

SECOND REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 20, 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 8:30 a.m. (EST) on June 20, 2022. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger, Nick Hostetter, and Elmer Brames. Also present were County Auditor Sandra L. Morton, County Attorney Gregory Schnarr, Highway Supervisor Steve Berg and Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Blessinger.

Minutes of the June 6, 2022, meeting of the Board of 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: 2023 BUDGET - SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Director Carla Striegel-Winner requested an appropriation of \$247,000 from the County for the 2023 budget. A motion was made to approve the budget request pending County Council approval in the amount of \$247,000 for the 2023 Commissioner budget.

Director Striegel-Winner requested approval to start searching for a new vehicle to replace the 2000 Ford Ranger in the 2023 budget. The Commissioners support the director exploring the idea and associated costs.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

White Stallion Reclamation Update – The reclamation process has been slowed by the interaction of IDEM and the Estate bankruptcy. Their primary focus is the recovery of the wash plant area and elimination of the related hazardous violations with IDEM on the south-east section of the mine and the sloping and highwall work on the northwest portion of the open pit to preserve Portersville Road West. Currently, a comprehensive reclamation plan for the project is being produced. The goal is to complete the coal yard and pit area by fall 2022. Complete reclamation is expected to be in 2023.

Road Improvement Request on Beaver Lake Road – A resident wanting to build a home requested improvement of a portion of Beaver Lake Road which is a lightly maintained dirt road. The improvements involve the application of gravel and the installation of a culvert on a road 10-15 feet in width and a distance around 1750 feet. A discussion was held.

Third Avenue Paving Cooperative – The City of Jasper is planning to resurface Third Avenue this summer to cover the water main work done to the road earlier this year. Since the City jurisdiction ends at "A" Street, they have asked if the County is interested in paving the section from "A" Street to the Schnellville Road intersection. The estimated cost using their material bid pricing is approximately \$110,000. A motion was made to approve the request not to exceed the estimated cost in cooperation with the City of Jasper, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Chip Sealing Overlays and Patching – Work is progressing and is approximately 49% complete.

CHIP SEAL OVERLAYS

Portersville Road West (550 W – 700 W)	Complete
Dubois Road Northeast (Davis Creek Bridge – 735 East)	Complete
735 East (Dubois Road Northeast – Dubois Cuzco Road)	Complete
Crystal Road North (SR 56 – Surface Change)	Complete
Celestine Road South (Main Cross Street – Schnellville Road)	Complete
Beaver Lake Road (SR 164 – Surface Change)	Complete
CR 330 East & Greener Road (SR 164 – Schnellville Road)	Complete
CR 350 South & 75 East (SR 162 – 400 South)	
CR 500 South (West of Huntingburg to 525 West)	
Old Road 64 & Zoar Church Road (SR 161 – Pike County Line)	
CR 75 East (Ferdinand Road NW – 700 South)	

PATCHING AREAS

Ferdinand	450 East (SR 264 - 825S) 825 South (Club Road – 450 E) 1100 South (West of Ferdinand)
Cass	600 West (1200 S – Holland Road E) CR 775 West (New Surface Paving 900 S – Holland Road SW)
Patoka	650 West (450 S – 350 S) 800 West (300 S- 450S)
Madison	800 West (300 S – Surface Change) 550 West (New Surface Paving – Kessner Bridge Road – 300 South)
Jackson	St. Anthony Road West (230 S – 350 S) 700 East (400 S – 650 E) 400 South (Santine Road – 600 E)
Jefferson	400 South (Pine Ridge Road – 700 E) 975 East (Schnellville Road – Dead End) Mentor Road South (Conservation Club Road – Taylor Hollow Road)
Marion/Harbrison	175 East (300 N – SR 56)
Hall	900 East (SR 545 – SR 164) Lakeview Drive in Woodland Hills

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Boone 400 West (500 N – 570 N)
Bainbridge East 36th Street (East of Mill Street)
250 South (Old Huntingburg Road – 200 S)
Jasper Dumpster Site

RE: MEETING RECESS

The Commissioners' Meeting was called into recess at 9:00 a.m. for the OCRA SIRS CCPWD Grant Public Hearing to receive public comment on a grant from the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Connections for People with Disabilities Grant Program.

