when they should have only been paid \$4,807.34. Mr Blodgett said it was an accounting error on his part due to an invoice or two coming in after Power of the Past was paid.

Mr Pasel moved to approve signing the **ARPA County Blight Agreement/Contract** with the County Commissioners, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. The \$200,000 in ARPA County Blight funds may be moved to a non-reverting county blight fund once Council adopts/establishes a Non-reverting County Blight Program Fund. The Commissioners signed this contract since an Area Plan Director has not been hired to date.

EMA Director Brad Speer shared a quote sheet/scope of work for an **EMA Storage Building** and he did present this to the **RDC/TIF Board**. The cost of the building is estimated at \$317,804, plus \$112,250 to pave the parking lot behind the building. This storage building is strictly storage, no bathrooms nor offices and would sit next to the existing green building. Additional parking would require paving a green area at a cost of \$59,851. The RDC was positive about funding the building if the Commissioners do approve t project. The RDC did state they would not pay for any paving. Commissioners approved this project so Mr Speer will go back to the RDC for final funding approval. Mr Speer presented a quote of \$28,650 to replace the tower generator located at 214 South Broadway Street. The ARPA Committee has approved funding for the new generator plus installation costs.

Mr Pasel moved to approve the **2025 Holiday Schedule** – 12 days- as presented, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to approve the **2025 Commissioners Meeting Schedule** as presented – 6:00 pm night meetings on the first monthly meeting and the second monthly meeting begins at 8:00 am. Mr Blodgett seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to reappoint **Darren Covington to the Innkeepers – Tourism Board**, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel stated the County Council did appoint Danny Peters at their November meeting as their representative on the **Fair Committee**. Mr Pasel moved to appoint the 8 initial appointees plus Danny Peters to the Fair Committee, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. (The previously appointments were: President – Kevin Crites, 4 years; VP – Mark Koors, 2 years; Treasurer – Mary Lou Davis, 4 years; Secretary – Barb Waechter, 2 years; Scott Best, 4 years; Scott Smith, 4 years; Mark Hirt, 2 years; Commissioner – Jeremy Pasel; At-Large – Chris Ramey)

Mr Pasel is working on a rough draft on a job description/duties for the new maintenance position.

EDC Director Bryan Robbins is working to square away some 2025 projects which include renovations at the St Mary’s Church and a childcare partnership with the Greensburg Learning Center.

Mr Koors announced the **Courthouse Christmas Luncheon** will be held at 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, on December 12th and is being catered by **Snickers and Peanuts**.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Blodgett made a motion to recess, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Meeting recessed.

The next Commissioner’s meeting will be December 16th, 2024, beginning at 8:00 AM in Room 106.

Attest: _____

Date: _____