

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners / Council Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:00 a.m. (EST) on February 1, 2021. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger and Nick Hostetter. Elmer Brames was present via 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 19, 2021 meeting of the Commissioners had been previously distributed to the Commissioners and were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of January 2021 were as follows: Recorder \$25,467.56; Health Department \$22,185.82; Auditor \$50.00; Clerk \$32,640.55. 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: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Assistant Clerk Interviews – Applications will be accepted through February 5, interviews are scheduled for February 11, and following successful completion of preemployment screening, the goal is to have someone start on Monday, March 8, 2021.

Proposed Paving Plan for 2021 – An overview of the plan was distributed and discussed.

Dixie Lane Paving Request – This road is in St. Anthony and has been accepted into the County Inventory. Currently a cash bond is being held for chip seal paving. The road meets all standards for paving under the Sub-division Ordinance. Berg recommends using the cash bond to prepare to pave the road.

650 South and 625 West Road Petitions – Two road petitions were presented for paving in Cass Township. A motion was made to approve placing the petitions on the evaluated road improvement list, 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 Revitalization – A meeting was held with the City of Jasper on the extended use of the Courthouse basement bathrooms during public events held on the Courthouse Square.

Discussion was held and will be addressed at the next meeting.

2021 Community Crossings Applications – The two applications were submitted on Monday, January 25, 2021.

Bridge 143 Replacement – The south wall is being formed for the last lift of concrete.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT

A motion was made to appoint Alex P. Hohl to the Dubois County Community Correction Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of Jerry Hunefeld. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: EMERGENCY DECLARATION EXTENSION

A Declaration to extend the current Commissioners' Emergency Declarations dated March 17, 2020; March 23, 2020; April 6, 2020; May 4, 2020; June 1, 2020; June 15, 2020; July 6, 2020; August 3, 2020; August 17, 2020; September 8, 2020; October 5, 2020; November 2, 2020; December 7, 2020; January 4, 2021 was presented to remain in effect at this time and will expire on March 1, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET, but its effectiveness may be shortened or extended by act of the Commissioners. A motion was made to approve the Extension, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

DUBOIS COUNTY, IN

Local Disaster Emergency Declaration Extension

WHEREAS, the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe respiratory illness that has rapidly spread to more than 60 countries in the world, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb issued Executive Order 20-02, declaring a public health emergency for the coronavirus disease, and has issued subsequent Executive Orders related thereto; and

WHEREAS, in response to the outbreak, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) determined that COVID-19 presents a serious health threat and currently recommends community preparedness and everyday prevention measures be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, coughs and fever, and home quarantine when they may have been exposed to a communicable disease from those who are healthy in order to STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order requires coordination across federal, state and local governments, first responders, private organizations and the entire healthcare structure in Indiana and activates the disaster response and recovery aspects of the state, local and interjurisdictional emergency plans of all counties in Indiana; and

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NOW, therefore, we, the Dubois County Board of Commissioners, declare that a local disaster emergency continues to exist in the County and that we hereby invoke and declare those portions of the Indiana Code which are applicable to the conditions and have caused the issuance of this proclamation, to be in full force and effect in the County for the exercise of all necessary emergency authority for protection of the lives and property of the people of this County.

Reference is hereby made to all appropriate laws, statutes, ordinances, and resolutions and particularly to Indiana Code 10-14-3-29 (formerly Indiana Code 10-4-1-23).

All public offices and employees of Dubois County are hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties required of them for the duration of the emergency and in execution of laws, regulations, and directives—state and local.

All citizens are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and disaster services, in executing emergency operation plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.

The Dubois County Health Officer is authorized to issue orders to forbid public gatherings and implement other measures when considered necessary to prevent or minimize the spreading of the COVID-19.

The Commissioners may make, amend and rescind orders, rules and regulations necessary for emergency management purposes and to supplement carrying out the emergency management laws that are not inconsistent with orders, rules or regulations adopted by the governor or by a state agency exercising a power delegated to it by the governor, the emergency management program and emergency operation plan of Dubois County, and any such orders, rules and regulations have the full force and effect of law when filed in the office of the Clerk of Dubois County.

This declaration is an extension of the Commissioners' March 17, 2020 Declaration, March 23, 2020 Declaration, April 6, 2020 Declaration, May 4, 2020 Declaration, June 1, 2020 Declaration, June 15, 2020 Declaration, July 6, 2020 Declaration, August 3, 2020 Declaration, August 17, 2020 Declaration, September 8, 2020 Declaration, October 5, 2020 Declaration, November 2, 2020 Declaration, December 7, 2020 Declaration, January 4, 2021 Declaration, and in conjunction with the Governor's Executive Orders 20-02, 20-17, 20-25, 20-30, 20-34, 20-38, 20-41, 20-44, 20-47, 20-49, 20-52 continues to be in effect at this time and will expire on February 1, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET, but its effectiveness may be shortened or extended by act of the Commissioners.

