

CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 19, 2017

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:30 a.m. (EST) on June 19, 2017. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger, Elmer Brames and Nick Hostetter. Also present were County Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, Highway Supervisor Steven L. Berg, 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 Blessinger. Minutes of the June 5, 2017, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented.

RE: CASA OFFICE

Judge Verkamp appeared to discuss the lack of Courthouse space for the Court's CASA program. No such space currently exists in any County facility. The Judge advised the Commissioners as to State law regarding services to be provided to underage individuals (CHINS) by the County and the fact that use of CASA volunteers saves the County in excess of \$200,000 per year. The City of Jasper owns a vacant residence east of the Jasper downtown fire station on 6th Street which could be leased for the CASA program at a cost of \$3,000 per year plus utilities and operating expenses. The Judge stated that there would be small initial expenses unless ADA improvements would be required. The Commissioners discussed alternate locations and the need for ADA approval. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the lease, subject to County Council approval and information on need for ADA improvements, which is to be researched by Highway Engineer Wendholt.

RE: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – 2018 BUDGET

Carla Striegel-Winner, Director of the Solid Waste Management District, described the proposed 2018 budget which had been approved by the Solid Waste Board earlier today. After a brief discussion, the Commissioners, on motion made and seconded, approved the budget to be submitted to County Council.

RE: OLDER AMERICAN CENTER – 2018 BUDGET

Carie Dick, Director of the Dubois County Older American Center, appeared to request that the County continue to financially support the Center. She stated that 27,407 attendees used the Center last year. During the first five months of 2017, there were 6358 participants, 4158 were from City and 2200 from County. Programs offered were described. The total budget for the Center will be \$231,000 of which \$25,000 is requested from the County, same as 2016. On motion made and seconded, the \$25,000 request was granted. City and County residents are charged the same rate when fees are charged.

RE: TRI-CAP – 2018 BUDGET

Becky Beckman, representing Tri-Cap, appeared to request a renewal of the \$5,000 for County's funding of the program, which is a federal program with 60% federal funds and 40% local funds. Beckman submitted a list of the numerous programs supported by Tri-Cap. Total cost of the program is \$69,389 and is operating through the use of a large number of senior volunteers, offering over 40,000 hours of service. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the \$5,000 County contribution.

RE: SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – 2018 BUDGET

Judi Brown and Brenda Sermersheim, Soil and Water Conservation District, appeared to submit a copy of the proposed 2018 budget for the District, being \$176,422. They explained that larger salary increases are requested for the Director and program, based on the fact that both were below the determined average by the County wage study. They explained the history of the Soil and Water Conservation District and the purpose and programs of the local District, and the grants which come to the agricultural portion of the County because of the District's efforts. The current budget includes a capital expense of \$22,000 for the purchase of a used replacement van or SUV. The Commissioners advised

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District representatives that the County Council has established a cap for salary increases and the Council may or may not grant the excess salary increase. The Commissioners had no disagreement with the budget.

RE: 4-H COUNCIL – 2018 BUDGET

Sandy Neukam, Dubois County 4-H, and Jake Memmer, Treasurer, appeared to submit the 4-H Council budget for 2018. The current budget is \$294,000. The County's appropriation is \$140,000. The Council intends to work for extended use of the newly improved grandstand. The Commissioners expressed the desire that rental from the grandstand should be used to reduce future County contributions. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the \$140,000 County contribution and requested that an attempt be made to reduce future contribution by the County based upon increased rental.

RE: 9-1-1 – 2018 BUDGET

Janice Love, 9-1-1 Director appeared to submit the County General budget for 2018. The budget reflected the wage increase suggested by the County Council. The Budget also reflects increases based on hardware and software improvements of \$8,900. The total increase for all of the above is \$13,892 for a proposed budget of \$362,403. On motion made and seconded, the budget was approved.