Minutes of the Public Hearing were kept separately by the Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission. Please see "Appendix A".

The public hearing was closed at 9:18 a.m. The Commissioners' meeting resumed at 9:19 a.m.

RE: OCRA SIRS CCPWD GRANT

Following the Public Hearing, Melissa Sharp from SIRS, and Jenny Mathies, Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, presented close-out documents for the CCPWD Grant. A motion was made to approve the Certificate of Accessibility, was duly seconded and carried. A motion was made to approve the Grantee's Acknowledgements & Certifications for Monitoring and Audit, was duly seconded and carried.

RE: 2023 BUDGET - SIRS

Cheryl Mullis, SIRS CEO/President, presented the SIRS 2021 Annual Report and requested a 2023 budget appropriation of \$40,000 from Dubois County which the same amount as the 2022 request. SIRS provided services for 159 residents, providing 42,681 service hours, and providing service to 148 children up to three years of age. A motion was made to approve the request for \$40,000 in the 2023 Commissioner budget pending County Council approval, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: COURTHOUSE USE AGREEMENT

Christina Berg requested use of the Courthouse basement restrooms on July 9, 2022 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for a Relay for Life Car Show fundraiser. A rain date is scheduled for July 10, 2022. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: VETERAN SERVICES OFFICER HOURS

VSO Susan Bramlet and Kevin Hinton, Southwest District Service Officer, appeared to request a position status change for the County VSO from Part-time to Full-time in the 2023 budget due to the increasing demands on the office. A discussion was held on the number of hours per week, the benefits, and outreach service hours to the public. A motion was made to amend the job description for the Veteran Services Officer to 35 hours per week, at the same wage classification - SO, in the 2023 budget, pending County Council funding. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: AMBULANCE BIDS

It being 10:00 a.m., the time advertised for the receipt of bids for a new ambulance, the following bid was thereupon received, opened and read aloud:

American Response Vehicles	\$317,678.42
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The bid was taken under advisement.

RE: 2023 BUDGET – EMS AMBULANCE SERVICE

EMS Coordinator Ryan Young presented the 2023 Budget request in the amount of \$723,289. A motion was made to support the request and forward to the County Council, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: 2022 BUDGET - ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Director Julie Stuart presented information on the Adult Protective Services program serving Greene, Martin, Dubois, Pike, Knox and Daviess Counties. The APS program operates under the direction of the hub County and supervising prosecuting attorney which is Daviess County. The program is seeking funding to assist with program operation expenses. A motion was made to include the program in the 2023 Commissioner budget in the amount of \$5,000, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: 2023 BUDGET - SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

Director Judi Brown and Brenda Sermersheim, SWCD Board Chair, presented the 2023 Budget request in the amount of \$171,252. They are working with Human Resources for wage increases outside the 3% recommendation for the Resource Specialist and Administrative Assistant. A motion was made to approve the requested budget pending County Council approval, was duly seconded, and carried unanimously.

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RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

CCMG 2022-1 – After reviewing the bids received at the previous meeting, all were found complete. Wendholt recommended awarding the contract to J.H Rudolph in the amount of \$737,300.25. A motion was made to approve the recommendation, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

The Local Roads and Bridges Grant Agreement with INDOT in the amount of \$497,150.52 has been received and reviewed by the County Attorney. Upon recommendation, a motion was made to approve the Grant Agreement and have Wendholt sign the award via DocuSign, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

2022 HAC Paving Projects – (6-01-2022 to 8-31-2022)

		<u>Contractor</u>	
22-03	500 West	Calcar Paving	Not scheduled
22-04	Town of Ireland Hopf Addition, 500 West & 150 North	Calcar Paving	Not scheduled
22-06	Old 545 & Dubois Rd NW	Calcar Paving	Not scheduled
22-07	St Anthony Road West	Calcar Paving	Not scheduled
22-08	Celestine Road North	Calcar Paving	Not scheduled
22-09	Old Huntingburg Road, 150 South 100 South, & 400 West	J.H. Rudolph & Co.	Scheduled Week of July 5

Cuzco Road South Culvert Relining – A culvert running under Cuzco Road South is in horrible shape. The culvert is unique because it is so deep under the roadway. The replacement costs would be exponential. While attending the NACE Conference, Wendholt discovered a product that has structural properties to help hold the shape when installed. A budgetary quote for Spiral Wound Liner was \$150,000. The County would be responsible for purchasing the grout used for backfilling. Consensus was to proceed.

