

SECOND REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JANUARY 19, 2021

The second regular meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:45 a.m. (EST) on January 19, 2021. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger and Nick Hostetter. Elmer Brames was present by teleconference. Also present were County Auditor Sandra L. Morton, Highway Supervisor Steven L. Berg, Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt and County Attorney Gregory S. Schnarr. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Blessinger.

Minutes of the January 4, 2021 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. Claims against the County were examined and those found to be just, due and owing were allowed and those found to be not due and owing were disallowed, all as more fully set forth in the Claims and Allowance Docket of the County.

RE: JEAN DAYS FOR CHARITY

Human Resource Generalist J. Markie Rhodes requested permission for employees to donate \$20 to wear jeans on Fridays during 2021. The money collected will be donated to local charities. Permission was granted.

RE: RECORDER YEAR END REPORT

Commissioner Blessinger presented a 2020 year-end report from the Recorder's office.

RE: NORTHEAST DUBOIS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The 2020 Annual Report for the Northeast Dubois Fire Protection District was received and will be filed in the Auditor's office.

RE: WHITE STALLION BANKRUPTCY

County Attorney Greg Schnarr provided a brief update on the status of the White Stallion Bankruptcy.

RE: COURTHOUSE USE AGREEMENT

The current Courthouse Use Agreement was reviewed. No changes were made.

RE: ROAD IMPROVEMENT PETITION – 850 West

Lee Bilderback, Junior Voegerl and Billie Jo Voegerl appeared to present a petition for the upgrade to a one mile section of County Road 850 West in Cass Township between 900 S and 1000 S. The Petition will be evaluated and placed on the road improvement list and completed when funding becomes available.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Highway Supervisor Steve Berg presented the following report of Highway projects:

2021 Hourly Equipment Rates – A list of the 2021 equipment rates was presented for approval. A motion was made to approve the list, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Disposition of Equipment – a NAPA ½" pneumatic impact wrench and a Sharp adding machine are no longer functioning. Berg requested permission to dispose of the items. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Highway Assistant Clerk Retirement – Assistant Clerk Wanda Beck will be retiring on April 9, 2021. Berg requested permission to hire a replacement in March for training purposes. A motion was made to support the request pending funding approval from the County Council, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Equipment Replacement – The 1991 CAT asphalt roller compactor has broken down and needs major repairs. Two good used units have been located and Berg is working on obtaining the best deal. No funds were budgeted for equipment in the 2021 budget. A transfer of appropriation will be needed from Highway Restricted Gas, Oil Diesel Supplies to Equipment Capital Outlay in the amount of \$40,000. A motion was made to approve the transfer pending County Council approval, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt presented the following report of Highway projects:

City of Jasper Courthouse Square Revitalization – Wendholt attended a meeting at the City of Jasper on the Courthouse Square Revitalization project. Evening and weekend use of the Courthouse bathrooms was in

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question. Approximately \$50,000 could be available to upgrade and secure the bathrooms. A discussion was held. It was the consensus to obtain more information.

2021 Community Crossing Applications – Seven roads are scheduled to be submitted on the Community Crossing Grant Application. The roads will be divided into two different applications instead of submitting them in separate applications:

Application 1 – Northern Portion of County

- a. Jasper Dubois Road (from State Road 164 to CR 325 E) – estimated cost \$497,418.31
- b. Division Road (from Jasper City Limits to 400 feet West of Stewart Road) – estimated cost \$196,191.56
- c. 575 East (from State Road 56 to 4000 feet South of CR 900 N) – estimated cost \$143,881.66

Application 2 – Southern Portion of County

- a. 900 S (from Holland Town limits to Pike County line) – estimated cost \$167,158.23
- b. 100 W (from CR 925 S to CR 1100 S) – estimated cost \$200,333.82
- c. 1000 S (from CR 100 W to CR 200 W) – estimated cost \$108,173.51
- d. 1075 S (from CR 720 W to Warrick County line) – estimated cost \$161,606.50

A motion was made to approve submitting the two applications with the President's signature, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Bridge 143 – The north wall has been completed and the south wall footer has been poured. The project is progressing.

RE: SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL

Coordinator Jenna Bieker presented the Dubois County Comprehensive Community Plan for 2021. Available funds for 2021 will be \$34,660.12 and will be appropriated at the next County Council meeting. A motion to support the appropriation request was made, duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: EMPLOYEE DISCUSSION

It has come to the Commissioners' attention that in one department, employee hours were adjusted by allowing employees to go home early on the days leading up to the Christmas holiday. This situation has been addressed, payroll was adjusted to reflect the hours worked by employees, and the appropriate reprimand will be issued and recorded.

