

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MAY 4, 2020

The 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 May 4, 2020. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger, Nick Hostetter and Elmer Brames. 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 April 20, 2020 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. Incomes for the month of April were as follows: Recorder \$27,485.99; Health Department \$12,191.64; Auditor \$50.00; Clerk \$15,737.00. 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. A claim for reimbursement of food, detergent, and paper products in the amount of \$45.68 was denied.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

MVH and LRS Estimated Revenue Projection – Following information from LTAP, lower revenues will be expected due to reduced traffic counts. Many different factors will likely affect this prediction such as a better than expected economic recovery and decrease of the COVID impact or a slower than expected economic and pandemic recovery or even a potential return of COVID later in the fall. A decline in Surtax/Wheeltax is not expected as those collections should not be as affected. New revenue estimates show an approximate reduction of \$450,000.

Road Paving Plan – With the revenue projections in mind, a proposal for paving was presented. Since it appears the revenue receipts are approximately 60 days behind collections, it may be likely that the true impact will not be seen until much later in the year. Some roads have the base repair and have been prepped for chip seal paving with others yet to do. Berg proposed continuing to move in the direction of repairing the balance of what is yet to do to improve these roads and commit to the chip seal paving of CR 800 West to complete that project. Berg requested an Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$150,000 in the MVH Restricted Bituminous line item. A motion was made to approve the request pending County Council approval. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

County Road 800 West – The river bottoms in this area became flooded on February 10 and were flooded with a combination of heavy flows and backwater everyday through April 9. What was left was a road void of any material outside of the dirt under the gravel which was washed away. This poses a concern regarding any pavement on these areas where the asphalt would be washed away as well. Berg also discussed not paving a portion of CR 800 West. The Commissioners decided to pave all of CR 800 West leaving no section rock only. Berg proposed holding off on any other blacktop projects outside of those committed to by Community Crossings until a more defined assessment can be made.

Solar Sources Progress – Nothing to report.

Part-Time Summer Help – Two part-time summer positions will be hired. Roadside spraying for vegetation control will begin as soon as practical.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Bridge #264 (Newton Street in Jasper City Limits) - Quotes are due in today and will be opened and read aloud at 9 am.

Countywide Bridge Inspection - an invoice from American Structurepoint, Inc. in the amount of \$24,314.25 was received. The invoice was reviewed and recommended for approval. A motion was made to approve the invoice, was duly seconded and carried.

Community Crossing Projects - The contracts for Community Crossings Grant between the State of Indiana and Dubois County for the 4 projects have been received and reviewed. A motion to approve the contracts was made, duly seconded, and approved.

RE: COUNTY LAND 50E

A citizen questioned if the County would be interested in selling a parcel of land on County Road 50E. Following discussion, there was no interest in selling the property.

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RE: RESOLUTION 2020-05 – RESTRICTED ADDRESSES POLICY

Due to an amendment in the State statute, Resolution 2020-05 a Resolution Adopting Restricted Addresses Policy was presented to amend the previous unnumbered County Resolution from December 21, 2015. A motion was made to approve the Resolution, was duly seconded and carried.

See Exhibit A – Resolution 2020-05

RE: BIDS FOR BRIDGE 264

It being the advertised time to receive bids for Bridge 264, the following bids were received:

C & B Paving	\$122,150.00	
CLR, Inc.	\$107,430.00	
LAN	\$ 81,771.00	Incomplete Bid

The bids were taken under advisement and will be awarded at the next meeting.

RE: ROADWAY DEDICATION – EGG’S FIRST ADDITION

County Attorney Greg Schnarr, representing Phil Buehler of Brosmer Land Surveying, presented information on Egg’s First Addition and the dedication of road right-of-way located in Patoka Township. A motion was made to approve Egg’s First addition as presented, was duly seconded and carried.

RE: ST. CHARLES STREET ANNEX GENERATOR

Custodian Scott Hopf presented a second quote to replace the generator at the St. Charles Annex. The quote was received from Weyer Electric for \$39,977 for labor & materials. The previous quote from Varitech, Inc. was for \$48,335. A motion was made to approve the quote from Weyer Electric pending funding approval by the County Council. The motion was seconded and carried.

