

SECOND REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APRIL 20, 2020

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 8:00 a.m. (EST) on April 20, 2020. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger and Nick Hostetter. Commissioner 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. The meeting was also streamed live on the Dubois County Government Facebook page.

Minutes of the April 6, 2020 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. Claims disallowed were parking tickets for the jury members at a cost of \$120.00.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Additional Appropriations – A request was made to appropriate funding in the Solid Waste Sticker Fund for dumpster sites in the amount of \$25,000 and for highway reimbursement of \$20,000. Also requested was an additional appropriation in the Highway MVH Funds in the amount of \$10,000 for computer equipment, rental and maintenance. A motion was made to approve the requests pending County Council approval, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Solar Sources Progress – Nothing to report.

Road Paving Plan – Berg is hoping to receive information from LTAP on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 on the impacts of the COVID-19 on MVH funding.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Bridge #264 (Newton Street in Jasper City Limits) - An invoice from Butler Fairman Seufert was received in the amount of \$1,515.00. Wendholt reviewed the invoice and recommend it for approval. A motion was made to approve the expenditure, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Countywide Bridge Inspection - An invoice was received from American Structurepoint, Inc. in the amount of \$70,342.47. Wendholt reviewed the invoice and recommend it for approval. A motion was made to approve the expenditure, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Community Crossing Projects - Dubois County was fortunate enough to receive the full amount of \$1,000,000 in the Community Crossing Grant. This will fund four Paving Projects.

20-01 Schnellville Road & Town of Schnellville (From Santine Road to C.R. 820 East)

20-02 Cuzco Road South (From St. Rd. 545 to Purdue Farm Road)

20-03 Hickory Grove Road (From St. Rd. 56 to Martin County Line)

20-04 C.R. 100 West (2 Sections) (From Ferdinand Road NW to the Huntingburg C.C. Lake Dam) and (From C.R. 1200 South to Spencer County Line)

The total estimated work will be \$1,425,000.00. A transfer of \$450,000 from the LOIT Special Distribution Fund for the grant match will be requested from the County Council. Bids will be opened on June 1, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commissioners' Meeting. A motion was made to approve requesting the Additional Appropriation and Transfer from the County Council, was duly seconded and carried.

RE: ST. CHARLES STREET ANNEX GENERATOR

Custodian Scott Hopf is waiting to receive a second quote.

RE: COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE

Custodian Scott Hopf requested permission to install glass in the counter window openings of the Clerk and Recorder offices at a cost of \$1,650.00. A motion was made to approve the request and to use funding from the Rainy Day Emergency COVID-19 funding pending approval from the County Council. The motion was duly seconded and

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carried unanimously. Hopf was instructed to investigate options for the Auditor's and Treasurer's offices.

RE: AMBULANCE CONTENT INSURANCE

County Attorney Schnarr provided information from the County Insurance Agent on insuring the content of the ambulances under a separate policy. Ambulance Coordinator Suzan Henke, appearing via teleconference, will discuss these options with the hospital. Henke will research and return at a future meeting.

RE: JUSTICE PROJECT – PARCELS COMBINED

County Attorney Schnarr requested permission to combine three parcels at the Security Center / Community Corrections area into one parcel. The parcels are 19-06-35-400-002.000-002, 19-06-35-400-007.001-002, and 19-06-35-400-007.000-002. A motion was made to have the properties combined into one parcel, was duly seconded and carried.

RE: COMMISSIONER SALE OF TAX SALE PROPERTIES

Treasurer Kitty Merkley, in person, and Zach Hughes, via teleconference, appeared to update the Board on the possibility of changing from a live sale to an on-line sale for the sale scheduled on April 30, 2020 and extending the sale for three days. A motion was made to approve moving to an on-line sale beginning April 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and ending May 2, 2020 at noon. Payments will be due by noon on May 6, 2020. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Commissioner Brames extended a shout out to the health care workers in Dubois County for their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RE: COVID-19

Commissioner Blessinger opened discussion on phasing in the reopening of County business. Currently, Governor Holcomb has issued a May 1, 2020 date to begin reopening businesses. Emergency Management Director Tammy Humbert provided information on the status of current County health numbers. Commissioner Blessinger made a motion to have employees return to work on April 27, 2020. The motion died due to a lack of a second. Commissioner Hostetter then made a motion to have employees return to work on May 4, 2020 based on the Governor's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brames. A discussion was held. The motion did not pass 0-3.

A motion was made to have employees return to work on May 5, 2020 giving the department head discretion to have employees work from home if necessary. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: JUDGE MAGISTRATE

Commissioner Blessinger discussed SEA 256 signed by Governor Holcomb on new procedures to request a new court, magistrate or judge if Dubois County is considering the need for a third court.

RE: 2020 CENSUS

Commissioner Brames provided Census details for Dubois County.

RE: JUSTICE PROJECT

County Attorney Schnarr provided a timeline for the Justice Project and the establishment of a Building Corporation. Due to the uncertainty of future revenues, Commissioner Blessinger updated the priorities of the project being 1.) the Jail Pod, 2.) Community Corrections, and 3.) the Justice Center.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on May 4, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.