Director Love also submitted a Surcharge Budget for Communications personnel. The budget also reflects the suggested Council wage increase except for the Assistant Director, which includes an extra \$2,500 to bring the individual up to a wage Director Love believes is fair. She also stated that she feels the Department training officers are underpaid based upon qualification and extra duty performed and an extra \$1,500 per year should be allotted to them. Also added to the Budget was \$10,000 for projected added costs for database maintenance. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the Budget as submitted, subject to research on the County Wage Study as to the Assistant Director compensation with the proposed \$2500 increase, to increase or decrease based upon the amount determined in the study.

RE: SIRS – 2018 BUDGET

Kelly Mitchell appeared on behalf of SIRS to present the 2018 budget. Mitchell made a presentation of services furnished by SIRS to the Community. She advised of individuals serviced and contributions to the local Community. Support of SIRS reduces the expenses which the County would have in alternative expenses if not covered by SIRS. The request is for \$37,000 which is the same as prior year. On motion made and seconded, the \$37,000 request was approved.

RE: SOUTHERN HILLS – 2018 BUDGET

Joe Kimmel of Southern Hills appeared to review the programs offered by Southern Hills. They currently have 165 employees and operate a treatment facility in Dubois County. They work with the court system, schools and State Children Services. Additionally they work with local employers and with State mental hospital facilities. Frequently the served individuals have no insurance coverage. Proper use of medications is an important function. There was discussion as to the method used by the State to calculate the tax distribution allocated to various Counties. There is no tax rate approved by the County as the amount is established by State law.

RE: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – 2018 BUDGET

Suzan Henke, EMS Director, appeared to submit the 2018 EMS Budget. She also submitted a list of EMS charges for services rendered. Henke explained that for accounting purposes, she allocates 23 hours of her time per week to ems services. She explained the computer and radio services used EMS. She stated that no new vehicle will be required this year and explained the allocation of expenses of the service between emergency services and the hospital.

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The Hospital's share has increased. The current budget proposal of \$421,949 is a decrease from \$686,267 for 2017. On motion made and seconded, the proposed budget was approved.

RE: RIDE SOLUTIONS – 2018 BUDGET

Becky Guthrie of Ride Solutions appeared to explain to the Commissioners the services Ride Solutions provides to local residents for workers, students and patients who have no transportation. There were 37,255 trips in the County during the prior year. Huntingburg offers their own service. Employment is the largest user. The service operates in ten Counties, with Dubois County being the 3rd highest user. The request is for \$14,000, while prior was \$12,000. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized a budget contribution of \$12,000.

RE: USI CONSULTING

Jacque Pentell and Brandon Adamson of USI Consulting appeared to discuss broker services offered by their Company, which is the 3rd largest benefits agency in the Country. As requested by the Commissioners, they addressed the method used for computing their compensation, which is based on a per participating employee per month amount. USI has a large number of specialized technicians who are available for support and information, which they state is not true with most organizations. USI will look at the network used by the County, and will review the drug contract used by the County. The Company has also been attempting to assist the County employees to comply with laws and regulations. The services provided by them should cut the County expenses and also save money for the employees.

RE: SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – 2018 BUDGET

JoAnn Schnarr representing the Sheriff's Department appeared to submit proposed budget reflecting the changes in salaries previously recommended by the County Council and also reflecting a salary study of Dubois County law enforcement agencies. Additionally non-enforcement part-time employees have been changed in the budget to reflect \$1.00 per hour less than the full-time employees who are performing the same jobs. The part-time employees receive no other employee benefits. There is also question as to the nurse assigned to the jail, whether to be on a daily or a two day a week basis, previously shared with Health Department staff.

RE: JASPER STRASSENFEST

Mike Ackerman, representing the Jasper Strassenfest Committee appeared to request use of Courthouse property during Strassenfest in the same manner as in past years. On motion made and seconded, the use was approved, and Ackerman was instructed to contact the Courthouse Custodian.

RE: CLAIMS APPROVED

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the County payroll and claims as submitted by the Auditor.

