

## DUBOIS COUNTY COUNCIL

September 18, 2023

The Dubois County Council met on Monday, September 18, 2023, 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 L. Schmitt, and Auditor Sandra L. Morton.

### **RE: MINUTES**

President Kluesner asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the August 28, 2023, meeting. On motion made by Ryan Craig, seconded by Meredith Voegerl, the minutes were approved as written.

### **RE: PUBLIC HEARING – TRI-CAP HEAD START**

It being 4:30 p.m., the time advertised to hold a public hearing on the OCRA grant funding as part of the H.E.L.P. program, the public hearing was opened. Jenny Mathies, Indiana 15 Regional Planning, provided information on the OCRA grant. Tri-Cap Director Joyce Fleck, representing the Head Start program, discussed how the funding of \$300,000 would be used for a sensory room to enhance the program needs. No public comment was received. A motion was made by Ryan Craig to close the public hearing, was duly seconded by Alex Hohl, and carried unanimously.

### **RE: PUBLIC HEARING – OWNER OCCUPIED REHABILITATION**

It being 4:35 p.m., the time advertised to hold a public hearing on the OCRA grant funding as part of the H.E.L.P. program, the public hearing was opened. Jenny Mathies, Indiana 15 Regional Planning, provided information on the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program for low to moderate income households to replace needs such as roofs, HVAC systems, electrical, water heaters or ADA access to the threshold of the home. The funding for this project is \$700,000. No public comment was received. A motion was made by Doug Uebelhor to close the public hearing, was duly seconded by Meredith Voegerl, and carried unanimously.

### **RE: TITLE IV-D PROSECUTOR CHILD SUPPORT INCENTIVE FUND – 2024 BUDGET**

Title IV-D Deputy Prosecutor Michael Fritch requested reconsideration of the 2024 budget for the Title IV-D funds previously reviewed by the Council. Fritch provided information on the incentive funds received by the County. During review and preparation of the 2024 budget, the IV-D office rent was moved to the incentive fund for 2024 in the amount of \$20,400. Fritch requested moving \$11,900 to the General Fund leaving only \$8,500 in the Incentive Fund. Consensus was to approve the request. Auditor Morton will make the adjustment to the 2024 budget preparations.

### **RE: SAFE STREETS FOR ALL**

County Engineer Brent Wendholt presented information on the Safe Streets for All Grant the County has been awarded in the amount of \$84,000 to make intersections safer. The grant requires a local match of 20%. With the increase in costs that have occurred since submitting the grant application, Wendholt requested an Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$30,000 from the LIT-ED fund. Consensus was to advertise the requested amount for approval at the meeting on October 30, 2023.

### **RE: GENERAL FUND - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**

Auditor Morton requested an additional appropriation in the General Fund Clerk Other Services for Child Support Recoupments in the amount of \$665. A motion was made to approve the request by Ryan Craig and seconded by Sonya Haas. The motion carried unanimously.

### **RE: COMMUNITY CROSSINGS – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**

Auditor Morton requested an additional appropriation in the Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund Capital Outlay for Road Preventative Maintenance in the amount of \$1,025,281.77. A motion was made to approve the request by Doug Uebelhor, was duly seconded by Daryl Schmitt. The motion carried unanimously.

### **RE: NORTHEAST DUBOIS SCHOOL DEBT SERVICE – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**

Auditor Morton requested an additional appropriation for the Northeast Dubois School Corporation Debt Service for interest payments in the amount of \$64,000. A motion was made to approve the request by Daryl Schmitt, was duly seconded by Meredith Voegerl. The motion carried unanimously.

### **RE: GENERAL FUND - APPROPRIATION TRANSFER**

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Auditor Morton requested a transfer of appropriation in the General Fund Weights and Measures in the amount of \$200 from Capital Outlay Equipment to Supplies. Meredith Voegerl made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Sonya Haas, and carried unanimously.

### **RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – POPULATION DATA**

Resident Adrian Engleberth presented information compiled from annual census data on population growth and declines from 1975 through projections for 2035. He encouraged the members to take a data-driven approach to economic development when spending public funds. Quality of life initiatives that create growth are investing in schools, public safety, infrastructure and finally parks and recreation.

### **RE: REGIONAL WELLNESS CENTER**

President Kluesner opened discussion from the audience on the Regional Wellness Center. Mike Steffe, Tri-County YMCA, advocated for the request to have the County support funding the Regional Wellness Center.

Ferdinand Town Clerk/Treasurer Tammy Miller voiced concerns on the size and cost of the center.

Jasper Mayor Dean Vonderheide reiterated the request for funding to enhance the quality of life and attraction of talent to the region. The facility will be inclusive for all citizens of the region. He encouraged support from the County to help spur support from other donors.

### **RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT VEHICLE FUNDING REQUEST**

Auditor Morton presented a request for funding from the Local Health Maintenance carry-over funds to purchase two vehicles at a cost of \$60,300. Consensus was to advertise for an additional appropriation.

### **RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS - COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE**

Auditor Morton presented Courthouse Maintenance requests for Custodian Scott Hopf as approved by the Board of Commissioners. Air conditioning needs to be installed in the Courthouse computer network closet at a cost not to exceed \$10,500. Security Cameras are needed in the Third Floor Courtroom at a cost of \$2,460. Morton also discussed an issue with a drain in the Courthouse breakroom. Consensus was to advertise for an additional appropriation using LATCF funds.

### **RE: 2024 BUDGET – REGIONAL WELLNESS CENTER**

President Kluesner opened discussion on whether to support the Regional Wellness Center in the 2024 budget. Each member discussed their position on the project. Consensus, by a vote of 5-2, was to support the project over a five-year period by adding \$100,000 to the LIT-ED fund each year beginning in 2024. Kluesner and Haas were the dissenting votes.

### **RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Council set the next regular meeting and budget adoption for Monday, October 30, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. The Public Hearings for the 2024 budget will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Future regular meetings are as follows beginning at 4:30 p.m. - November 27, 2023; and December 11, 2023. The final meeting of the year will be held on December 27, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. All meetings will be held in the Commissioner/Council Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Courthouse Annex.

### **RE: ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made by Doug Uebelhor, seconded by Alex Hohl. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.