RE: 2023 BUDGET – OLDER AMERICAN CENTER

Carie Dick presented program information and requested an appropriation in the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$20,000 in the Commissioners' budget. A motion was made to approve the requested appropriation as presented pending County Council approval, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: WEIGHTS & MEASURES OFFICE HOURS

Inspector Gary Salb requested flexibility in his work hours from 20 - 29 hours per week depending on the needs of the office. He will remain within the current budget for his salary. Consensus was to approve the request.

RE: 2023 BUDGET – 4-H COUNCIL

Madison Giesler, 4-H Council Treasurer, and Blake Lindauer, 4-H Council member, provided program information and requested funding from the 2023 budget in the amount of \$125,000. A motion was made to approve the budget appropriation request pending Council approval, was seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: PARK VEHICLE

As previously requested, the 4-H Council found a vehicle to purchase for use by the Park Superintendent. The County and 4-H Council will split the purchase cost just as they did in 2003. The 4-H Council purchased the vehicle at a cost of \$14,000 including the trade-in value of \$1,000 for the 2003 GMC Sierra Pickup. The vehicle will be titled to the Dubois County Commissioners and placed on the county insurance. The County will reimburse the 4-H Council for half of the vehicle cost.

RE: EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Mark Shrack, Broker for Gallagher Insurance, provided information on the upcoming changes to the wrap network for Patoka Valley Cooperative. The current wrap network is Encore which is not being considered. United and Anthem networks are being considered which may cause issues with the current Third Party Administrator Unified Group Services and the Pharmacy Benefit. A decision is expected to be made by Patoka Valley Cooperative by the end of the month.

Plan Document Updates – New regulations were reviewed and discussed as follows:

Gene Therapy - The current plan is silent on the topic of Gene Therapy. Human Resources Generalist Markie Rhodes and Shrack recommended adding language to the Summary Plan Description on the plan renewal to exclude covering the therapy. Following a discussion, a motion was made to exclude Gene Therapy effective immediately, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Regulatory and Plan Document Updates

Urgent Care Treatment – Under the new Transparency and Surprise Billing regulations, plans must cover all emergency services as if they were rendered at an In-Network facility. Plan documents will be updated to reflect language incorporating the Transparency and Surprise Billing regulations that will go into effect on November 1, 2022, for the new plan year.

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Intermediate Facilities – New rules have been put into effect known as nonquantitative treatment limitations for Mental Health Parity. Previously, to incentivize participants to receive care at In-Network facilities in the surrounding area, language had been added to limit treatment within a 200 mile radius. A motion was made to remove the provision, was seconded and carried unanimously.

Gender Dysphoria – Under the new regulations, group health plans may need to cover mental health counseling, gender reassignment surgery and hormone therapy when medically necessary and prescribed by a physician. Cosmetic procedures for the treatment of gender dysphoria are not required.

Following discussion and advise from the ERISA attorney, a motion was made to approve the following applicable plan language, was duly seconded and carried 2-1. Hostetter was the dissenting vote.

*Under Covered Services: Medically Necessary therapy, Prescription Drugs and non-cosmetic surgery for the treatment of **Gender Dysphoria**.*

*Under Exclusions: **Cosmetic procedures for the treatment of gender dysphoria**, including, but not limited to: abdominoplasty, blepharoplasty, breast enlargement, body contouring, brow lift, calf implants, facial implants, injection of fillers/neurotoxins, face lifts/remodeling, hair removal/transplantation, lip augmentation/reduction, liposuction, mastopexy, pectoral implants, rhinoplasty, trachea shave (removal of Adam's Apple), or voice modification.*

RE: 911 EMPLOYEE NEW HIRE

Markie Rhodes requested hiring Stephanie Sargent to fill a vacant dispatch position at the 911 Communication Center. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: PROBATION COPIER

