

DUBOIS COUNTY COUNCIL

January 29, 2024

The Dubois County Council met on Monday, January 29, 2024 in the Commissioner/Council Chambers in the Dubois County Annex. President Michael W. Kluesner called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Present at the meeting were Board Members Michael W. Kluesner, Sonya Haas, Alex P. Hohl, Doug Uebelhor, Ryan Craig, Meredith I. Voegerl, Daryl Schmitt and Auditor Sandra L. Morton.

RE: REORGANIZATION OF BOARD

Auditor Morton called for the election of officers. Nominations were opened for Council President with Sonya Haas nominating Michael Kluesner. There being no further nominations, Meredith Voegerl made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Daryl Schmitt. Kluesner was unanimously elected as Council President. Nominations were opened for Council Vice-President with Michael Kluesner nominating Sonya Haas. There being no further nominations, Daryl Schmitt made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Ryan Craig. Haas was unanimously elected as Council Vice-President. The elected officers for the Dubois County Council for 2024 are:

President:	Michael W. Kluesner
Vice-President:	Sonya Haas

RE: MINUTES

President Kluesner asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the meeting held on December 27, 2023. On motion, made by Daryl Schmitt, seconded by Ryan Craig, the minutes were approved as written.

RE: SHERIFF VEHICLES

Sheriff Tom Kleinhelter requested an Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$217,728 from Cum Cap Fund to purchase and outfit four Dodge Durangos. His intention is to trade in four vehicles. Kleinhelter also discussed purchasing two Chevy Tahoes from the Jail Commissary fund. Currently there are 29 vehicles in the Sheriff fleet that are in the replacement rotation. Consensus was to advertise the Additional Appropriation.

RE: SHERIFF DEPUTIES

Sheriff Tom Kleinhelter requested retaining the deputy positions created when applying for the COPS for Hire Grant in 2023. The grant was not awarded to Dubois County. Kleinhelter urged the members to continue to fund the positions because the needs of the department have not changed. Following discussion on revenues, funding sources, grant options and the public safety tax, consensus was to seek grant funds again in 2024. The Council recommended using a consultant, such as Indiana 15 Regional Planning, to assist with the application process.

RE: PROSECUTOR'S ASSISTANT SALARY

Prosecutor Beth Schroeder requested a salary increase in the amount of \$3,552 for the Prosecutor's Assistant position that was created for 2024. Schroeder felt the position should have been funded at the same rate as the other assistants in her department. She proposed using Pretrial Diversion Funds for 2024 and then shifting the entire salary back to County General in 2025. Following discussion, Alex Hohl made a motion to increase the salary with Pretrial Diversion funds. The motion was seconded by Doug Uebelhor. The motion was denied by a vote of 2-5. Hohl and Uebelhor were the affirmative votes.

RE: SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL

Substance Abuse Council Chair Jenna Bieker Jones presented an update on the Council programs and the grants distributed in 2023. The annual funding is divided into 4 categories: Prevention/Education, Treatment/Intervention, Criminal Justice Services and Discretionary. April Jones has been hired as the coordinator for the program. The council meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at the Jasper Public Library at 11:00 am. Everyone is invited to attend.

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – DRUG FREE COMMUNITY

Chair Jenna Bieker Jones requested the appropriation of the 2024 funding in the amount of \$45,252.42. A motion to approve the Personal Services in the amount of \$11,313.10 was made by Alex

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Hohl and seconded by Daryl Schmitt. The motion carried unanimously. A motion to approve Other Services for contracted services in the amount of \$33,939.32 was made by Doug Uebelhor and seconded by Ryan Craig. The motion carried unanimously.

RE: AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE – DRUG FREE COMMUNITY

Auditor Morton presented an Amendment to the Salary Ordinance for the Substance Abuse Council Coordinator to be paid \$22.50 per hour maximum. The position will work 22 hours per month with six additional hours to be used during grant time. A motion to approve the Amended Salary Ordinance was made by Ryan Craig, was duly seconded by Sonya Haas, and carried unanimously.

RE: AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE – JRAC GRANT PROJECT MANAGER

Chief Probation Officer Jennifer Lampert discussed the Justice & Mental Health Grant awarded to the County which includes funding for a Part Time JRAC Project Manager. The position was created by the Board of Commissioners on January 16, 2024. Auditor Morton presented an Amendment to the Salary Ordinance for the JRAC Project Manager to be paid \$29.51 per hour maximum. The position will not exceed 29 hours per week, is dependent on grant funding, and is for a term of three years from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2026. The wage classification is PAT IV. A motion to approve the Amended Salary Ordinance was made by Meredith Voegerl, was duly seconded by Sonya Haas, and carried unanimously.

RE: 911 STATEWIDE SURCHARGE

911 Director Stuart Wilson requested an Additional Appropriation from the 911 Statewide Surcharge funds for overtime due to the staffing shortage. Currently, Wilson requires mandatory overtime to cover the shifts. Wilson hopes to be fully staffed by June 2024. Consensus was to advertise an additional appropriation from the Statewide Surcharge fund in the amount of \$40,000.

