

Commissioners Meeting

April 1, 2024

Present: Mark Koors, Jeremy Pasel and Tony Blodgett

President Koors welcomed everyone to the Commissioners' April 1st meeting; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill out and turn in at the Auditor's office.

Todd Houk led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; then Pastor Janet Hodson offered a prayer.

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

Mr Pasel moved to approve the minutes for the March 20th Commissioners' Executive Session, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to approve the March 18th meeting minutes, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel made a motion and Mr Blodgett seconded to approve the claims, and Mr Koors concurred.

Highway Superintendent Todd Houk gave his report: Highway crews are still grading gravel roads, ditching, patching, mowing, patching roads; the asset inventory is done, now on to the capital improvement report. The stone shoulders on county roads vary from several inches to a couple of feet due to the 'crown' in the road and topography. Commissioners believe the projects submitted for the Community Crossings Grants should include the stone shoulders. Mr Houk shared the cost estimates- \$350,000 to \$400,000 - for Bridge #70, which would be built in-house added to the next several 3 – 4 years' budgets. Mr Blodgett asked for a list of costs per each bridge needing replaced as funds are limited. Local resident John Forsting told Commissioners he has to cross a creek to get to his other property due to Bridge #70 being closed.

County Attorney Chad Smith told Commissioners the 2 fuel bids opened at the March 18th meeting were non-conforming to the specs so those specs need to be cleaned up. Mr Koors asked the location of automated pumps be included in bid. Mr Pasel made a motion to reject all fuel bids and rebid, Mr Blodgett seconded that motion and Mr Koors concurred. **Civil Con** has agreed to rollover 2023 bids with same price for culvert pipe. **INDOT's** documents for the unofficial detour for their South State Road 3 project needs the Commissioners' signatures. Mr Pasel moved to approve the Civil Con's 2023 bid for culvert and pipe bid be rolled into 2024. Mr Blodgett seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Blodgett asked if county employees are still documenting on their timesheets when they work from home; Deputy Auditor Christy Smiley said very few do and she knows some still work from home so she will send out another email reminding employees they are to mark their timesheets when working from home. Mr Pasel moved to approve the \$358,845.85 payroll for March 29th, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

County Building Inspector Kenny Buening has completed 49 building inspections, issued 16 new building permits with plan reviews, issued 2 permit renewals and 1 red tag for no permit to construct a boat dock. He reported the vehicles without license plates on the Smith property have been removed so he considers this issue officially abated. He provided ADA code book specs for a ramp to the owner of an event venue. A map of Burney with 14 properties marked for inspection will be added to the complaint file. In the first 2 weeks of April, he will meet **Washington Township Trustee Beverly Rivera** at Lake McCoy to check it for hazardous materials as well as nuisance properties.

Mr Pasel moved to sign a letter, due April 12th, supporting the budget and grant for **Community Corrections** and the funding for **Adult Probation**, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Matt Hoeing, Director of Court Services, told Commissioners the amount of user fees paid into **Court Services** is not sufficient to purchase/replace vehicle used by officers to visit those on home detention/probation. He asked Commissioners for \$45,345 out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund to purchase a police-equipped vehicle. Mr Blodgett moved to pay for a vehicle for Court Services out of Cum Cap, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Blodgett made a motion to appoint **Brittany Stewart to replace Billy Austin on the Community Corrections Board**, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel made a motion to appoint **Scott Gibbs to replace Claude Livesay on the Lake Santee Regional Waste and Water District**, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins plans to go to Indianapolis on April 11th when the READI 2.0 grant awards will be announced. He’s working with Shelby County on a childcare grant from **Lily**. Mr Robbins shared information from **Chamber of Commerce Director Dawn Lowe** is working on a shareable link for eclipse-related information.

Mr Blodgett asked if any public comment was received on the Kohler Park 5-year lease back to the Parks and Recreation Department since it was tabled at the Commissioners’ March 18th meeting. Mr Pasel wants this to be on a future agenda so it can be advertised should anyone would want to voice their opinions. Mr Blodgett said **Tami Wenning, Decatur County Community Foundation**, had mentioned to him about potentially financing the pool; someone needs to do a presentation to the Foundation so he’s asking for some thoughts towards that.

The final costs for the new Highway Garage will not be available until the punch list is completed; currently a little over \$1,000,000 will need to be financed. **GM Development** will check bond rates to use for a rate of interest in the financing phase of this project.

Board of Health President James Howell reminded everyone that eye protection for the April 8th Eclipse is available at the Health Department.

The next Commissioners meeting will be April 15th, 2024, beginning at 8:00 am in Room 106.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Pasel moved to recess, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Metting recessed.

Attest: _____ Date: _____