The Commissioners would like to remind everyone to always follow the guidelines of the Dubois County Employee Handbook and that any adjustment in employee work schedules must be approved by the Dubois County Board of Commissioners. A motion was made to approve the action, was duly seconded and carried 2-1. Blessinger was the dissenting vote.

RE: RESOLUTION 2021-01

The Patoka Lake Regional Water and Sewer District paid the final loan and interest payment to the County on December 22, 2020. A Joint Resolution regarding the Lending of Funds and a Loan Agreement with the Patoka Lake Regional Water and Sewer District was presented. A motion was made to approve the Resolution, was duly seconded and carried unanimously. The Resolution will be presented for approval at the County Council meeting on January 25, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE LENDING
OF FUNDS AND A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH
THE PATOKA LAKE REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Patoka Lake Regional Water and Sewer District (the "District") and Dubois County, State of Indiana (the "County") entered into a Loan Agreement (the "Agreement") dated April 26, 2000 for a District sewage works project to serve the unincorporated areas of Celestine, Schnellville, Bretzville, St. Anthony, and St. Marks (the "Project"); and

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WHEREAS, the District was in need of a short term loan to pay for costs associated with the Project; and

WHEREAS, the County Council of the County, at its meeting held on August 10, 1998, approved making a loan to the District and set forth parameters for the loan to the District; and

WHEREAS, the loan to the District was to be evidenced by a revenue bond of the District; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Dubois County and the County Council of Dubois County, Indiana authorized a loan to the District in the aggregate amount of One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) for the Project, with interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum; and

WHEREAS, the District made its final payment obligation under the Agreement to the County on December 22, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DUBOIS COUNTY AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DUBOIS COUNTY as follows:

- Section 1. The County satisfied its obligations under the terms of the Agreement.
- Section 2. The District has satisfied its obligations under the terms of the Agreement.
- Section 3. The County hereby terminates the Agreement and releases the District from liability and responsibility thereunder.
- Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption by the Board of County Commissioners of Dubois County, Indiana, and its approval by the Dubois County Council.

DULY ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 19th day of January, 2021 by the Board of Commissioners of Dubois County, Indiana.

RE: TAX DEED PETITION

County Attorney Schnarr provided an update on the tax sale property 19-10-35-100-005.000-013 located on State Road 64 as discussed in December 2020. The property did not sell at the tax sale, owners of title have been notified, and the period of redemption has passed. A petition will be filed with the Dubois Circuit Court for issuance of a tax deed. A motion was made to allow the Commissioner President the authorization to sign all documents necessary to proceed. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: HIGHWAY VEHICLE TITLE

County Attorney Schnarr has been working with the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the State of Washington Department of Transportation to obtain a title for the 2001 International 4900 purchased by the Highway Department in April 2020. Currently the matter will be taken to the Dubois County Circuit Court for a court order to issue a title to the Dubois County Commissioners. A motion was made to give the Commissioner President approval to sign necessary documents, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: DUBOIS COUNTY PARK

County Attorney Schnarr provided an update on the eligibility for a public roadway in the Dubois County Park. The preparation of a deed with preservation encumbrances was also discussed.

RE: HEALTH COVID VACCINATION CLINIC

Administrative Director Shawn Werner provided information on the need to hire temporary help to assist with vaccination clinics beginning very soon. Werner estimates he will need between 40 – 60 temporary workers, both nurses and administration clerks. He currently has grant funds available until June 2021. A motion was made to approve hiring as many temporary staff as necessary under the constraints of the grant funding. The motion was duly seconded and

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carried unanimously. The issue will be presented to the County Council on January 25, 2021. A motion was made to waive the pre-employment drug screens for the temporary clinic staff, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: RECORDER'S OFFICE

Custodian Scott Hopf presented plans to build a room in the Recorder's office middle room at an estimated cost of \$4,200 excluding mechanical, electrical and plumbing. A motion was made to approve the request using the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: MEETING DECORUM

Commissioner Blessinger discussed possible changes to the meeting decorum policy. The County Attorney is preparing a Resolution with suggested changes. A discussion was held on the meeting sign-up sheet.

RE: COMPLAINT

Angela Leinenbach Vogler appeared to discuss a complaint she had with a correction officer not assisting her near her residence.

RE: TELECOMCARE AGREEMENT

Auditor Morton presented a TelecomCare Agreement with Matrix Integration. The current agreement expires on March 31, 2021. Following discussion, the item will be brought to the next meeting. Auditor Morton will have a representative from Matrix attend.

RE: COUNTY CREDIT CARD

Commissioner Blessinger would like to review the current County credit card policy. A discussion was held. The item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.