

SECOND REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FEBRUARY 18, 2020

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 8:00 a.m. (EST) on February 18, 2020. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger, Nick Hostetter and Elmer Brames. Also present were County Auditor Sandra L. Morton, Highway Supervisor Steven L. 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 February 3, 2020 of the Commissioners were approved as presented. Minutes of the February 7, 2020 of the Commissioners Special Meeting 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:

Distributor Replacement – a 2004 International with Etnyre distributor and calibration unit was the best value at a cost of \$44,060 including delivery. Paperwork is being processed and the vehicle should ship in the next week or two.

CR 600 West Railroad Crossing Update – A diagnostic review with Jason Holder was set for Thursday. The potential impacts with close proximity to existing overhead power lines, utility accommodation with the larger bases required and the clearing of brush and trees located on the southeast portion of the crossing were discussed. A railroad crossing at CR 1000 S, south of the Airport, just 1 mile east of US 231, was also discussed as a crossing that may need attention.

Solar Sources Mine Impact to CR 750 West – Several items of concern have taken place during recent operations of the mine that are having negative effects on the roads in the area. Due to a slide on the highwall, CR 750 West has been closed until further notice. There have been times that unacceptable materials from the mine have been found on the roadways. The road usage agreements state they must address issues as the mine shares the road with the public. These negligent acts are becoming a problem. Berg feels if this continues, future expansion of the mine involving additional road usage should be opposed. He suggested Solar Sources provide an updated status on the pit along 750 West.

Pipeline Safety Program – The Pipeline Safety Program by Paradigm Liaison Services will be held at the Huntingburg Event Center on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. Foreman, operators, drivers and new employees attend to review safety operations while working around gas utility services.

Ferdinand Dumpster Site Expansion – The site plan has been laid out and a list of materials compiled. Additional fencing with gates will be \$7,274.34. The current leases for compactors have expired for Jasper, Huntingburg and Ireland. New leases will be drafted for the previous sites and include Ferdinand in the future.

RE: 911 TRANSITIONAL EMPLOYEE

Communications Director Jeana Mathies and Chad Blessinger, 911 Advisory Board Member, appeared to request the hire of a new transitional employee which will be hired to begin training to take the place of a retiring employee in 6 months. Currently there is not a formal retirement date. No action was taken at this time.

RE: STRASSENFEST

Strassenfest Chairperson Kim Lottes requested use of the Courthouse facilities and custodial services during the fest. An updated Emergency Plan and an updated Certificate of Insurance will be provided. A motion was made to approve the use of the Courthouse facilities from July 30, 2020 to August 2, 2020, was duly seconded and carried. A Courthouse Use Agreement will be filed in the Auditor's office.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Bridge #264 (Newton Street in Jasper City Limits) – Consensus to approach the County Council for an additional appropriation of \$120,000 was given.

Overweight/Oversized Load Application – An application was presented for review. Discussion was held.

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County Inventory/INDOT Inventory Comparisons – Several differences were found between the County and INDOT on road names, sections and lengths. A Countywide review is being conducted. Differences will be noted and presented to INDOT for corrections.

RE: COURTHOUSE PHONE SYSTEM

Ron Betz, Matrix Integration, via teleconference, provided information on the current phone system at the Courthouse, Annex, and Health Department.

PRI to SIP Services – The current services with Windstream PRI will be ending in April 2020. A proposal to migrate services from digital PRI to a new internet SIP service was presented at a cost of \$6,693.58. The SIP services would save approximately \$700 per month on the monthly service charges. A motion was made to support the proposal pending County Council approval, was seconded and carried.

Highway Department Phone System Upgrade - A proposal was presented to upgrade the Highway Department to the phone system in the Courthouse at a cost of \$11,852.39. A motion was made to approve the Professional Services Proposal pending County Council approval, was seconded and carried.

Telcare Services – The current phone system warranty in the Courthouse/Annex/Health Department will expire in April. Consensus was given to proceed with preparing an agreement to be presented at a future meeting.

RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEW HIRE

Administrative Director Jo Ann Spaulding provided information on a position vacancy in the Environmental Health/Food Safety. She would like to combine the current position with a Public Health Nurse by modifying the current job description. A motion was made to allow the current job description to be modified to include Public Health Nurse duties. The motion was seconded and carried.

RE: SICK BANK – DONATED LEAVE PROGRAM

Human Resources Generalist Markie Rhodes presented a Donated Leave Program proposal to replace the current Sick Bank program. The purpose of the program would be to provide a means for the Dubois County employees to donate Leave Time to be used by fellow Dubois County Employees. A discussion was held on disbanding the current Sick Bank/Committee at the end of the year. The sick bank will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

RE: MINI EXCAVATOR QUOTE OPENING

It being 10:00 am, the time advertised for receipt of quotes on a mini Excavator, the following quotes were received and read aloud:

Hutson, Inc.	\$88,107.00	John Deere 60G
Rudd Equipment	\$90,781.00	VOLVO ECR58D
Whayne Supply, Inc.	\$91,243.80	CAT 305.5 E2 CR
Whayne Supply, Inc.	\$92,537.85	CAT 306 CR

The quotes will be taken under advisement and will be considered at the next meeting.

RE: GERMAN AMERICAN INSURANCE

Ben Schmitt, Zach Sibrel and Brad Ketzner provided information on the benefit consulting and agency services that can be provided by German American Insurance for Employee Health Insurance.

RE: COMMISSIONERS CERTIFICATE SALE

The 2019 Tax Sale Certificates held by the Dubois County Commissioners were presented. The Sale will be held on April 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Courthouse Third Floor Courtroom. A motion was made to set the minimum bid of \$35 for each parcel except for the three Ellis parcels in Birdseye which will be combined and sold for \$100. The motion was seconded and carried.

RE: HUMAN RESOURCES CONFERENCE

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Human Resources Generalist Markie Rhodes presented information on the Indiana Chamber Human Resources Conference and Expo to be held on May 5-7, 2020.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Commissioners' will be on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dubois County Annex Commissioners/Council Room.