

**DUBOIS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

The Dubois County Council met on Monday, February 28, 2022 in the Commissioners/Council Chambers in the Dubois County Annex. Present at the meeting were Board Members Michael W. Kluesner, Craig M. Greulich, Charmian R. Klem, Mary E. Beckman, Sonya Haas, Alex P. Hohl, Doug M. Uebelhor and Auditor Sandra L. Morton. A quorum was declared present and President Kluesner called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**RE: MINUTES**

President Kluesner asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the January 24, 2022 meeting. On motion made by Charmian Klem, seconded by Alex Hohl, the minutes were approved as written.

**RE: AMBULANCE**

EMS Coordinator Ryan Young provided an update on the status of the ambulance that was ordered and was expected in July 2021. Young is now expecting it to arrive in March 2022. Due to the lengthy delivery times, he reported on two current ambulances that are high in mileage and are beginning to need repairs. He requested funding in the amount of \$350,000 to begin the process to order a new ambulance. Consensus was to advertise an additional appropriation in the Cum Cap fund for the amount requested.

**RE: 911 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE**

911 Director Stuart Wilson and Assistant Director Kim Snyder requested a salary change for the Assistant Director following a work schedule change approved by the Commissioners on February 22, 2022. The position was changed from 37.33 hours per week to 40 hours. The additional wages would be \$133.38 bi-weekly. Wilson reported that he currently has probationary employees paid from the General fund which do not receive the full compensation. The excess funds could be used to cover the additional wages in 2022. The Assistant Director is currently paid \$1,866.62 bi-weekly from the Statewide 911 Surcharge fund. Auditor Morton presented an Amendment to the Salary Ordinance for the Assistant Director to receive an additional \$133.38 bi-weekly from the General fund effective February 28, 2022. A motion to approve the Salary Ordinance was made by Mary E. Beckman, seconded by Craig Greulich. The motion carried unanimously.

**RE: LIFE SPRINGS APPOINTMENT**

A motion was made by Charmian Klem to reappoint Alan Smock to the Life Springs Board for a term from March 18, 2022 to March 18, 2025. The motion was seconded by Alex Hohl and carried unanimously.

**RE: COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT HEALTH RESPONSE CRISIS GRANT**

Health Administrative Director Shawn Werner reported on a change to the Cooperative Agreement Health Response Crisis Grant nurse position change to a PRN approved by the Commissioners on February 22, 2022. Werner explained he was unable to hire a registered nurse following advertisements and interviews. The PRN position would give him more flexibility. The grant can be used to assist schools with needed services. Auditor Morton presented an Amendment to the Salary Ordinance for the PRN's to be paid \$22.33 per hour. A motion was made by Doug Uebelhor to approve the Salary Ordinance, was seconded by Charmian Klem and carried unanimously.

Werner requested a transfer of appropriation from Personal Services Health Insurance in the amount of \$13,750 and PERF in the amount of \$4,689.28 to Nurse/PRN \$13,750 and FICA \$4,689.28. A motion was made by Mary E. Beckman to approve the transfer, seconded by Sonya Haas, and carried unanimously.

**RE: PURDUE EXTENSION OFFICE RENT**

Chelsea Brewer presented information on a new lease for the Purdue Extension Services office which increased the rent to be paid in 2022. Brewer requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$230. Consensus was to advertise the requested amount for the next meeting.

**RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT**

Mary Austin, Clark-Dietz, presented information on the next phase for the Regional Sewer District. The cost would be \$69,250. Possible funding sources and grants were discussed. She discussed applying for a State Revolving Fund (SRF) grant by April 1, 2022. The phase II project includes establishing the entity, board make-up, by-laws, Ordinances, IDEM petition and funding package assistance. A discussion was held regarding funding options and continued under the American Rescue Plan.

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**RE: SHERIFF VEHICLES**

Sheriff Tom Kleinhelter requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$25,000 to purchase a 2019 Ford F-150 which was approved by the Commissioners on February 22, 2022. Consensus was to advertise the requested amount from the Cum Cap fund.

**RE: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT**

President Kluesner reported on the recommendations from the County ARPA Committee which were approved by the Commissioners on February 22, 2022. Consensus was to proceed with the recommended plan and when the revenue loss is transferred to County General to advertise for the earmarked projects. A discussion was held regarding the next phase of the Regional Sewer District with Clark-Dietz at a cost of \$69,250. Consensus was to advertise the cost from the General fund with the hopes of receiving reimbursement from grants.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS – HIGHWAY**

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the Highway Fund Other Services in the amount of \$16,500 for Contracted Services - Fuel Tax Program Reimbursement. A motion to approve the request was made by Doug Uebelhor, seconded by Sonya Haas. The motion carried unanimously.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – VETERAN SERVICES SUPPORT FUND**

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the Veteran Services Support Fund Capital Outlay in the amount of \$3,000 for Computer Equipment. A motion to approve the request was made by Charmian Klem, seconded by Doug Uebelhor. The motion carried unanimously.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – LIT-ED FUND**

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the LIT-ED Fund Capital Outlay in the amount of \$250,000 for the first installment of the Jasper Downtown Revitalization Project. A motion to approve the request was made by Craig Greulich, seconded by Mary E. Beckman. The motion carried unanimously. The final installment will be in the 2023 budget.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – ST CHARLES MAINTENANCE FUND**

Auditor Morton requested an Additional Appropriation in the St. Charles Maintenance Fund Other Services in the amount of \$5,000 for Repairs and Maintenance. A motion to approve the request was made by Mike Kluesner, seconded by Charmian Klem. The motion carried unanimously.

**RE: 2021 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

Auditor Morton presented the 2021 Annual Financial Report for review.

**RE: WHITE STALLION BANKRUPTCY**

County Attorney Greg Schnarr and Highway Supervisor Steve Berg presented information on the White Stallion Coal Mine bankruptcy case. Shamrock Mine began in 2003/2004. Road usage agreements were put into place. In 2020, the Mine filed for bankruptcy leaving many of the county roads in disrepair or missing. The County sought outside Counsel for services in 2021 at a cost of \$9,000. Continued services are needed in 2022 for amended claims. Currently a “stay” is in place and the County may file for relief but is unknown at this time. Schnarr requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$30,000 in the General Fund Commissioner budget. Consensus was to advertise the request.

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT – STRONG TOWNS**

Resident Mark Nowotarski provided information on Strong Towns which is an international movement dedicated to making communities across the United States and Canada financially strong and resilient. Strong Towns holds an annual contest called the Strongest Town. He submitted an application for Jasper which was selected as one of 16 cities/towns across the United States. He encouraged everyone to log onto [strongtowns.org](http://strongtowns.org) to vote for Jasper.

**RE: JASPER DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION**

President Kluesner provided an update on the Jasper Downtown Revitalization project. Bids were received and taken under advisement by the City Board of Public Works.

**RE: JRAC – REHABILITATION**

Mary E. Beckman provided an update on the JRAC meeting and the LIT-CR funding for rehabilitation services.

**RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

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The Council set the next meetings for March 28, 2022; April 25, 2022; May 23, 2022; June 27, 2022; July 25, 2022, and August 29, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. 2023 Budget Review for Departments will be held on August 8, 2022, beginning at 8:00 a.m. 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 Charmian Klem, seconded by Doug Uebelhor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.