

Draft

Commissioners Meeting

November 20, 2017 8:00 a.m.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors

Commissioner Nobbe called the November 20th, 2017 Board of Commissioners meeting in session. He announced **Title VI voluntary survey forms** are available on the table by the door for whoever would like to complete one to turn in to the Auditor's office.

Commissioners reviewed the November 6th regular meeting minutes and the Executive Session minutes for November 13th. Mr Koors moved to approve both meetings' minutes, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Buening moved to approve the accounts payable claims and payroll claims, Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr reported **Project 5- paving CR 300 W between CR 1100 S and Jennings County line** of the **Community Crossings Grant** has been completed. A section of Vandalia Road (CR 240 NW between CR 700 W and the Shelby County line) was closed November 15th due to a culvert failure. Part of Highway 421 N, between CR 420 W and CR 520 W, is closed due to a bridge failure. Mr Mohr is hoping repairs will not require more than thirty days. He has contacted **CivilCon** to order pipe to make the necessary repairs. Commissioners signed the 'title sheet' on Bridge 168, so this project is set to be 'let' next spring.

In the last two weeks, **Area Plan Building Inspector Kenny Buening** has completed 28 building inspections; issued 12 new building permits including the 2 'red-tagged' projects. He has discussed the situation in **Forest Hill** with **County Surveyor Andy Scholle**. Mr Scholle estimated the cost of a survey on the property and alley in question to be \$2000-\$2500. At this time, the Commissioners agree to proceed without having a survey done. Mr Buening will 'knock on property owner's door' and tell him to move his stuff out of the alley. Mr Mohr has agreed the Highway personnel will cut the brush and tree(s) in the alley way. No updates on the West State Road 46 issues. Mr Buening suggested our current County Ordinance- 2004-5- may need updated.

County Extension Agent Jeff Hermesch told Commissioners the current phone system at the **Extension Office** has not been working properly for the past three to four weeks. Mr Hermesch offered two options: do a temporary fix on a twenty-four plus year old system or totally replace it with a current, internet based system. **Frontier**, the current carrier, believes the issues to be 'with the building'. Currently the internet provider for the Extension Office is **Enhanced Telecommunications Corporation**. A five-year contract with **ETC** would save about \$60 a month and **ETC** would not charge any installation fees. Mr Koors moved to allow Mr Hermesch to enter into a five-year contract with **ETC** for a new phone system. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Commissioners discussed their concerns on the 'credit card/store card' approval list submitted by several departments/offices. A main concern is the number of credit cards requested is 'that would be a lot of cards out there'. Mr Nobbe asked **Greensburg City Mayor Dan Manus** how many credit cards does the City permit their departments to have. Mr Manus stated each department has their own credit card and they do try to have only one credit card. Commissioners decided to investigate a little further; maybe have one credit card account and issue five cards to be 'signed out' from the Auditor's office as needed. Deputy Teresa Reiger will contact the local banks to see what costs/fees would be involved in setting up a credit card account for Decatur County Government.

Mr Nobbe stated the Commissioners have discussed two different companies-**H J Umbaugh & Associates** and **George K Baum & Company**- to engage/serve as financial adviser for the new jail project. **Rick Hall of Barnes and Thornburg** has been retained as bond counsel; **Umbaugh** would 'put all the ducks in a row'. Mr Buening agreed we should keep our financial adviser and bond issuer separate; so he made a motion to ask for a letter of engagement from **H J Umbaugh & Associates**. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Nobbe will call Matt Eckerle of **Umbaugh** to ask for an engagement letter.

Commissioners then discussed the benefits of hiring a company to fill the role of construction manager versus the role a project manager would do. They agreed a construction manager would have the

expertise for the size of our jail project. Mr Koors moved to hire **Maxwell Construction** to be our construction manager for the new jail project. Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

On the topic of the Commissioners selling the Lake McCoy properties the county 'took deed to' after two consecutive tax sales, **County Attorney Ken Bass** recommended the Commissioners hold a public auction with the required public notices, which would be the least expensive route. The Commissioners have the option of holding a 'sealed bid auction' or they could hire an auctioneer to conduct the auction. The 'minimum bid' on each parcel was discussed. The Auditor's office will check on costs involved to sell and transfer these properties.

Mr Bass told the Commissioners attorneys for **Cohen and Malad** have filed a class action lawsuit against the pharmaceutical companies regarding the opioid crisis in Indiana. He stated Decatur County may join in the class action lawsuit and hopefully result in some financial benefit to fight this opioid crisis.

Communications Director Erika Free is planning to attend a meeting on November 30th to learn more about the "next generation 911- a wireless society". She said Indiana is one of eight states who have opted in this program.

Veterans Service Officer Mike Baumgartner told Commissioners he has placed ads for van drivers in the newspaper and on the radio. He has up to four possible candidates to go through the screening conducted by the **Veterans Affairs Office** on January 9th, 2018, in Indianapolis. Mr Baumgartner informed the Commissioners the **VA** requires Decatur County to 'bear one-third of the costs of a transport vehicle'. He is also looking for a calligrapher to add names to the **Honor Boards** in the Courthouse and he would like to pay them. The 2018 Veterans Service Budget does not include monies for a vehicle or to pay a calligrapher.

Mr Buening moved to adopt the State's 2018 Holiday schedule as presented by Deputy Auditor Teresa Reiger. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Koors moved to confirm the 2018 Commissioners' meeting schedule as presented, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

With nothing else to come before the commissioners Mr Buening moved to recess, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

The next Commissioners meeting will be December 4th, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Richard J Nobbe, President

Attest _____

Date: _____