RE: EMERGENCY SIRENS

EMA Director Tammy Humbert and 911 Director Stuart Wilson appeared to request additional funding for the emergency sirens in the amount of \$41,292. Humbert and Wilson discussed the current frequencies used to set off the sirens are very busy. Over the years, the simulcast system has had issues causing sirens not to sound. A quote was presented to use a single point paging system with a backup for the 911 Dispatch and Jasper PSAP centers.

Consensus was to advertise an additional appropriation from the LIT-ED Fund in the amount of \$41,292.

RE: TRANSFER RESOLUTION – PARK FUNDS

Auditor Morton presented a Resolution to Transfer Park Operating funds to the Park Non-Reverting fund. A motion was made by Ryan Craig to approve the Resolution as presented, was duly seconded by Doug Uebelhor, and carried unanimously.

Resolution to Transfer Funds to the Park Non-Reverting Fund

Whereas, the Dubois County Council finds that the purposes of the County Park Operating Fund have been adequately funded; and,

Whereas, there is remaining in the County Park Operating Fund an unused and unencumbered balance; and,

Whereas, the transfer of funds from the Operating Fund to the Non-Operating Fund for 2023 was not made; therefore,

Be it Resolved, that the Dubois County Council does hereby encumber and transfer \$75,000.00 from the County Park Operating Fund to the Park Non-Reverting Fund. This fund shall be subject to the same appropriation process as other funds that receive tax money.

ADOPTED THIS 29th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

RE: MUSEUM APPOINTMENT

On motion made by Daryl Schmitt, seconded by Ryan Craig, the following 2024 appointment was unanimously approved for the Dubois County Museum Board:

Eugene "Gene" Welp

January, 1 2024 to December 31, 2026.

RE: PROSECUTOR FORFEITURE FUND – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

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Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the Prosecutor Forfeiture Fund Capital Outlay for Equipment in the amount of \$500. Ryan Craig made a motion to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Alex Hohl, and carried unanimously.

RE: GENERAL FUND - APPROPRIATION REDUCTION

Auditor Morton presented an Appropriation Reduction Ordinance to reduce the General Fund Sheriff Department Personal Services in the amount of \$120,788 for the two deputies not funded by the COPS for Hire Grant. A motion was made by Ryan Craig to approve the Reduction Ordinance, was duly seconded by Meredith Voegerl, and carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION REDUCTION ORDINANCE

Whereas, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances that will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated; now, therefore:

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Dubois County Council of Dubois County, Indiana, that existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

	AMOUNT OF REDUCTION REQUESTED	AMOUNT OF REDUCTION APPROVED BY FISCAL BODY
GENERAL FUND	\$120,788	\$120,788
Personal Services		
Sheriff COPS Grant Deputies	001-05-01-28	\$60,394
	001-05-01-29	\$60,394

Adopted this 29th day of January, 2024.

RE: GENERAL FUND – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the General Fund Prosecutor Other Services for the Safe School – Bus Cameras in the amount of \$1,386.37. The Council would like to see the funds divided equally between the four County School Corporations. Ryan Craig made a motion to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Daryl Schmitt, and carried unanimously.

RE: CUM CAP – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the Cum Cap Fund Capital Outlay for Highway equipment in the amount of \$75,000. Doug Uebelhor made a motion to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Alex Hohl, and carried unanimously.

RE: PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE CO-AG GRANT – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the Public Health Crisis Response Co-Ag Grant Fund Personal Services in the amount of \$27,628. Ryan Craig made a motion to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Meredith Voegerl, and carried unanimously.

RE: ENCUMBRANCES

Auditor Morton presented a list of the Encumbrances from 2023 into the 2024 budget.

RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

President Kluesner provided an update on the funding sources for the Regional Sewer District. IDEM held a public meeting on January 25, 2024 to receive comments from the public on the formation of the district. An application is due in April 2024 to the State Revolving Fund Loan Programs (SRF) for funding assistance. The City of Jasper is planning to build a process center on the city’s northside and is seeking funding as well.

RE: FEDERAL AID PROJECTS

Auditor Morton provided information from the County Engineer Brent Wendholt on Federal Aid Projects. Wendholt would like to form a small committee to gather information on possible projects for the County.

RE: AMBULANCE UPDATE

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Auditor Morton provided an update on the expected delivery dates for the ambulances that have been ordered.

RE: MAY MEETING DATE

Due to a conflict, the meeting scheduled for May 20, 2024 was moved to May 13, 2024.

RE: JAIL COMMISSARY

President Kluesner requested forming a three member committee to review the Jail Commissary expenditures from 2023 with Sheriff Kleinhelter. President Kluesner, Sonya Haas and Meredith Voegerl will serve on the committee. Kluesner would like to rotate the members and have three different people review the next report in 6 months.

RE: COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Doug Uebelhor provided an update from the 911 Advisory meeting.

President Michael Kluesner provided an update on the Justice Center building project.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The 2024 regular monthly meetings will be held on January 29, February 21, March 18, April 22, May 13, June 17, and July 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. in the Dubois County Annex Commissioner/Council Room. The August – December meeting dates have not been set.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Doug Uebelhor, seconded by Ryan Craig. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm.