

**Commissioners Meeting
January 18, 2022 8:00 a m**

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

President Koors welcomed everyone to the Commissioners' January 18th, 2022 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.

Jail Commander Dana Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Pastor Steve Bell 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 3rd meeting minutes, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Buening questioned why state sales tax was charged on a transaction on the **First Financial Credit Card** claim. It is up to the Elected Official/Department Head to ask their vendor to forego charging/exempting the Indiana State Sales Tax. First Financial will charge interest on any balance carried month to month, even if it's state sales tax. Mr Koors asked that an email be sent to all departments stating the County does not pay Indiana State Sales Tax, so it's up to the department head to submit a signed ST-105 (General Sales Tax Exemption Certificate) to all vendors each department uses. Ashley Wilson, Administrative Supervisor to the Sheriff, told Commissioners any out-of-state vendor will not exempt state sales tax. Mr Buening moved to approve the payments of claims, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the January 7th payroll, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mark Mohr, Highway Superintendent, told Commissioners **INDOT** will be rehabbing the concrete bridge east (State Road 46) of the Highway Department and is requesting the Commissioners approve their detour agreement. This will be a long-term (120 days) agreement and will direct traffic to East Base Road to County Road 200 East back to State Road 46 East. Mr Buening moved to approve **INDOT's** unofficial detour, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Projects for the **Community Crossing Grants 2022-2** have been submitted, approved and accepted by **INDOT: 1)** County Road 700 West, from Burney to St Paul; **2)** County Road 300 North, from County Road East to County Road 950 East; **3)** County Road 950 East, from County Road 300 North to County Road 1000 East; **4)** County Road 500 North, from State Road 3 to County Road 420 West; **5)** County Road 420 West, from County Road 500 North to old US 421; **6)** County Road 350 West, from County Road 500 North to County Road 650 North. Federal aid projects Bridge 131 and the County's part of the Park Road Reconstruction Project are under review and Mr Mohr should know by the end of February if either or both are approved. He cautioned the Commissioners, if the County is approved on the Park Road Project and Greensburg is not approved for funding, they will need to decide whether to accept or decline that funding. A bridge in Westport and a concrete arch structure on County Road 150 North are two projects for this Spring. Right of way and utilities will be a challenge on the Westport bridge.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall asked Commissioners who they want to replace Extension Agent Jeff Hermes, as a voting member, on the Area Plan Board. Mr Koors said Rick Hoeing has agreed to be appointed to that Board. Mr Buening asked if there is a set term. Commissioners agreed to set Mr Hoeing's term at their February 7th meeting. Mr Buening moved to appoint Rick Hoeing to take Jeff Hermes's place with term limits, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Koors asked Ms Duvall to let the Commissioners when she receives complaints on if businesses are keeping their properties clean as that is not an Area Plan issue. Ms Duvall agreed to forward any such complaints unless one would be violating zoning laws.

In the past 2 weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** completed 45 building inspections, issued 14 new building permits and plan reviews and red tagged 3 construction projects for not applying for the proper building permits- a pole barn with a lean-to, a covered porch and digging a pond. He also received a complaint about a property with junk tractors and mowers.

Lisa Davies, owner of Minutemaids Inc, presented a proposal to terminate the current 2-year contract (January 1, 2021 to January 1, 2023) for janitorial services and enter into an annual contract with a 15% increase for February 1, 2022 thru February 1, 2023. Commissioners stated it's a 'slippery slope' to change/terminate an open contract. They also questioned why Mrs Davies hasn't inquired into other

avenues which help businesses during this COVID era such as CARES, OCRA or the American Recovery Plan. **County Attorney Chad Smith** disclosed in his private business, he does represent the Davies'. Commissioners will work on writing specs for the janitorial services contract this summer to be ready for 2023 budgets.

County Clerk Adina Roberts asked for the Commissioners' approval of an updated contract with CSI to maintain old data which the Clerk's office needs to access from time to time. The annual cost is \$4,000 and Mrs Roberts has budgeted for that cost. Mr Buening moved to approve the updated CSI contract, Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and ask Mrs Roberts to try and get off this contract by the end of this year. Mr Koors concurred. Mr Buening and Mr Koors signed the contract.

Rick Anderson of Johnson Mellon Solutions asked Commissioners if they would like for him to attend the next County Council meeting to get them on board. Commissioners want more time to define the project parameters to get a timeline for procedures.

Animal Control Manager Mindy Myers is working on an evacuation back-up plan for any time the Fair Grounds' buildings (4-H Fair, Power of the Past, etc) are not available. The dogs and cats would be in regular animal crates for transporting to another facility if and when there is an emergency. Commissioners will give some thought on where those animals could be moved to should the headquarters building at the Fair Grounds not be available.

Dr James Howell, President of the Board of Health, told Commissioners 2 Board of Health members' terms have expired and he would like to recommended Dr Amy Deiwert to be appointed by the Commissioners to 'satisfy' the Doctor requirement and political affiliation for the make-up of the Board of Health. Mr Buening moved to appoint Dr Amy Deiwert to the Board of Health, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Dr Howell doesn't yet have a 'citizen's name' to recommend for the other appointment.

Commissioners will discuss lawn care bid specs at their next meeting.

Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins is working with the READI Group, going through the process on which projects will be started due to the State setting some restrictions. The READI Group plans to meet with the State on February 16, 2022.

Mr Emsweller said the Fairgrounds Group will meet on January 20th at 2:00 pm in Room 106 in the Courthouse.

County Sheriff Dave Durant sent the Commissioners an email on January 14th asking to use \$40,000 of Cumulative Capital Development funds to purchase a vehicle to replace the 2014 Explorer. Commissioners are okay with his request.

Mr Buening moved to execute the early termination of the agreement between RBSK Partners and Decatur County Commissioners. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Buening and Mr Koors signed the termination letter.

The Commissioners next meeting will be February 7, 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.

Attest: _____

Date: _____