

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 3, 2023

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 8:00 a.m. (EST) on January 3, 2023. Present were Commissioner Chad A. Blessinger, Commissioner Nick Hostetter and Commissioner Serice Stenftenagel. Also present were County Auditor Sandra L. Morton, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, 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 December 19, 2022, meeting of the Commissioners had been previously distributed to the Commissioners and were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of December 2022 were as follows: Recorder: \$23,199.76; Health Department: \$82,175.68; Auditor: \$20.00; Clerk: \$25,494.00. 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: REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

This being the first meeting of the calendar year, the first order of business was the selection of officers for the Board of Commissioners for 2023. The Board Attorney Gregory S. Schnarr conducted the election. Thereupon, on separate nominations and motions, the following were elected as officers of the Commissioners for 2023: President – Chad A Blessinger; Vice President – Nickolas Hostetter.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Sanitation Driver Opening – The pre-employment screening was successful for the applicant. Jeremy Combs will begin employment on January 9, 2023.

Freeze Thaw Ordinance – As a reminder, Ordinance 2022-17 was passed to prevent damages caused by excess weight on County Roads during periods of Freeze-Thaw conditions. This Ordinance provides for a 10-ton gross weight limit on all roads in Dubois County except for Third Avenue from Jasper City Limits to State Road 162. The effective period is from Sunday, January 15, 2023 through Saturday, April 15, 2023.

PTO Extension – Brad McCain lost a full PTO day due to being called in to work the snow event in December 2022. Berg requested permission to carry over the time to be used in January 2023. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mine Reclamation Meeting – Berg would like to hold an informational meeting with all affected landowners and representatives from the DNR. The meeting will be held sometime in January during the evening hours.

Snow Removal – Berg provided information on the snow event which occurred in December 2022.

Water Line Break – A water line broke at the Highway Department causing damage in the office area flooring. The insurance company has been contacted.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Safe Streets for All (Action Plan) – Nothing to report.

INDOT CCMG 2023-1 – Wendholt received the Financial Commitment Letter for the Community Crossings 2023-1. The submittal will be for repaving County Road 1100 South and the southern portion of Kellerville Road from Jasper city limits to 500 feet north of County Road 300 North. The commitment letter was presented for approval. A motion was made to approve signing the financial commitment letter, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: INDIANA 15 REGIONAL PLANNING PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Commissioner Blessinger presented a Project Prioritization List from Indiana 15 Regional Planning Committee compiled for 2023. The list was reviewed and discussed.

RE: DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

The next department head meeting will be held on January 25, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in the Courthouse Annex Conference room. Commissioner Blessinger will preside over the meeting.

RE: SURPLUS ITEMS

Auditor Morton presented the following items to be declared surplus:

4 Office Chairs – three from the Auditor's office, one from the Prosecutor's office.

2 Cell Phones – one smart phone and one flip phone from Superior Court.

A motion was made to approve the request to declare the items surplus for disposal, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: SPM DEVELOPMENT RIGHT-OF-WAY

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Phil Buehler, Brosmer Land Surveying, representing SPM Development (Reinbrecht Homes), requested a formal dedication of right-of-way for a 4.27 acre tract located south of Ireland on County Road 500 West which is in the jurisdiction of the City of Jasper. A motion was made to approve the request and sign the final dedication document, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: OCRA SIRS GRANT

Auditor Morton presented the Closeout Monitoring Form 2 to finalize the OCRA – SIRS grant for the WIFI Hot spots located at the Jasper SIRS, Dubois 4-H Fairgrounds, Haysville Park, Birdseye Park, and Holland Commons. The WIFI locations were funded for one year through the grant with an additional two years of service using ARPA funds. The amount of OCRA grant funds spent was \$126,996.48. The Closeout Monitoring form 2 was signed.

RE: WHITE STALLION BANKRUPTCY

Attorney Schnarr discussed a status update call with Bankruptcy counsel regarding the road bond funds and timeline. Further discussion was held.

RE: 2023 APPOINTMENTS

A list of Appointments for 2023 was read by the Commissioner President. A motion was made to approve the list as presented, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

DUBOIS COUNTY MUSEUM	Margaret J. Wagner	1-1-2023	12-31-2025
NORTHEAST DUBOIS FIRE DISTRICT	Jeremy Mundy	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD			
Tara Rasche	Educational Administrator	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Tim DeMotte	Defense Attorney	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Alex P. Hohl	County Official	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Chad A. Blessinger	Lay Person	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Paula W. Rasche	Victim Advocate	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Jennifer Lampert	Probation Officer	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Jonathan Burton	Lay Person	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Bridget Seaton	Lay Person	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Douglas W. Tarvin	Lay Person	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
John M. Merder	Previous Offender	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Brett V. Hurm	Mental Health	1-1-2023	12-31-2026
Melissa Niehaus	Juvenile Probation	1-1-2023	12-31-2026

RE: DUBOIS DUMPSTER SITE LAND PURCHASE AGREEMENT

County Attorney Schnarr presented an Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Estate to purchase real estate located along North State Road 545, Dubois, Indiana. This is to formalize the document as previously approved to purchase the property known as the Dubois Dumpster site at a cost of \$15,000.

RE: MEETING RECESS

The meeting was called into recess at 8:58 a.m. to hold the Drainage Board Meeting.

RE: MEETING RECONVENE

The Commissioner meeting was reconvened at 9:24 a.m.

RE: PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Mark Nowotarski confirmed email addresses to contact the Commissioners on various issues.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

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The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 8:15 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex. The Board of Finance will meet prior to the meeting at 8:00 a.m.