

**Commissioners Meeting
June 7, 2021 8:00 a m**

Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening and Chuck Emsweller

President Koors opened the June 7th Commissioners 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.

Chuck Emsweller led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Sheriff David Durant then offered a prayer.

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

Mr Emsweller moved to accept the May 17th meeting minutes, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Minutes are approved.

Mr Buening moved to accept the claims, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Claims are approved. Mr Emsweller moved to accept the May 28th payroll claims, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Payroll claims are approved.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr closed bids for Bridge 239 on Washington St. at 8:00 a.m. There was only 1 bid brought in by Dave O'Mara in the amount of \$439,467.50. The bid will be taken under advisement for further review. There is a supplemental inspection contract up to \$21,800. This will allow for inspections to take place while the bridge is being completed. Mr Emsweller made motion to accept the supplemental contract, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. The closure of **Bridge 131** was discussed – The bridge is 109 years old. 2 of the 4 beams are fractured and resting on the concrete that is crumbled. The decision needs made to either do temporary repairs that will allow school busses to travel over at a cost of \$200,000 - \$300,000, put into Federal aid system which could be 5 -7 years out for total replacement, or locally fund, which would be just under \$2 million. Commissioners will take United Consulting's advice and allow them to put an engineer report and estimate together to do a temporary fix to last until it can get done by Federal Aid which may be 2027. The cost of the report will be under \$5,000. Mr Buening moved to approve, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

The Covered Bridge Festival will take place this weekend in Westport. Highway Dept has worked on getting the bridge and surrounding area ready. Mr Mohr asked for permission to take bids on a new Ford mowing tractor. The cost should be in the \$160,000 - \$200,000 range. With the new tractor, Mr Mohr thinks that the one will be sufficient for whole County rather than the two old ones they have now.

Mayor Marsh presented the Park Road application again to the Commissioners. Mr Emsweller and Mr Mohr both agreed to go to the meetings. The County has an opportunity for up to \$250 mill Ready grant. This will be in partnership with surrounding Counties. Application is due by the end of September. A vote of confidence is needed by the end of June in order to move forward. City of Greensburg is going to sign at their next meeting.

Area Plan Deputy Deb Martin presented 3 ordinances for the Commissioners to review and approve/deny. **Ordinance 2021-5, petitioners Derek and Jessica Hunter** requested to rezone 2.99 acres from A1 to A2 for the purpose of constructing a single-family dwelling. The APC Board unanimously voted to approve. Mr Buening moved to approve Ordinance 2021-5, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Ordinance 2020-24, Bobby Pierson** petitioning to rezone 2.00 acres from A1 to A2 for the purpose to construct a single-family dwelling. The APC Board also unanimously voted to approve. Mr Emsweller moved to approve Ordinance 2020-24, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Article 2021-10** of Decatur County Ordinances, Solar Energy, will allow the lease of land for solar panels. The land will be protected along with funds set aside for the decommission of the panels when the time comes. Drainage and landscaping will be maintained. The APC Board unanimously voted to approve. Mr Buening made motion to approve ordinance, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Building Inspector Kenny Buening completed 49 building inspections, 16 new building permits were issued plus plan reviews and 1 red tag along with several nuisance properties in Burney.

Patty Jackson with SIRPC asked for permission to move forward with the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program. The previous awarded amount of \$95,000 was put to COVID relief by the State of IN instead going toward the housing program. A pilot program put together by Indiana Office of Rural Affairs has offered to provide the

service. With Commissioners approval, Patty will put the application together to apply for the \$350,000 grant. Federal Home Bank of Indianapolis is also going to do a program that Patty would like to apply for. At this time there are over 25 families of Decatur County on the waiting list. Commissioners thanked Patty for all that she does and gave to approval to move forward.

Request Use of Facilities – Sharie Brancamp asked to set up a craft fair on Friday afternoons. She explained she does not meet the criteria to be a part of the Farmers Market and has decided to get her own insurance and try to bring in more vendors to sell their home-made crafts as well. She explained that she will set up on Fridays on the opposite side of the square as the Farmers Market. Mr Emsweller moved to approve the request, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Request Use of Facilities - YMCA for the **Rolling Bike Tour** on June 26, 2021 from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mr Emsweller moved to approve the request, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Ordinance 2021-8 American Rescue Plan, fund establishment, fiscal administration, use of funds to cover Decatur County up to December 31, 2024. Mr Emsweller made the motion to approve, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Ordinance 2021-9 Resolution establishing a policy which members of the Board of Commissioners may participate by electronic means of communication. There are stipulations where a part of the members need to physically be present and a percentage can participate by phone or other electronic means. Mr Buening moved to approve, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

County Attorney Kenneth Bass received an email from Tourism Director Phillip Deiwert concerning a local business not paying Innkeeper’s tax. Mr Bass found out that this needs to go through the Department of State Revenue shall issue a demand to person and issue tax warrant with the Sheriff.

At 9:00 a.m. the acceptance of Highway bids is closed. **See attached for the bids.** Mr Buening moved to accept low bidder Dave O’Mara Contractor, Inc., Mr Emsweller seconded, Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Koors discussed the problems the Courthouse is having with their badging system. He has a quote from Johnson Controls for \$4,115.50. He would like to see if we are under contract with them before proceeding. If we are not, he would like to obtain quotes from other businesses. Mr. Koors will contact Public Safety IT Josh Tressler before moving forward.

Steven Ruble with Strand Associates discussed demo of the old jail. There are three parts that go into the quote: Design, Quoting, and Construction. Mr Koors feels the first 2 may be able to be done in house. Mr Ruble will put together a contract and bring to the next meeting.

EDC Director Bryan Robbins discussed the Ready Grant and that the neighboring Counties are on board to all work together as a group. Small Business COVID funds applications will be accepted through this week. They will be reviewed next week with SIRPC in order to disburse. Technology T-Map is being looked at in order to bring new families to our area.

Assessor Dorene Greiwe will be bidding for Reassessment in the near future.

Sheriff David Durant invited the Commissioners to come to the next REC night at the Jail.

Mr Koors thanked all for coming to this morning’s meeting.

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

The next Commissioner meeting will be 8:00 am on Monday, June 21, 2021, in Room 106.

Attest: _____

Date: _____