Probation Officer Jenny Lampert requested permission to purchase a new color copy/printer for the probation office at a cost of \$7,415 from Hoosier Business Machines. HBM Sales Representative Scott Horney, via telephone, discussed the Inclusive Maintenance Agreement. A motion was made to purchase the machine as requested pending funding by the County Council, was duly seconded and carried unanimously. A motion was made to dispose of the current Kyocera TA 3500i Black & White Copier/Printer upon purchase of the new machine, was seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: STRASSENFEST DECORATIONS

Bob Bleemel, Strassenfest Chairperson, requested permission to hang Strassenfest banners and pennants on the Courthouse building and wreaths and garland on the west side porch of the Courthouse on or around July 25, 2022. All decorations will be removed on or before August 12, 2022. A motion was made to approve the request, was seconded, and carried unanimously.

RE: COVERED BRIDGE CERTIFICATION

Auditor Morton presented the annual Covered Bridge Certification for the Auditor of State. The County has none. A motion was made to approve the report as submitted, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.

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APPENDIX A

PUBLIC HEARING

**Dubois County Commissioners-Community Connections for People
with Disabilities June 20, 2022 9:00 am**

Commissioner's President Chad Blessinger called the public hearing to order. President Blessinger turned the hearing over to Jenny Matheis, with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission.

Ms. Matheis began, "In February 2021, the Dubois County Commissioners and Southern Indiana Resource Solutions (SIRS) received a grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for a grc_1nt from the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Connections for People with Disabilities Grant Program. This program is funded by Title I of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. These funds were used for a community development project that included the following activities: implementation of strategies via virtual or technology-assisted activities, to provide internet access and technology equity, and to reduce social isolation and lost access to natural supports for adults with disabilities. The total amount of CDBG funds requested was \$127,743. Total local funds expended by Dubois County and SIRS were \$126,996.48. These funds were derived from the OCRA SIRS CCPWD Grant Fund. This grant required two public hearings, one prior to submission of the application, and today's application which will close out the project. Melissa Sharp with SIRS is also here to discuss the details of the project.

Ms. Sharp stated, "We have established five hotspot locations around the county; Dubois County Park, Haysville, SIRS, Holland, and working on Birdseye. We also established an accessible workstation at the SIRS office. It has a computer, printer, anything that anyone with a disability would need to facilitate them in a Zoom meeting, searching the web, whatever they might want to do. We also have four iPads to lend out. They are currently located at the SIRS facility in Jasper. We've estimated we've helped 200 people with disabilities in Dubois County with the hotspot usage, and the equipment usage. We've also received numbers that at one of the hotspots we have 189 average daily users. We don't have that kind of data for all the hotspots, but we do know they are being used."

Ms. Matheis noted, "When this grant opportunity came about, there was no local match required as part of the application, so this was a wonderful opportunity for SIRS and Dubois County to implement this project. We will now open the floor to any questions or comments about this project."

Commissioner Blessinger stated, "This has been a great project for us. The last six months have been more of a headache than the whole first year, because of one location. But this has been a big benefit for the towns, and the county. The county did put forth some money so that these hotspots can stay active for a minimum of three years. We've made the most of this grant opportunity."

Commissioner Elmer Brames stated, "I was going to ask what kind of usage we were seeing from these sites, but I heard you mention 189 average users. Now are these users coming into the locations to access it or is the range large enough that residents around the sites can utilize it?"

Ms. Sharp stated, "The site I provided data for was Haysville, and I'm not sure how close the houses are there, but I'm going to say that the people using the service are coming in to use it, and not those living nearby."

Commissioner Blessinger noted, "I would guess the Dubois County Park has a lot more users, but when there are ballgames, Haysville, and Holland usage goes up."

Ms. Sharp stated, "We did run into an issue in Holland in the Holland Commons where PSC was worried about some apartments near the site that they would drop their residential service and just use the free, and so we did have to throttle the service there a bit."

Commissioner Blessinger said, "We have a good quality product. I've used 3 of the sites, I haven't used the SIRS site, but it's got good speed, better than what I can get at home."

Ms. Sharp noted, "We would love the opportunity that if a grant like this comes about again, to work with Dubois County and spread out into more local communities."

With no further comments or questions, President Blessinger adjourned the public hearing.

Respectfully submitted with permission from the Dubois County Commissioners.


Jenny Matheis
Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission

6-20-22