

**Commissioners Regular Meeting  
December 16, 2019 8:00 a m**

**Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors**

The December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Decatur County Commissioners meeting was called in session by President Nobbe; he reminded all the **Title VI voluntary survey forms** are on the table in the corner for anyone wishing to fill one out and turn into the Auditor's office.

Having reviewed the minutes for the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioners meeting, Mr Koors moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Mr Buening moved to approve the claims as presented with the exception of claim #155 for **Otis Elevator**, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Nobbe stated the claim is not for the same dollar amount as the quote the Commissioners had received.

**Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr** told Commissioners Paul H Rohe Company moved equipment in 1 ½ weeks ago to start the exterior cleaning of the Westport Covered Bridge. The fascia board has been replaced and Rohe is being careful with their pressure washing. Mr Mohr said the bridge looks pretty good. LTAP and INDOT have approved the Highway's asset management plan, which is required when applying for the Community Crossings Grants in 2020. The CCG call for projects is January 6<sup>th</sup> to February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The CCG application also requires roads to be classified, much like INDOT does. Mr Mohr will include the Sheriff and Communications Director when designating snow routes, major collectors (roads), etc. Commissioners will have to sign off on the final reclassification document. Bridge 34 on County Road 650 North should be open for traffic; final paving will be completed next spring. Mr Nobbe has received calls the edges on County Road 400 North are falling apart. Mr Mohr stated that road needs widened which will require moving utilities, making that a major project. Commissioners discussed whether to allow hunting on the old reservoir property. The Highway Department currently has gates blocking road access to that property; but cannot block access from the railroad. In 1995, the Commissioners had some 'surface mains put in' to alleviate drainage issues in front of **Reynolds Car Lot and REMC**. A spokesperson for **Meyer Engineering** has requested permission to break/redo the concrete structure done in 1995. Mr Mohr wants an engineer to sign off on any proposed work to that structure-surface main. Commissioners need a record of what Meyer's are doing to alleviate the drainage problem.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** didn't have any ordinances to present today. The committee working on ordinances related to the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan will meet December 21<sup>st</sup> before sending a draft out again.

In the past two weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** has completed 43 inspections, issued 12 new building permits and red tagged 3 projects: no permit to build a covered porch; no vertical rebar in 6' forms and wires connected wrong in a meter base. Kenny reported as of December 26<sup>th</sup> the allowances for 'air exchange per hour and duct air loss' will be reduced.

**Don Schilling, President of the County Redevelopment Commission**, presented **Resolution 2019-13, Economic Development Expansion** to the existing area. The expansion area runs north of the By Pass to the junction of State Roads 3 and 46; also Southeast and Southwest of the junction. This proposal conforms to the current **County Comp Plan** for an Ag corridor. This designation will not affect a person's property taxes and this expansion was proposed in the past for infrastructures, which at that time **RDC** couldn't fund. Current Honda TIF monies now may be used to pay for that. Mr Buening moved to approve **Resolution 2019-13**, Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

**Judge Tim Day, standing in for Judge Matt Bailey**, spoke on behalf of the **Community Corrections Board** in recommending Abbe Stewart Harry to be the next **Community Corrections Director**. It was a unanimous vote by the **Community Corrections Board** to recommend Mrs Harry for this position as she has acted as the interim director and was tasked with creating a 'pre-trial service plan'. The Board decided to hire from within the Community Corrections Department and not fill her position until the next grant cycle so that position would be fully funded by the grant. Commissioners asked in the future to be included in the reviewing and hiring process. In November **County Attorney Ken Bass** resigned from the **Community Corrections Board** due to any possible conflicts as the **Board of Commissioners** are responsible for appointing the **Director of Community Corrections**. Mr Koors moved to approve Abigail Harry as the new **Director of Community**

**Corrections.** Mr Buening seconded the motion; asking going forward, the hiring process should include the Commissioners. Mr Nobbe concurred.

The **Certificate of Liability** has been received in the Auditor's office for the skating rink to be set up on the County Parking Lot as part of the **Downtown -December 14<sup>th</sup> Holiday Walk**.

Mr Nobbe asked to keep the Board appointment to the Community Corrections Board on next meetings' agendas.

Commissioners agreed to change the position of the **County Surveyor** on the **Area Plan Commission** from a voting position to an **ex officio** position since as a licensed surveyor he has had to abstain from voting on surveys his firm has done. Ms Duvall will check to see what is governed by Indiana Code and then present an ordinance to make that change.

Commissioners will appoint replacements for Frank Erdosy and Kathy Tarzwell to the **Lake Santee Regional Waste and Water District** once that **Board** meets later this week.

**Communications Director Erika Free** told Commissioners the grant received through the Federal 911 Grant Program is completed. Mr Koors moved to sign the Certificate of Compliance, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Deputy Auditor Teresa Reiger presented several requests for transfers due to end-of-the-year budget balancing. She had emailed these to the Commissioners for review and monies within the Commissioners' budgets are being used, so no new/additional monies are needed. The 'out-of-series' transfers will go before the Council on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr Buening moved to approve the 'within series' transfers, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Mr Koors moved to approve the proposed 2020 Decatur County Commissioners' meeting schedule, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Mr Buening moved to approve the proposed 2020 Holiday schedule, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Mr Buening moved to approve a county credit card for the Decatur County Extension Office, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. A credit limit of \$2,000 is set for any County office who requests a county credit card.

Mr Nobbe has contacted a company out of Indianapolis who does 'tree health' to monitor the health of the tree on the Courthouse Clock Tower. The cost of a site visit and consulting is \$240. Mr Koors moved to approve the set up and costs, Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. The Tourism Board do budget \$5,000 to be used for 'tree maintenance'.

**Sheriff Dave Durant** will have a final draft for Courthouse Security Protocol at the Commissioners' first meeting in January. He presented Chief Ray's proposed vehicle rotation which includes 3 new vehicles + the purchase of van from Community Corrections which has already been approved. Sheriff Durant would like to purchase a new van for long distances and that would also allow separating male and female inmates. He told Commissioners 2019 was a learning curve and it's been a pleasure working with the Commissioners and the Auditor's Office.

**Public Safety Network Engineer Josh Tressler** presented a proposal for a more secure email system at a cost of \$3.59 per mail box, costing \$897.50 a year for the County; compared to the current \$1,100 a year. Mr Buening moved to approve the quote, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Tressler advised the Commissioners equipment used for the internet needs to be replaced and clean up/consolidate multiple connections. He will go through the County Council to request funding for that equipment and related costs.

**County Treasurer Brenda Dwenger** thanked the three Commissioners for working with her since she was caucused in as County Treasurer. She reported \$275,000 as interest earned income as of November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Sheriff Durant is planning to pay for a dumpster, out of Commissary, to set at the old jail to discard old mats, boats and old stuff.

Commissioners wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

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

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

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