

CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 20, 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 March 20, 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 March 6, 2017, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented.

RE: SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Lampert appeared to submit his monthly report for the Security Center operations. During the prior month 105 individuals were admitted to the jail and the prisoner count was 89. The maximum number of prisoners for the jail is 84 according to the State Inspector. The Sheriff discussed procedures which are followed regarding prisoners who have medical or mental problems. Discussion was held regarding currently proposed legislation and recommended solutions to reduce jail counts, such as Senate Bill 228 that provides the Supreme Court should adopt rules to establish the Indiana pretrial risk assessment system. He reported that the average meal cost was \$1.13 per meal for the month. The Sheriff requested the Commissioners to review the existing policy of requiring an employee to work on his final day of employment rather than use a vacation day. Current policy is that the date of termination is the last day physically worked, and may not be extended to include accrued and/or unused paid or unpaid time off. Discussion followed regarding the policy and its justification. The Sheriff again requested that the Commissioners agree to assign an administrative assistant for the Department, and was questioned as to whether such an employee would reduce Department overtime.

RE: POSTAL MAILBOX ON COURTHOUSE SQUARE

The Jasper Postmaster appeared to discuss replacement of the postal collection box on the square south of the Courthouse. The construction of the new box would require removal of the wall behind the current mailbox, or moving the box further to the west. The Highway Supervisor discussed construction difficulties involved with either relocation or use of current location. The Commissioners agreed that the box should stay at the current location and that the County should cover the cost of change at the current location to fit the new box, with a maximum cost of \$2,500.

RE: NON-PERMANENT SIGNS

Lisa Niehaus appeared to object to the placement of signs on public right-of-way or on utility poles without consent. The County Attorney was requested to review the statutes in this matter.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Megan Durlauf, Director of Community Corrections, appeared to discuss several matters which she has observed at the Department. She stated that a number of employees forfeited unused vacation hours at the end of the 2016 calendar year because of required hours of service needed within the Department. This forfeiture rule is according to County policy applicable to all Departments. The advantages and disadvantages of granting a special exception were discussed. Discussion was held as to whether the employees were ordered to work extra hours, whether there was internal pressure or whether the employee felt moral obligation. The Commissioners

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were of the opinion that each Department has such problems and all must meet the same rule, which is a reasonable rule.

Director Durlauf requested a facility improvement that would create 2 offices out of an existing work and storage space. This is necessary due to an increase in the number of Department personnel and would come at an estimated cost of \$4,875 with corrections personnel providing most of the labor. The proposal was to request \$5,000 additional appropriation. On motion duly made and seconded, the request was approved, subject to approval of funding by the County Council.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Equipment Rotation – Subject to Council funding, bids are set for April 17 for rotation and replacement. Budget contains funding to replace District #2 pickup which needs replacement and request is made to obtain quotes. The current truck is a 2002 model with over 200,000 miles. On motion made and seconded, the Supervisor was requested to obtain quotes.

Kurt Schurz County Road 825 West – Supervisor reported that one additional property owner is needed on right-of-way dedication before project can proceed.

Sanitation Sticker Order – received quotes from three suppliers. The low quote was \$5,265 from Waste Zero, who has previously furnished satisfactory product. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized the purchase from Waste Zero.

2017 Paving Discussion – Supervisor submitted a plan in process for this year's paving projects. Funding of the proposed projects, including Community Crossing grants, was discussed. The desire to maximize use of the Community Crossing grant was discussed, but the legislative requirements for this receipt are currently not established.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Highway Engineer Wendholt submitted his report regarding the current status of engineering projects:

State Road 161 Repaving – State will repave State Road 161 and INDOT is requesting information as to highest use detour route using County roads. Department is of the opinion that County Road 750 S and Old State Road 64 will have greatest impact. On motion made and seconded, agreement with INDOT was approved.

Countywide Bridge Inspection – All proposals for consultants have been graded and American Structure Point appears to have best score. On motion made and seconded, Commissioners approved selection and submission to INDOT for approval.

Bridge 162 (County Road 850 South) Duckville Area – Bridge in Duckville area is scheduled for replacement and quotes for steel required have been requested.

Neukam Street – Town of Dubois – Request has been made for repaving; Department and Attorney are researching right-of-way question regarding the street and a nearby adjacent roadway.

RE: CLAIMS

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved payment of the pending claims as submitted by the Auditor.

RE: RESOLUTION 2017-01 – WARRICK COUNTY SURPLUS ITEMS

The Auditor informed the Commissioners that she has been advised that Warrick County Courthouse has excess filing cabinets which are surplus and unneeded by the County and are offered for free to Dubois County, with Dubois County to transport. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners agreed to accept the

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cabinets and adopted the following Resolution 2017-01, on a motion made and seconded. The Cabinets are needed by the Dubois Sheriff's Department.

*A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DUBOIS COUNTY, INDIANA, ACCEPTING
THE DONATION OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY*

See Exhibit A

RE: COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE – SURPLUS ITEMS

The Auditor advised the Commissioners that the County Extension Office is cleaning its office space and had determined that a number of older items are outdated, not used and are of questionable usability. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners declared those items on the list of items as surplus and of no value to the County, and the Extension Office was authorized to dispose of said items.

RE: NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER PROCLAMATION

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners granted permission for use of the Courthouse lawn and porch for National Day of Prayer, proceedings on May 4, 2017, and adopted the following Proclamation:

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

See Exhibit B

RE: EMPLOYEE DRUG SCREEN

Currently Department heads are to evaluate returning employees and determining whether to require a drug screening. After discussion, the Commissioners determined that former County employees who have terminated employment may return to employment within 18 months of termination without taking a new drug screen.

RE: JOSH MCBRIDE

The Commissioners were informed Josh McBride of Birdseye plans to use the Courthouse lawn on March 29th and April 14th, 2017 for the holding of a demonstration. The Commissioners do not object as long as County property not be damaged and the applicant hold the County harmless from any liability, claim, loss, damage or expense resulting from applicants use.

RE: FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Commissioner Brames suggested that the Commissioners designate a lead person for a Facilities Committee, as previously discussed with the lead person to organize such a committee. A comment was made that a meeting of County offices and interested public might be held to determine long range needs and goals. Randy Warman, of American Structurepoint, who attended the meeting as a member of the public, volunteered to furnish information and guidelines to help the Commissioners in their work on future facility planning. The Commissioners agreed to review the data, which should be prepared for the next Commissioners meeting.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The Commissioners' will meet on Monday, April 3, 2017, and Monday, April 17, 2017, in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse Annex, beginning at 8:00 a.m.