

SECOND REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 18, 2022

The second regular meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:40 a.m. (EST) on January 18, 2022. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger, Nick Hostetter and Elmer Brames. Also present were County Auditor Sandra L. Morton, Highway Supervisor Steve Berg, Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt and County Attorney Gregory S. Schnarr. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Blessinger.

Minutes of the January 4, 2022 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. Claims against the County were examined and those found to be just, due and owing were allowed and those found to be not due and owing were disallowed, all as more fully set forth in the Claims and Allowance Docket of the County.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Highway Supervisor Steve Berg presented the following report of Highway projects:

Proof of Claim – the Proof of Claim against White Stallion has been completed and filed.

Equipment Purchase Requested – Specifications for the road striper were sent out. Proposals will be opened on February 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

County Weed Board Brochure – There has been a noticeable increase in the spread of certain noxious weeds, namely Poison Hemlock and Johnsongrass, around the County. The Weed Board selected three methods of outreach to help inform and raise awareness of the growing problem. Dubois Rural Electric and Perry Spencer Communications are providing space on their newsletters and e-newsletters which will appear in February. A second publication with more emphasis on Johnsongrass will be made available for public awareness. The third method will be an insert in the property tax statements at an approximate cost of \$1,755.58 plus additional postage. A motion was made to support the project up to \$2,500, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

2022 Hourly Equipment Rates – An Equipment Price List for 2022 was presented for approval. The list is reflective of current FEMA Rates. The prices do not include the cost of an operator or materials. A motion was made to approve the list as presented, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Pipeline Safety Program – Paradigm Liaison Services is again putting on the Pipeline Safety Program. This year, it is being held at the Huntingburg Event Center on Wednesday, February 16th at 8:00 a.m. Normally, the foreman, operators, drivers, and new employees attend the program to review safety operations while working around gas utility services. Consensus was to support attendance of the program.

Road Signs – There continues to be issues with the theft of certain road signs. After discussion, the public was encouraged to return signs found with no penalties.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Highway Supervisor Brent Wendholt presented the following report of Highway projects:

Jasper Downtown Revitalization – 95% Plans Submission was presented for review.

2022-1 Community Crossing Applications – Two roads are scheduled to be submitted on the Community Crossing Grant Application #1. The 25% match would come from the MVH fund because the SB67 Distribution fund has been exhausted.

Application #1

Jasper Dubois Road (from SR 545 to CR 325 East)	Estimate \$424,745.23
Steinbottom Road (from SR 164 to Jasper-Dubois Road)	Estimate \$238,122.14

A motion was made to approve the application, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Airport Tunnel Maintenance – The Agreement for the Airport Tunnel Maintenance will be presented to the Airport Board next week and will then be brought to the Commissioners.

RE: CCMG PAVING PROJECTS

It being 9:00 a.m., the time advertised for receipt of bids for the Community Crossings Matching Grant paving projects, the following bids were thereupon received, opened and read aloud:

CALCAR Paving	\$662,528.50
E&B Paving	\$614,800.00
JH Rudolph & Co.	\$685,503.00
C & R Construction	\$597,509.60

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After review, County Engineer Wendholt recommended approving the bid from C&R Construction. A motion was made to approve the recommendation, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: GROW SOUTHWEST INDIANA WORKFORCE BOARD AGREEMENT

An Agreement between the Local Elected Officials in Dubois County of Region 11 and the Grow Southwest Indiana Workforce Board was presented. A motion was made to retain Mayor Steve Schwinghamer as the County Chief Elected Official, was duly seconded and carried. The period of the Agreement shall be from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

RE: EMPLOYEE TELEDOC SERVICES

Human Resources Generalist Markie Rhodes presented information on the current Teledoc program which will expire on February 1, 2022. Should the County continue with the current program, the cost would increase from \$2.25 to \$4.25 per employee per month through Unified Group Services. Through research conducted by Rhodes, a list of telehealth programs was presented to replace the current program as follows:

Teledoc – County (not using UGS)	\$5.15 PEPM
Beacon	\$3.00 PEPM
Am Well	\$79 per visit
Ascension	\$2.09 PEPM
Swift MD	\$4.00 PEPM

A motion was made to move forward with the Ascension On-Line Care product, was duly seconded and carried unanimously. Rhodes was directed to contact the broker, Gallagher, to pay for the cost of reprinting the employee ID cards.

RE: EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK- CREDIT CARD POLICY

The current employee handbook is under review. Including the County Credit Card Policy in the handbook was discussed and approved.

RE: AUDITOR-TREASURER RENOVATION

It being 10:00 a.m., the time advertised for receipt of bids for the Auditor-Treasurer Renovation project, the following bids were thereupon received, opened and read aloud:

No bids were received.

Following discussion, the project will be tabled until Fall 2022 when contractors will hopefully be searching for interior projects.

RE: SURPLUS CABINETS

Clerk Amy Kippenbrock requested the removal of metal cabinets in the records library which are no longer being used. The Clerk will send out pictures of the cabinets to all departments and return to the next meeting.

RE: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Commissioner Brames provided a legislative update of the current session.

RE: JAIL PART TIME POSITION

Sheriff Tom Kleinhelter requested the creation of a Part Time Jailer Officer to work in the control room during peak times when needed. There is a current part time cook/program director position not being utilized. A motion was made to modify the line item to include the Part time Jail officer (LTC2), was duly seconded and carried unanimously. The Sheriff will appear before the County Council on January 24, 2022.

RE: JASPER DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

County Attorney Schnarr presented a draft of the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for the Redevelopment of the Jasper/Dubois County Square including Design and Construction Document Development and Construction Services. A motion was made to consent to approve the Agreement pending approval by the County Council, was seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: AMBULANCE FLEET SUMMARY

EMS Coordinator Ryan Young presented the 2021 fleet summary. The current ambulance that was ordered in 2021 is expected to be delivered in March 2022. Industry standards are taking approximately 1 to 1 1/2 years for delivery on new orders. He recommends starting the process now to order a new ambulance. Young will work with the County Attorney to create bid specifications.

RE: DUBOIS COUNTY TOURISM

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Executive Director Whitney Lubbers presented an update on the Tourism Commission and the Economic Impact of Tourism. The office will be moving in March to the former Adventures store location on Mill Street in Jasper to increase public visibility for the Visitor's Center.

RE: COURT INTERPRETER

Superior Court Judge Mark McConnell, Circuit Court Judge Nathan Verkamp, Prosecutor Anthony Quinn and Chief Probation Officer Jennifer Lampert appeared to request consideration to hire a full time Spanish Interpreter for the County. Court certification was also discussed. The Judges will work with Human Resources to gather more information, appear to the County Council and return to a future meeting.

RE: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

The Treasury Final Rule was implemented for the ARPA funding uses. Discussion on lost revenue was held. County Attorney Schnarr and Auditor Morton will contact Baker Tilly Financial Advisors and return to the next meeting with direction on the possible use of revenue loss funds and whether to use County General or the ARPA fund.

RE: COVID MEMORIAL

A discussion was held on the COVID memorial previously approved. Currently, the committee is seeking artists to create images to be etched on the sides of the granite monument. Discussion was held on whether to continue with the project or to rescind the approval. A motion was made to rescind the approval for the project and was duly seconded. Following discussion, the motion was rescinded, and the item will be discussed at the February 7, 2022 meeting.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.