

**Commissioners Meeting
November 1, 2021 8:00 a m**

Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening and Chuck Emsweller

President Koors opened the November 1st 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.

Jail Commander Dana Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Sheriff Dave Durant then led all in a prayer.

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

Mr Buening moved to approve the October 18th meeting minutes, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the claims, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Buening moved to approve the October 29th payroll, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mark Mohr, Highway Superintendent, reported Bridge 239 (Washington St, Greensburg) will open once the railing is set and the road markings are completed. The culvert replacement on East Base Road is completed; structure on County Road 20 West is in, road is open, still have some shoulder work to complete; replacing a pipe/big structure on County Road 500 East just south of State Road 46, should be completed in 7-10 days. Highway crews have 2 trucks ready to go for 'winter snow plowing' and they also continue to do road patching, tree trimming, hauling some stone and some berm work. **INDOT** still has not responded to calls from Mr Mohr regarding a deep hole by **Love's Truck Stop**.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall didn't have anything to report on. She was recently informed the Drainage Board is not constructed correctly. **County Surveyor Andy Scholle** and Ms Duvall met with Christopher Burke Engineering, asked him to look at the Drainage Board ordinance, to set out the County's role/authority on drainage issues. She would like to see a chart on how to set up drains, what are mutual drains and neighbors' issues- hoping for more definitive answers.

Over the past 2 weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** has completed 39 building inspections, issued 9 new building permits including the plan reviews and issued a red tag on a final inspection due to 5 GFIs hot and neutral wires being reversed- has been fixed. He received a call from a homeowner requesting a letter from him to their insurance company regarding an underground house that burned. The insurance company is not allowing the home's foundation to be removed, saying it was not damaged by the fire. Kenny will draft a letter to the homeowner, also citing the code changes requiring egress windows in the bedrooms and smoke detectors throughout the dwelling. Mr Koors has received several calls on a property that has several parked cars off dead end section of County Road Southwest 60. School buses are having 'sight problems' when turning around due to those parked cars.

County Sheriff Dave Durant asked for the Commissioners' go ahead for his department to switch to the **Fuel Man Cards**. The price per gallon, using these cards, would be at the State Bid Rate; there is a \$2.00 per card per user fee which may be waived depending on the quantity of fuel purchased. Mr Emsweller asked Sheriff Durant what he expects the transitional time frame to be and he believes around 30 days or so. County Councilman Bill Metz stated Premier Ag gives a 5-cents per gallon discount, but that's only in Decatur County for government departments. Mr Emsweller said let's give it a shot, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Sheriff Durant asked Commissioners to adopt an ordinance allowing his jailers to get longevity in hopes the \$200 per service year, per year will attract folks to this career path. The longevity pay would max out at 20 years or \$4,000 each year per jailer. He did state longevity pay for Administrative Assistant Teres Reiger, who recently moved from the Auditor's Office to the Jail, would receive longevity after completing her first year with his department; also, should a Jailer move to a Road/Merit Deputy position their tenure would not carry years over. Mr Emsweller believes the longevity will not fix

employees leaving employment. Mr Koors asked Sheriff Durant for an outline to see what he's thinking and asked for hard/specific numbers as this discussion comes after the 2022 Budgets have been adopted by the County Council.

Paul Pank and Dale Crites wanted to thank the Commissioners, on behalf of the **Association of Retarded Citizens**, for their support of our mentally challenged people. Mr Pank said 80 percent of every \$1.00 received goes to the training and 20 percent is used for a party to celebrate these folks and to maintain the facilities.

Animal Control Shelter Manager Minde Myers told Commissioners she needs a contract with **Animal Medical Hospital** setting out specific charges for a set time frame and also, she believes fees charged by the Animal Shelter need to be increased due to costs going up. Mrs Myers also stated the Animal Control Board is not setup correctly. **Section 90.21 of the Animal Control Ordinance** calls for a 6-member Board, one of which is to be the **Greensburg Police Chief** and one is to be the **Sheriff of Decatur County**, 2 are to be appointed by the **Mayor of Greensburg** and 2 shall be appointed by the **County Commissioners**. Mayor Marsh needs to make another appointment to the Animal Control Board. Commissioners are willing to help, but advised Mrs Myers their only authority is to appoint 2 people to her Board- who needs to adopt rules and decide how best to run the Shelter to serve our community.

Rick Anderson of Johnson Melloh Solutions asked the Commissioners where they are at on his proposal for an energy savings project for Decatur County. He requested the Commissioners schedule an Executive Session so he could educate them on the utility and legislation since they're already spending dollars the cost of delay is wasting dollars. Bonding and 3rd party lease loans are available to fund projects like this as JMS does not finance these projects. Commissioners asked Mr Anderson to provide references on these types of projects. Commissioners decided to schedule an Executive Session for December 6th at 10:00 am.

Decatur County Republican Party Chairman Nate Harter asked what the Commissioners' plans are regarding redistricting the 3 Commissioner District and/or the County Council Districts. He cited Indiana Code 36-2-2-4 which sets out there shall be 3 Commissioner District but it isn't mandatory the 3 districts be equal in numbers- population. Currently the population of Commissioner District 1 is 17,069, Commissioner District 2 is 3,632 and Commissioner District 3 is 5,771. Mr Harter went on to say after every census the County Executive may redistrict, but they must certify to the Secretary of State if they are not changing the existing districts. Mr Koors stated the Commissioners' biggest issues are the county roads and county buildings. The 'road miles' in each district are pretty evenly divided making the Districts fair. Commissioners do have the option of revisiting this subject in 2023.

Brian Waltermann has submitted a Request for Use of Facilities for a Jaylynn Strong Benefit drive-thru meal event on the south side of the Courthouse on November 13th or a rain date of November 20th. He has not submitted the required proof of insurance. Mr Buening moved to approve this request pending the submission of the proof of insurance.

Commissioners signed the EDIT Plan which they had approved at their October 18th meeting.

Mr Buening moved to approve Josh Tressler's request for a credit card for his Technology Department. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins told Commissioners the 'train people' from the October 30th Cincy Train thanked the Greensburg folks for greeting and talking to them.

Mr Koors told all the demolition of the old jail will begin today. Sheriff Durant said there's a lady living in her car on the old jail parking lot. Mr Koors notified her and residents in the area last Thursday and Friday to stay off of the property due to the upcoming demolition.

The Commissioners next meeting will be November 15th, 2021 at 8:00 am.

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

Attest: _____

Date: _____