

**Commissioners Meeting  
November 7, 2022 8:00 a m**

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

President Koors welcomed everyone to the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Decatur County Commission; 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 Building Inspector Kenny Buening led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Pastor Greg Redd then offered a prayer.

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

A motion was made by Mr Buening to approve the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

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

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the October 28<sup>th</sup> payroll, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

**Highway (Interim) Superintendent Todd Houk** presented **Strand and Associates' Application #2 to Pay** (the new Highway Garage) for the Commissioners' approval and is to be paid by the **Decatur County Redevelopment Commission**. Mr Emsweller made a motion to approve Application #2 for payment, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Houk then presented a \$1,400 invoice to cap and remove sewer pipes as part of the County's agreement with Greensburg on their **Bridge 236 Project** (East Central Avenue). A portion of County Road 200 West, beginning at Park Road going back to Charles Beggs' property, was widened to 24 feet for construction of the new Highway Garage. The Fairgrounds Administration has agreed to pay for the removal of 5 trees to accommodate the widening of that road. Highway crews will pull the radius at the intersection of Park Road and County Road 200 West, then once construction is completed will finish paving it. The Bridge 73 project will be complete once the road alignment and installing pipes are done. Commissioners approved Mr Houk's request to sell a Ford tractor with a boom mower, a Ford truck 103 and a tandem dump truck #1 that has a cracked frame which is unsafe. He will advertise for sealed bids.

**Krista Duvall, Area Plan Director**, didn't have anything to report.

In the past 3 weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** has completed 61 building inspections, issued 21 new building permits and plan reviews, 4 permit renewals and issued 1 red tag for a code violation on the height requirement for basement stairway on final inspection. The stairs were adjusted and a certificate of occupancy was issued. He has received 2 complaints: one for trash and junk and the second one for construction without a permit.

**Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins** is proposing the formation of a **Regional Development Authority** in hopes of improving eligibility for Federal grant monies and fund raising. The County Council would need to adopt an ordinance creating the **RDA** with a 5-member board and according to State Statute set out the reasons/goals this group hopes to accomplish. Decatur, Rush and Shelby Counties plus the cities of Greensburg and Rushville will be the initial members with Batesville coming in later. The **READI Group's** funds are funneled through the **Decatur County Community Foundation** who is doing a great job in that capacity and those funds run through 2026. **READI 2.0** is still being discussed but Governor Holcomb hasn't officially committed to it. Mr Robbins believes the RDA would have a better chance of being awarded funding over the current READI Group.

Mr Buening made a motion to have **Enneking's** power wash 3 sides (east, west and north) of the Courthouse for \$12,350. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. It should take 4 – 5 days to complete the job.

Steve Ruble and Scott Wothke, Strand and Associates, opened and announced the bids for the **Park Road and 200 West Water Main Project, Contract 2-2022**. **Brackney, Inc- \$521,580; Dave O’Mara Contractor Inc- \$371,319; Paul H Rohe Co- \$613,925 and S & J Excavation & Concrete- \$703,815.20**. The Commissioners took those bids under advisement; Mr Ruble will review each bid and make his recommendations to the Commissioners at their November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Mr Koors opened and read the 3 bids received for janitorial services at the Courthouse, Highway Department, Extension Office, Washington Building at 315 S Ireland St and the Detention Center at 601 S Ireland St.

JANITORIAL BIDS	SPIT SPOT	J & L DAVIES	GILLIAM
	MAID SERVICE	MINUTEMAIDS	JANITORAL SERV
	wkly/annual	wkly/annual	wkly/annual
COURTHOUSE 2023		\$1472/\$76,544	\$1240.39/\$64,500
COURTHOUSE 2024		\$1472/\$76,544	\$1271.39/\$66,112.50
HIGHWAY 2023	\$402/\$20,904	\$95.44/\$4963	\$55.39/\$2880
HIGHWAY 2024	\$422/\$21,944	\$95.44/\$4963	\$56.77/\$2952
EXTENSION OFFICE 2023	\$425/\$22,100	\$95.44/\$4963	\$55.39/\$2880
EXTENSION OFFICE 2024	\$446/\$23,192	\$95.44/\$4963	\$56.77/\$2952
WASHINGTON- COURT SERV 2023		\$524.40/\$27,269	\$220/\$11,440
WASHINGTON-COURT SERV 2024		\$524.40/\$27,269	\$225.50/\$11,726
DETENETION CENTER 2023		\$575/\$29,900	\$275/\$14,300
DETENTION CENTER 2024		\$575/\$29,900	\$281.88/\$14,657.50
<b>GRAND TOTAL-- 2023</b>	<b>\$827/\$43,004</b>	<b>\$3749.34/\$194,965.64</b>	<b>\$1846.17/\$96000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL-- 2024</b>	<b>\$868/\$45,136</b>	<b>\$3749.34/\$194,965.64</b>	<b>\$1892.31/\$98,400</b>

Commissioners took these bids under advisement and plan to award the bid at their November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Mr Koors presented the proposed **Commissioners’ 2023 meeting schedule**; they will meet on the first and third Tuesdays in January due to holidays, otherwise the first and third Mondays in each month. Mr Emsweller would like to offer one evening meeting each quarter for an informal evening meeting to see what the public turnout would be. Commissioners agreed a place to start would be to pick four dates for night meetings and advertise; need to adopt proposed 2023 meeting schedule and may adjust/reschedule meetings at a later date. Mr Emsweller moved to accept the proposed 2023 meeting schedule, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the payroll schedule for 2023, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Employees are paid bi-weekly, so 26 pays in 2023.

Mr Buening moved to approve the claims schedule for 2023, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Claims are approved by the Commissioners at their regular meetings.

The **American Recovery Plan Acts Committee** is recommending a contract from **Context Design** for the **Fairgrounds Study** at a cost of \$16,200. Mr Emsweller believes an outside entity looking at the entire area which includes Kohler Ball Park, the swimming pool and the youth ball diamonds may provide an

alternative prospective for organizing those areas. Mr Buening moved to approve the contract with Context Design, Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller made a motion to move forward with the Courthouse Clock repairs and approve a contract with **Smith Bell and Clocks** for \$41,363, Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve a request submitted by Deb Reece to allow 8 violin students perform-play in the Courthouse for Christmas, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Donald Bates told Commissioners his reasons the southern most section of County Road 280 East, ending at US Highway 421 South, should not be vacated. Commissioners stated the public hearing for the Petition to Vacate that section of County Road 280 East was held at their October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The petition to vacate was approved after the public hearing was closed. Leon Nobbe, Roger Fenley and Bob Kinnett gave their statements on this matter.

County Treasurer Diane Wenning reminded everyone the Fall installment of property taxes are due November 10<sup>th</sup> and the Courthouse will be closed November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans Day.

EMA Assistant Gary Hash told Commissioners the generator at the 911 tower is not working. EMA will use their portable generator until repairs are made on the permanent generator.

County Assessor Dorene Greiwe said due to an Indiana Tax Court Decision the DLGF property tax caps will be changing in 2023 pay 2024. Detached garages, outbuilding structures are will be capped at 1% instead of 3% which will result in a loss of property tax collections.

**The Commissioners next meeting will be November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.**

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

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

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