RE: OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Custodian Hopf requested permission to get rid of a pressure washer that is not functioning. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried.

RE: VETERANS MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Auditor Morton and Custodian Hopf, representing the Dubois County Veteran’s Council, provided information on proposed changes to the Veterans’ Memorial Day Service normally held on Memorial Day weekend. Due to COVID-19, the Veteran’s Council will not be holding the ceremony on the Courthouse lawn but are requesting the flags be placed around the fountain and the main flag be placed at half-staff. They are requesting permission for the public to place flowers at the memorial. A motion was made to approve the request, was duly seconded and carried.

RE: RESOLUTION 2020-06 – ELECTION VOTING SITES

Clerk Amy Kippenbrock presented Resolution 2020-06 – A Resolution Designating Polls for Election. Due to the COVID-19 testing site being held at the National Guard Armory, the polls for Bainbridge 2E, 2W, 3E and 3W will be moved to the Charles F Habig Community Center in Jasper. A motion was made to approve the Resolution, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

See Exhibit B - Resolution 2020-06

RE: UNIVERSAL APPRAISAL CONTRACT

Auditor Morton presented the Contracts for Universal Appraisals to provide appraisal and valuations of County buildings and personal property for insurance purposes. A site visit will be conducted at the County Highway Department. Due to COVID-19, the Security Center and Community Corrections will not be visited in 2020. The costs of the reviews are as follows:

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Highway Site Visit – not to exceed \$1,170, plus expenses incurred as part of the site visit.
Building Update – \$475.00
Personal Property Update – \$395.00

A motion was made to approve the contracts and for the Auditor to sign the documents, was seconded and carried.

RE: CONGRESSIONAL SCHOOL REPORT

Auditor Morton presented the Annual Report of the Board of Commissioners of Dubois County to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The report was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the report, was seconded, and carried unanimously.

RE: JURY PARKING TICKETS

Auditor Morton provided an update on the denied jury parking tickets claim from the previous meeting. Court Order 19C01-2004-CB-000022 was issued ordering the payment of the parking violations claims. Commissioner Blessinger is researching other possible parking options.

RE: MID STATE CORRIDOR

Commissioner Blessinger reported on information he received about the Mid State Corridor to identify historical and archaeological properties along the proposed routes. Blessinger serves on a consulting group and encouraged the public to contact the Lochmueller Group to express their comments and concerns.

RE: COVID-19 UPDATE

Commissioner Blessinger reported on a committee that was formed to provide guidance and best practices on the re-opening of Dubois County following Indiana Governor Holcomb's five phase plan to reopen the State issued on May 1, 2020.

Employees will return to work on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 and the doors will be open to the public on May 11, 2020. If there are reasons for employees to work from home – administrative decisions will be made by the Commissioners. Department heads should contact Commissioner Blessinger with the reasons and a decision will be made at that time. A discussion was held on whether to require the public and staff to wear masks in county facilities. Enforcement of social distancing was also discussed. Door signs will be posted at all county facilities.

RE: LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION EXTENSION

An amended Local Disaster Emergency Declaration was presented to extend the Emergency Declaration approved on March 17, 2020, March 23, 2020, and April 6, 2020. A motion was made to approve the Extension, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

See Exhibit C – Local Disaster Emergency Declaration Extension

RE: COMMISSIONERS' CERTIFICATE SALE

The Commissioners' Certificate Sale was held from April 30 – May 2, 2020. SRI held the online sale. Twenty-three parcels sold for a total of \$810.

RE: JUSTICE PROJECT

Commissioner Blessinger provided an update on the progress of the architect design phases.

RE: BIKE & PEDESTRIAN TRAIL GRANT

Commissioner Brames provided the information on the Bike and Pedestrian Trail Grant which had been awarded and required a \$20,000 local match. If the matching funds cannot be found at this time, the grant may be returned.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on May 18, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.