

**Commissioners Meeting
July 5, 2022 8:00 a m**

Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening and Chuck Emsweller

President Koors opened the Decatur County Commissioners July 5th 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.

County Attorney Chad Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Pastor George Willette then offered a prayer.

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

Mr Buening moved to approve the June 20th meeting minutes, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller questioned 4 duplicate claims for Office Shop submitted by the Health Department. He then moved to approve accounts payable claims as reviewed, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Emsweller moved to approve the June 24th payroll, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr, contacted **INDOT** about State Road 3 South being closed; **INDOT** had forgot to tell Mr Mohr about their “unofficial detour route”, beginning today, lasting for 30 days, hopefully completed before school starts. Mr Buening moved to approve and accept **INDOT’s** unofficial detour agreement, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. The work on the **Westport Covered Bridge** has been completed and the road is open. The **Community Crossing Grant** project on County Road 200 West, included widening, is open and should be good once the paving is done. Commissioners had tabled the asphalt’s bid for the **Community Crossings Grants 2022-1** at their June 20th meeting. Mr Buening moved to accept **Globe’s** asphalt bid, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors did not vote. Motion passes.

Project	Rohe	Milestone	O'Mara	Globe
1	\$525,044.91	\$545,086.19	\$467,369.71	\$434,407.41
2	\$551,505.28	\$615,802.24	\$510,937.01	\$474,956.85
3	\$85,827.67	\$96,022.96	\$78,019.43	\$73,443.83
4	\$86,527.01	\$99,050.20	\$80,075.73	\$75,377.82
5	\$165,717.33	\$184,627.03	\$149,664.86	\$142,723.12
6	\$296,200.83	\$322,330.87	\$265,037.93	\$251,371.11
7	\$166,544.35	\$182,441.28	\$149,773.94	\$142,862.14
8	\$74,159.46	\$81,685.87	\$66,710.78	\$62,515.15
Item 1	\$98/ton	\$185/ton	\$88.50/ton	\$78.50/ton
Item 2	\$4.30	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$3.25
	\$1,951,526.84	\$2,127,046.64	\$1,767,589.39	\$1,657,657.43

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall did not have anything to report; she did remind all about the **BZA** meeting at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, July 6th- **Hillbilly Corner, Highway Department and the Battery Storage** is on the agenda.

Building Inspector Kenny Buening has completed 36 building inspections, issued 9 new building permits and plan reviews, issued 3 red tags: main electric panel didn’t any breakers, no smoke detectors in a new stick-built home and a house remodel also did not have smoke detectors. Mr Koors asked about 2

burned houses in Burney; Kenny said one house has been torn down and he will check on the other one. Cars on County Road 850 South still need to be removed, Mr Koors asked Kenny to stay on it. Mr Koors received a couple of calls about the Area Plan Office being closed during the lunch hour which is when some people can come to that office. Ms Duval said they rarely close during lunch time.

Rick Anderson of Veregy asked Commissioners to read through the project proposals submitted by **Veregy**, then they can craft the scope of the project they want. He estimated it will take up to 6 weeks to get a firm contract. Mr Koors asked if **Veregy** uses local vendors for this project- Mr Anderson said yes if Commissioners have a preference. Mr Emsweller would like to 'digest' the RFQ and wait until the July 18th meeting to make any decisions. Mr Anderson will send a blank contract to county attorney to review.

County Attorney Chad Smith sent templates/outlines to the Commissioners regarding the **Power of the Past Lease** which includes a survey to set boundaries by the County Surveyor and a year-to-year crop lease agreement or if Commissioners prefer an extended agreement. **BEX Farms** won't sign a Proposed Memorandum of Understanding until the petition to vacate part of County Road 280 East is set for a public hearing. Mr Smith did say a temporary blockage for soil borings is allowable.

County Council President Danny Peters, speaking on behalf of the **Fair Committee** thanked Mr Koors and Councilman Bill Metz for organizing the Fair Committee and dedicating many hours to ensure the County 4-H Fair is a success. Mr Emsweller believes 'we're headed in the right direction'. Mr Buening stated this has come off a lot better than expected and really sets the tone for future fairs; he also recognized Mr Koors for tirelessly working on the Fair.

Mr Koors met with Steve Doerger regarding electronic controls for our Courthouse Tower clock. The cost is a bit high and Commissioners will study it. These controls would eliminate having to climb the tower to change the time on the clocks and light bulbs. Mr Buening believes this is a really good project to look for sponsorships. Mr Emsweller agreed it's time to look at this option since parts to rebuild the clock motor are unavailable. Mr Koors said there is some broken face glass and water damage due to caulking failure.

Communications Director Erika Free introduced Assistant Director Karen Beck who she is asking Commissioners to appoint as the Interim Director as Director Free's last day is July 15th, 2022. Mr Emsweller moved to appoint Karen Beck as Interim Director until the position is filled, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

The Commissioners next meeting will be July 18th, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

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

Attest: _____

Date: _____