

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 18, 2016

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:00 a.m. (EST) on July 18, 2016. Present were Commissioners Lawrence M. Vollmer, Randall L. Fleck, and Elmer Brames. Also present were County Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt, and County Attorney Arthur C. Nordhoff, Jr. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Vollmer. Minutes of the July 5, 2016, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. Income for the month of June, 2016 in the amount of \$16,086.02 was submitted by the Health Department.

RE: SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Lampert appeared to submit his report of Security Center activity during the prior month. There are currently 92 inmates. Cost per meal for inmates is \$1.18 per individual and is on the increase due to inflation. The Department of Corrections is no longer giving short term assistance to the County. Many individuals are no longer eligible for Community Corrections because of past criminal history. The jail was constructed to house 84 inmates, and there is no indication that the current number will decrease. An addition to the jail building would also require additional jail personnel.

The Sheriff again requested the addition of an administrative assistant to relieve the staff deputies of some of the administrative duties assigned to them. Staff deputies are performing administrative work even though they do not have time. The Sheriff stated that a part-time administrative person would not satisfy the Department's needs. The Commissioners expressed their concern in adding a new employee in view of the County's hiring freeze. Discussion was held on the cost of an employee and the funds available under the budget. The Commissioners stated they would review the position when the budget condition was known in October/November.

RE: COUNTY RADIO SYSTEM

Gary Fritz, Dubois County Emergency Management, appeared to advise the Commissioners that the County Radio System project has been fully completed and tested and is ready for approval. The cost of the upgrade was \$744,144, plus \$25,000 for new Highway radio equipment. Upon acceptance, the system will enter into a one year warranty period. Fritz explained the new system and the many increases in efficiency and overall communication improvement in coverage for Medical, Fire, Police, Highway and Emergency Management. The system is based on a center tower with remote transmission repeater sites. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners accepted the system, conditioned on documentation of acceptable internet connection.

RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – ENGINEER REPORT

Highway Engineer Wendholt appears to present the current report of Department projects:

Community Crossing Grant	The Engineer submitted a proposed letter to LTAP confirming that the County will financially support those projects funded by Community Crossings Grants to the extent not covered by the Grant. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved and signed the letter. There are currently two grant projects: Dubois Road NE and Kyana Road.
Bridge Inspection	Bridge Inspection Inventory has been received. Butler, Fairman & Seufert has submitted invoice for \$7,762.00 for Phase 2 inspections, which are 95% complete. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized payment of the invoice.
Bridge #147 Update	Old bridge and footings removed and attempt to install new retaining wall is delayed by heavy rain.
Paving Projects	Report made of progress being made on the 7 road paving projects. Four are completed, and the remainder will be completed by the end of July.
Huntingburg Railroad Crossing	Three invoices have been received from Huntingburg for services rendered by DLZ, as follow: \$4,525.24, \$1,037.50, and \$155.00. On motion made and seconded, payment was approved.

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INDOT Detour Route

INDOT has requested use of CR 1000S and Holland Road SW as unofficial detour routes while work is being done on SR 68, over a 45 day period. The State will reimburse the County for road damage. The Engineer will film the road to prove damage. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the Memo of Understanding with INDOT.

Highway Mechanic

The Commissioners will interview an applicant proposed by the Supervisor for employment on July 28, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

RE: COUNTY CELL PHONES

The Auditor reported she had communicated with an IRS Representative regarding taxable status of cell phone stipends in lieu of County provided phones. The determination of taxable versus non-taxable is made based on several criteria, but most importantly whether the employee must be reachable on an emergency basis for immediate response.

RE: HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AUDIT PROGRAM

The Auditor submitted a proposed contract with Tax Management Associates for audit of our Homestead Exemptions. A cost will apply only if an ineligible deduction is found and recovered. The Auditor will discuss with the Company whether the length of the contract can be changed from 2 years to 1 year.

RE: EMPLOYEE PARKING

The Commissioners discussed complaints they have received concerning Courthouse employees parking in the areas adjacent to the Courthouse on the Square. The Auditor will send a memo to Department Heads instructing their employees to refrain from parking around the Square, as stated in the Employee Handbook.

RE: ST. ANTHONY CAR SHOW

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized closing of South Street from St. John to Cross Street, and St. Joseph Street from the American Legion to South Street, in St. Anthony on August 20, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the St. Anthony Fire Department Car Show.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The Commissioners will hold future meeting on:

August 1, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

August 15, 2016 at 8:30 a.m., following a Solid Waste District Meeting beginning at 7:15 a.m.

The initial business of the Commissioners will be to meet with the County Council at 8:00 a.m. for budget review.