

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 3, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners / Council Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (EST) on October 3, 2022. Present were Commissioner Chad A. Blessinger, Commissioner Nick Hostetter and Commissioner Elmer Brames. Also present were County Auditor Sandra L. Morton, County Attorney Gregory S. Schnarr, Highway Supervisor Steven L. Berg, and Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Blessinger. Minutes of the September 19, 2022, regular meeting had been previously distributed to the Commissioners and were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of September 2022 were as follows: Recorder \$23,451.61; Health Department \$30,558.58; Auditor \$154.00; Clerk \$100,931.64; 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 ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Safe Streets for All – Nothing to report.

Cuzco Road South (HL2N2129-0.447) – Bonds are being finalized and should be scheduled soon.

Bridge 14 on Division Road (90' East of Stewart Road) – The bid has been reviewed by the County Engineer and Design Engineer and recommended awarding the bid to CLR, Inc. at a price of \$742,796.15. A motion was made to approve the recommendation, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

2022 HAC Paving Projects –

CCMG 2022-1 Jasper Dubois & Steinbottom Road Completed on 9/24/2022

There are two small areas that will be getting corrected this week.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS STAFFING PROPOSAL

Director Wyatt Madden appeared to begin discussions on the need to add four correction officers to the Community Corrections facility. Assistant Director Charles Fleming and Correction Officer Supervisor Rob Clark were also in attendance. Safety concerns and staffing ratios to participants was discussed. A full presentation of the proposal will be provided at the next meeting.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

SITEX Rate Increase – Berg met with management of SITEX Uniform supplier that explained how increased costs they are experiencing are exceeding 25% and is leaving them no choice but to meet with customers with contracts and request an additional rate increase of 2.5%. The contract reads 5% increase per year which has already taken place. The additional 2.5% increase equates to around \$50 per month. A discussion was held to stay with the current contract. No action was taken.

Shamrock Mine Reclamation – Berg met with Steve Allen and Mike Costello with Liberty Management who is coordinating the reclamation efforts at Shamrock. Several items of concern were discussed: Clearing and opening of a west to east ditch drain which has not been maintained and has been holding water back. This has caused water to backup and flow over CR 750 West where it has been washing out a large 60" x 80" flat bottom culvert and the road. The final determination of the static pit water level should be shared soon. Berg discussed his concerns of higher water elevations impacting the highwall. Road work on CR 700 West will likely take place next spring. They plan to begin at the wash plant reclamation by the end of October.

Dirt Loader Dilemma – Berg reported his attempt to acquire a suitable used dirt loader for \$50,000 over the last few years is not working. For this price range, the only pieces he can find are in rough shape and have a very slim part availability. He has located a 2019 loader with only 360 hours in North Carolina for \$172,000 plus \$4,000 freight cost. This unit will be available sometime in November. During the search, he also located a 2015 Volvo front-end loader including forks which would be a different avenue. The cost would be \$37,800 with the trade of the 1978 John Deere loader which is scheduled in the rotation replacement plan for 2025 at a much higher price. He discussed making changes to the rotation plan to accommodate the purchase of the front-end loader. Consensus was to proceed.

Heated Upright Tank Replacement – Scheduled to be replaced in 2023. Berg was notified of an in-stock unit which is currently available at cost of \$68,950. If interested, the unit can be installed this fall and invoiced in January 2023. Consensus was to proceed.

Liquid Asphalt Contract Extension – Asphalt Materials, Inc. has offered to provide an extension of the 2022 liquid asphalt contract thru the 2023 construction season. Consensus was to proceed. A contract will be presented at the next meeting.