RE: COBRA RATES – 2018

As requested by the Auditor, the Commissioners reviewed the proposed new Cobra rates including 3rd tier, and on motion made and seconded, approved the revised Cobra Rates for 2018.

RE: EMPLOYEE MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners changed the policy regarding medical coverage for employees so as to begin insurance coverage as of the beginning of the first day of the month following 30 days of employment and ending on the last day of the month of termination.

RE: STATE FIRE MARSHALL – GIS PROGRAM

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners agreed to share the County's GIS program with the State Fire Marshall, without fee.

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RE: 9-1-1 BUDGET

The Commissioners agreed that as to the pay schedule of the assistant director in the 9-1-1 budget, the \$2500 pay increase previously approved at this meeting shall be in addition to the normal pay increase offered by the County Council to all full-time employees.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Highway Supervisor Berg submitted his report of current Department projects as follows:

Liquid Road Application – surface work has begun in Saint Marks and will move to Woodland Hills, Celestine at a cost of \$94,200.

Pass-QB – Applying Pass-QB on County Road 300 North running from Jasper to County Road 500 West, Schnellville Road from State Road 162 east to Santine Road, Division Road and County Road 600 West from Jasper City limits continuing west to Patoka Township line.

Rejuvetec Application – Requesting \$50,000 additional appropriation from the MVH fund to cover sealcoat on 15th Street, Meridian Road and County Road 650 West. Permission granted.

Additional Appropriations – Request permission for the following additional appropriations:

Supplies	\$212,500	Weed Spray	\$ 2,500
		Stone	\$100,000
		Bituminous	\$ 90,000
		Road Signs	\$ 20,000
Capital Outlay	\$50,000	Additional Sealcoating	
Other Services	\$25,000	Equipment Repair	
Cum Bridge	\$60,000	Culvert Replacements	

On motion duly made and seconded, the additional appropriations were approved, subject to Council approval.

Change Orders – Request change orders on completed hot mix projects:

#16-12	County Road 850 W	+ 1666.01
#16-14	Dubois Road NE	< 110.56 >

On motion made and seconded, the change orders were approved.

County Road 400 West Reconstruction – Joint project with City of Jasper so that each may pay their respective portion of cost for re-pavement.

Chip Seal Paving – Chip Seal Overlay has started. List of roads to be completed distributed to Commissioners.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Highway Engineer Wendholt submitted his report of current engineering projects as follows:

Huntingburg Railroad Overpass – Invoices received from City of Huntingburg for professional services from DLZ for \$199.46 and \$53.19. Approved on motion made and seconded, payment ordered.

Bridge 13 / Clay Street in Jasper– Bridge crew are pouring concrete deck and will be open in seven days after concrete cured.

Paving Schedule – Updated list presented of paving projects completed to date.

RE: WEBSITE

The Commissioners discussed the logo being designed for use on the County website, the need for a number of photographs, and a request going out to County employees and the public for assistance on the project. Pictures have been taken of various County scenes by Commissioner Blessinger for use on the website and are being reviewed.

Fifteen to twenty have been requested by the website company working on the project.

RE: FACILITIES STUDY

Inspection report made on the tours made of jails in Knox, Daviess and Posey Counties and information acquired from the inspections. A seminar on the subject will be held in Indianapolis in the near future. Several consulting firms

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have contacted Commissioners about services offered. There is question as to whether to first acquire services of a construction manager or of an architect. It would appear that it would be best to begin consideration of the jail revision before completing comprehensive facility study. NIC has also offered to prepare a preliminary study of the current jail facility.

RE: 36TH STREET AND PORTERSVILLE ROAD REAL ESTATE

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized the conveyance of a .13 acre tract, a .31 acre tract, and a .21 acre tract all located in street right-of-way of 36th Street and the former Portersville Road. All tracts were formerly within the County, but have been subsequently annexed into the City of Jasper.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The Commissioners will meet on Monday, July 3, 2017, and Monday, July 17, 2017, both meetings to be begin at 8:00 a.m., in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex.