

**Commissioners Meeting  
February 7, 2022 8:00 a m**

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

President Koors opened the Commissioners' February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting by welcoming 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.

Chad Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Pastor Greg Redd then offered a prayer.

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

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Buening move to approve the payment of the claims, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the January 21<sup>st</sup> and February 4<sup>th</sup> payrolls, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

**Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr** presented an unofficial detour from **INDOT** for a small structure replacement project east of New Point. East, which is expected to be a 30 – 60-day closure. The unofficial detour would be north on County Road 850 East to the Frontage Road to Franklin County and back to State Road 46 East. Mr Buening moved to accept **INDOT's** unofficial detour, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Mohr told Commissioners there are several pieces of highway equipment not working, needing replaced. He has discussed the finances/cash balances of the Highway Fund with **Reuben Cummings, Government Finance Consultants**, who agrees the cash balances are very good. Mr Mohr asked for the Commissioners' approval before going to the Council to request an additional. Mr Buening agreed Mr Mohr should proceed, Mr Emsweller is good with it and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Mohr asked Commissioners to get a name and address from people calling to report their road wasn't plowed/sanded so he can check with his crew. Commissioners thanked EMA and the Highway Department on handling the snow emergency; they also thanked the public for staying off of the roads so crews could clear the roads.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** didn't have anything to report.

In the past 3 weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** completed 30 building inspections, issued 13 new building permits and plan reviews and red tags- 2 on final inspections regarding GFI's in a garage and a building permit on an unfinished home which was sold thereby requiring a 'remodel permit' to complete.

**Land Surveyor Andy Scholle**, representing Robert Schwering, presented **Decatur County Ordinance 2022-2** to vacate an alley, running north and south being west of Lots 3 and 51 and east of Lots 39 and 50 in the original plat of Milford: parcels 16-12-03-210-008.000-003 and 16-12-03210—005.000-003. A septic for Mr Schwering's new double-wide home has to go on the other side of the alley. Mr Scholle said once the alley is vacated, he will replat Mr Schwering's 8 lots into 1 parcel. Mr Buening moved to approve the alley vacation, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Ms Duvall has received a document from **Kerry Daily of Christopher B Burke Engineering** after requesting some guidance for mutual drainage issues in the County. Mr Daily did advise the **Drainage Advisory Board** needs to change in order to meet **Indiana Code** which calls for a County Commissioner to sit on the Board and also Ms Duvall and **County Surveyor Andy Scholle** will work on some recommendations, including adding some 'teeth/consequences' to present to Commissioners.

**Lauren Huffmeyer and Tom Barker of The Historical Society of Decatur County** presented their request for use of the Decatur County Courthouse on Saturday, May 21, 2022. They are creating a tour of historically significant sites in each township as part of our **County's Bicentennial Celebration** and would like to include the interior of the Courthouse as part of Washington Township's Tour. Mr Buening move to approve the Request by the Historical Society, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

**Steve Ruble of Strand and Associates** presented the **Engineering Service Agreement** for the design services for the County Highway Department's new campus. This service agreement includes design services, application to rezone the site which may include a minor subdivision, site plan to the **Area Plan**

**Commission**, stormwater management plan, sprinkler variance, service application to the **Greensburg Municipal Water and Sewage Departments** and working with the **Department of Transportation**. Mr Buening moved to enter into the engineering service agreement with Strand and Associates. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Buening moved to appoint **Megan Lanning Bodden** as recommended by **President of the Board of Health Dr James Howell** to replace termed member Glenda Porter. Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to appoint **Tom DePalma** to complete Richard Veach's term and reappoint **Larry Kierman** to the **Lake Santee Regional Water and Waste District**. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Buening moved to approve **Decatur County's United Fund** request to use the south side of the Courthouse lawn on June 10<sup>th</sup> for their Annual Strawberry Festival. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Commissioners are accepting proposals for lawn care for the Courthouse lawn, the Highway Department and the Court Services at 319 S Ireland Street for the 2022 mowing season. Bids are due to the Auditor's office by 8:00 am on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

**County Sheriff Dave Durant** told Commissioners his department has been awarded a **\$7,500 SAVE Grant (Stop Arm Violation Enforcement- school buses)**. Sheriff Durant is planning a memorial service on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 which is the anniversary Sheriff Tудie Navarra was killed in the line of duty. He asked Commissioners to reconsider his request to approve paying longevity to all employees and each department should be fiscally responsible in planning their budget.

Mr Emsweller moved to accept the **Engagement Letter from Baker Tilly** for services to assist the **American Recovery Plan Committee** in staying within the guidelines for distributing those funds and the reporting these activities to the U S Treasury. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

**The Commissioners next meeting will be March 7th, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.**

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

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

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