Annual Material Bid Information – The department is preparing to advertise for material bids for October 12 and 19, 2022; to accept bids on November 21, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. and to award on December 5, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Harbor Freight Credit Card – Berg requested permission to acquire a credit card for Harbor Freight Store in Jasper. A motion was made to approve the request with a credit limit of \$1,000, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

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RE: ELECTION SURPLUS ITEMS

Clerk Amy Kippenbrock presented a list of election items to be declared surplus. Twelve blue rolling cases are no longer being used to store election materials. Vanderburgh County would like to purchase the cases for \$100 per case. The Health Department would like two cases if possible. A motion was made to declare the items surplus once the new cases arrive in January 2023, was duly seconded and carried unanimously. Clerk Kippenbrock will follow-up with the Health Department before selling them to Vanderburgh County for \$100 each.

RE: LEGAL KIOSK

Clerk Amy Kippenbrock provided a brief update on the Legal Kiosk which could be set up in a public area of the Courthouse. She will follow-up with more information at a later date.

RE: SAFE HAVEN RECOVERY ENGAGEMENT CENTER

Sally Stroud, Safe Haven Recovery Engagement Center, appeared to discuss the Safe Haven Recovery Engagement Center and the services the program offers to save lives by helping people achieve and maintain recovery. The facility, located in West Baden, is a resource hub currently serving Orange, Washington, Crawford, Daviess, Pike, Martin, Dubois, and Perry Counties. Knox and Lawrence Counties will be added next month.

Stroud discussed the Opioid Remediation Settlement that will be received by all Counties over the next 18 years to be used for opioid treatment and prevention.

Stroud presented the need for Safe Haven to purchase a building and requested consideration when funding is received.

RE: TREASURER/AUDITOR WINDOW REMODEL PROJECT

It being 9:00 a.m., the time advertised for the receipt of bids for the Treasurer/Auditor Window Remodel Project, the following bids were thereupon received, opened, and read aloud:

Streicher Construction	Base	\$230,000
	Alternate 1	\$ 10,500
	Alternate 2	\$ 5,800
Seufert Construction	Base	\$161,400
	Alternate 1	\$ 12,000
	Alternate 2	\$ 6,600

The bids were taken under advisement.

RE: RESOLUTION 2022-14

Commissioner Blessinger presented Resolution 2022-14 to support Operation Green Light for Veterans. A motion was made to approve the Resolution, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE DUBOIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS

WHEREAS, the residents of Dubois County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dubois County seeks to let veterans know they are seen, appreciated and supported and to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, civil service, and by functioning as County Veteran Service Officers to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

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WHEREAS, Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Dubois County appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DUBOIS COUNTY, that with a designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Dubois County hereby declares from November 7, 2022, through Veterans Day, November 11, 2022, a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DUBOIS COUNTY, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Dubois County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence from November 7, 2022 through November 11, 2022.

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of October, 2022 by the Board of Commissioners of Dubois County, Indiana.

RE: JUSTICE PROJECT UPDATE

Commissioner Blessinger reported Community Corrections will be moving into the Jail Pod on October 11, 2022. Excess and surplus items were discussed. Items with value will be stored. Inventory lists should be maintained.

RE: TITLE IV-D OFFICE LEASE

A letter of termination was received on the lease for the Title IV-D office located at 716 Clay Street in Jasper effective December 31, 2022.

RE: DRAINAGE BOARD ISSUE FOLLOW-UP

Attorney Greg Schnarr advised the Board of his recent review of Indiana Code 36-9-27.4, *et seq.*, which sets forth a procedure for landowners impacted by a mutual drain to petition the drainage board to remedy an obstruction located within a mutual drain and sets forth the possible findings and allocations of responsibility and cost to cure the obstruction. Such matters would fall within the jurisdiction of the Drainage Board, but not the Board of Commissioners.

RE: CELESTINE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Joyce Hulsman requested permission to use county roads for the Celestine Christmas Parade on December 4, 2022, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. The route will start at Celestine Church on De La Harlandire Road, head north crossing SR 164, turn left on Ellsworth Road, turn left on Celestine Road North, turn right on New Orleans Street, turn left on SR 164 and turn right on Celestine Road South. A motion was made to approve the road use request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 17, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.