In witness, whereof, we have hereunto set our hand as of the 1st day of February, 2021.

RE: CREDIT CARD POLICY

The current County Credit Card Policy was reviewed. No changes were made.

RE: SURPLUS ITEMS

Auditor Morton presented a list of obsolete items to be declared surplus.

Coroner – A motion was made to approve the list of items, was duly seconded and carried unanimously. The items will be destroyed.

Recorder/Clerk/Lunchroom/ Probation/911 – A motion was made to approve all items listed with exception of the researcher table, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: PARK DEED

County Attorney Schnarr presented a warranty deed for the Dubois County Park with conservation restriction language included. A motion was made to approve the warranty deed as presented, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Director Megan Durlauf presented the 2020 Annual Report for the Community Corrections program.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LILLY GIFT VII

The Dubois County Community Foundation was awarded a Large-Scale Community Leadership Grant of \$4.4 million through the seventh phase of Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT VII) initiative. The grant will support efforts to significantly improve access to services that address mental health and substance abuse disorders in Dubois County and the surrounding region. Director Megan Durlauf reported that Community Corrections will receive \$499,319 over a five-year period. The proposed budget will be used to hire a Case Manager and Program Facilitator as well as provide treatment contractors and training. The County will need to invest in the program after the first year and take over the funding entirely in the sixth year. The staff positions were previously created using TANF funds which no longer exists and will remain in place for this Grant.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS - CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Community Corrections was awarded federal grant funds from the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute in the amount of \$95,403.98. Director Durlauf will be accepting competitive bidding on projects and will be bringing to future meetings for approval.

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RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

Mary Austin, Clark Dietz, provided an update on the Regional Sewer District process. An Application for Regionalization Assistance Program was presented. A motion was made to approve the Application, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: MATRIX TELECOMCARE AGREEMENT

Ron Betz, Matrix Integration, was present via teleconference to discuss the TelecomCare Agreement. The previous agreement will expire on March 31, 2021. A discussion was held on the coverage and increase to the annual cost. A motion was made to approve the TelecomCare Agreement at a cost of \$13,890, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: BUSCHKOETTER ACRES

Corey Bettag, Cash Waggoner, presented the need for a Dedicated Right of Way for Buschkoetter Acres in Bainbridge Township. A motion was made to accept the dedication, was duly seconded and carried 2-0. Commissioner Blessinger abstained due to a conflict of interest.

RE: MEETING DECORUM

Options were discussed for meeting policies and procedures to protect decorum and foster the effective administration of public meetings. The Commissioners and County Council will review and adopt policies at future meetings.

RE: HISTORICAL CABINETS PLACARD

A request was received to place a donation placard on the historical cabinets in the Courthouse. Consensus was to proceed.

RE: VACATION TIME CARRY OVER

EMA Director Tammy Humbert and Health Administrator Shawn Werner requested a payout of the unused 2020 vacation time. A motion was made to approve the payout pending funding by the County Council or to use a comp time budget line item if available. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: COVID-19

Administrative Director Werner provided an update on the COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

RE: EXEMPT STATUS WORKERS

Human Resources Generalist Markie Rhodes presented a change to the exempt status workers' compensation during a federal or state emergency when additional hours are required. A discussion ensued.

RE: INDIANA MUNICIPAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION DUES

County Attorney Schnarr requested permission to join the Indiana Municipal Lawyers Association. Dues are \$85 per year. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE

HR Director Markie Rhodes and Auditor Morton met with Mark Shrack, Angie Pfaff and Nancy Wilson, of Cainstone, to review the increased costs of the County Health Insurance program when the reports indicated decreased costs per employee for the plan year ending October 31, 2020.

RE: JUSTICE PROJECT

Commissioner Blessinger provided an update on the Justice Project.

RE: FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Blessinger met with Matthew Stechly of CORE Facilities, Inc. which is a national Commercial Real Estate services firm specializing in the disciplines of Facility Management, Project Management, and Consulting. Mr. Stechly provided information on Facility Management for the County Buildings. More information will be gathered.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 16, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.

Chad A. Blessinger

Nick Hostetter

Elmer Brames

Attest: _____
Sandra L. Morton, Auditor