

**Commissioners Meeting  
November 21, 2022 8:00 a m**

**Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening and Chuck Emsweller**

President Koors welcomed everyone to the November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Decatur County Commissioners; 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 and President Koors then offered a prayer.

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

Mr Emsweller corrected the November 7<sup>th</sup> minutes by stating the ARP monies mentioned at the bottom of the second page should not include the youth ball diamonds. Mr Buening made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr Emsweller seconded, Mr Koors concurred.

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

Payroll report was not present and will be presented to the Commissioners at their December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Highway (Interim) Superintendent Todd Houk** stated the work on Bridge 73 on county road 150 North and 950 East is continuing. The Soil & Water Department is working with the County Highway by putting in a waterway on Millstone Road so the road can be raised. Mowing and patching continues. United said that INDOT has some monies for bridge maintenance. Bridge asset management plan that was submitted and approved. Bridge maintenance 80/20 federal monies and it would help with several bridges all beginning to deteriorate at the same time. Bridge decks would be put in place to prevent this from happening. Mr Houk also asked for preapproval for a claim for Bridge 236 sidewalk project up to four thousand dollars. This would pay for a sidewalk that was previously installed that is now being removed for right-of-way. This would also help keep all deadlines in compliance for right of way. Motion for preapproval was made by Mr Buening and seconded by Mr Emsweller.

**Strand Associates** recommended to award the **Park Road Water Main Extension** contract was award to Dave O'Mara Contracting. The bid was for \$371,319.00. Motion was made by Mr Emsweller, seconded by Mr Buening.

**Krista Duvall, Area Plan Director**, did not have anything to report.

Over the past two weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** had 32 inspections, 9 new permits and plan reviews, and 2 red tags-both violations have been remedied. Mr Buening has taken photos of a nuisance property and is in the process of drafting letter to send to the property owner. He participated in a meeting via Zoom regarding the Highway Garage construction/design release. Indiana Department of Homeland Security is being consulted regarding questions about the fire-rated walls. He also inspected the locker rooms, restrooms and new gymnasium at South Decatur High School and issued a temporary certificate of occupancy so they were able to host a basketball game. The areas that were not inspected remained taped off until a final inspection is passed.

**Greg Kinker** came before the Commissioners to express concerns regarding the **Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)** not following proper procedures. He stated that traffic is a community concern for a new wedding venue that the BZA approved on county road 850 East as a "road study" had not been conducted. He also expressed concerns on board members "coaching" petitioners on how to get approval while not abstaining from a final approval vote. He felt the Commissioners needed to be made aware of the situation as the Commissioners appoint individuals to the BZA. The concerns are going to be documented in the BZA minutes which will be approved at their December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Commissioners expressed thanks to Mr Kinker for bringing the concerns to a public meeting and will address the situation.

Motion was made by Mr Emsweller to approve the 2023 janitorial bid to **Gilliam Janitorial Service** for \$96,000.00. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Board appointments will be held at the December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Dawn Lowe presented an update as the Greensburg/Decatur County Chamber of Commerce recognized out-going board member and president Mandy Lohrum for her services. Morgan Weisman was First Financial Bank Ambassador of the Year. The board unanimously approved two small business grants for \$1,000.00 to Hillbilly Corner and the other to Fit by Britt. Entrepreneur of the Year was awarded to Tree City Brew Company. And the Don Horan Community Service Leader of the Year Award went to John Pratt for his work on the bicentennial project.

Mr Emsweller brought forward a contract for **Scheidler Web Design** for redesign of the county website which will be funded by the American Recovery Plan (ARP) funds awarded to the county. The contract will be for \$37,000.00. Mr Buening moved to approve the contract and Mr Koors concurred.

**Beverly Rivera** came before the Commissioners to ask about renting an office space as the Washington Township Trustee. The Commissioners do not have any vacant space to offer. The current trustee's lease expires at the end of 2022 and they must vacate the office as it is needed for the new Commissioner's staff.

**Treasurer Diane Wenning** voiced concerns about the new Human Resources employee and transparency with payroll. She noted that payroll was not listed in the job description and was questioning if that should be something they should oversee. Mr Koors stated that the Auditor's Office will be keeping the roll of payroll administration.

**Lisa Davies of Minutemaids** asked when they need to have all their belongings out of the county buildings as they were not awarded the bids for 2023. Their contract expires at the end of 2022. She also expressed concern with the competitors bids as she did not believe she was not provided enough information nor notice for her bid.

**The Commissioners next meeting will be December 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_