

SECOND REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 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 July 20, 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 and County Attorney Gregory S. Schnarr. Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt was absent. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Blessinger.

Minutes of the July 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.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Right of Way Dedication and Petition for Paving: The petitions for CR 650 South and CR 625 W, both in Cass Township, are still being modified.

Part Time Help for Sanitation – Interviews have not been conducted yet.

Retirement of Highway Staff Members – District #3 Excavator Operator Ron Leistner and District #3 Driver Terry Kemper have given notification on their plans to retire on August 31, 2020. There is 61 years of services between them.

Excavator Operator Replacement – Due to Leistner's pending retirement, the job opening was posted in the Department. Following interviews, Nick Kerstiens was promoted to District #3 Excavator Operator and will begin the duties on August 31, 2020.

District #3 Driver Replacement – The position remains open. Interviews will be held the first week in August.

Renewal of Expiring Road Usage Agreements – The Road Usage Agreements for Solar Sources where they mined through CR 700 W both north and south of CR 580 N are expiring and must be renewed. The road has been put back and is currently being used by the mine as an internal coal haul route. All bonds are still in place however a new signed agreement must be put into place.

Equipment Issues – The replacement of the boom mower is essential to the Department's operations. Quotes and options were received from three places. Following demonstrations of the various units, the best option was the Massey Ferguson tractor with a Diamond boom mower from Boyd CAT of Louisville. The unit cost with a trade of the 2010 John Deere tractor and two 2015 bush hog mowers is \$95,825. A motion was made to approve the purchase, was seconded, and carried unanimously.

Distressed Road Fund Annual Statement – The annual statement for the Distressed Road Loan from August 14, 2019 to August 13, 2020 was presented for approval. The current balance is \$740,269.22. A motion was made to approve the report, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Transfer of Appropriations – A request to transfer funds in the Solid Waste fund from Gas, Oil & Lube in the amount of \$10,000 to the Highway Reimbursement line item to cover the final costs of the Ferdinand site improvements and the staff working at the sites. A motion was made to approve the transfer request, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

IACHES Summer Conference – Berg requested permission for the County Engineer and himself to attend the Summer Conference. Permission was granted.

Lee Bilderback Request – A letter was received for his road to be paved. A sample dedication form was sent to assist him.

Chip Seal Overlays and Repair – The crew is running on schedule.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Highway Supervisor Steve Berg presented the following report of Highway projects in the absence of County Engineer Brent Wendholt:

Celestine Road Petition – A brief discussion was held. The petition will be brought to the next meeting.

RE: COUNTY ROAD 750 W ROAD USAGE AGREEMENT

Ed Hartzburge, Solar Sources Mining, LLC, and Alex Messamore, White Stallion Energy appeared with Highway Supervisor Steve Berg with the Road Usage Agreement for 750 W. Per the agreement, Solar Sources may mine through 750 W but must reopen the road one year from the Agreement date of Sept. 15, 2020. A motion was made to approve

the Road Usage Agreement, and duly seconded. The motion carried following a vote of 2-1 with Blessinger being the dissenting vote.

RE: REPUBLIC TRANSMISSION MYRT RELEASE OF CLAIMS

Shawn Mock, MYRT - Republic Transmission, appeared to request release of claims for the Duff to Coleman Electric Transmission Lines but the road bond will remain in place for one year. A motion was made to approve the release with the addition of verbiage for the bond to remain in place for one year. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Mock will work with the County Attorney to correct the Release information.

RE: COVID-19 TEMPORARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PART TIME HELP

Interim Administrative Director Shawn Werner requested the creation of temporary part time position to assist with the COVID-19 issues at the Health Department. CARES Act funding can be used. A motion was made to approve a temporary position, ending December 31, 2020, with a job classification of COMOT III. The position may work up to 35 hours per week and may be filled with numerous people. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously pending funding by the County Council.

RE: RELAY FOR LIFE

Diana Hostetter O'Keefe requested permission to use the Courthouse lawn on September 26, 2020 for the Relay for Life Luminaria Ceremony. The committee would like to place luminaria bags around the lawn and have the public drive by from 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. A motion was made to approve the request to use the facility on September 26 from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. The County has the right to rescind the approval should the COVID-19 pandemic pose issues. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. O'Keefe will contact the Custodian for use of the Courthouse restrooms.

RE: ROADWAY SAFETY

Russ Friedman requested the Commissioners educate the public on Resolution 2019-03 - The Dubois County Public Way Safety Resolution which states any person who drops, discharges or permits to be dropped or thrown upon any roadway or thoroughfare within the jurisdiction of Dubois County, any destructive or injurious material, including but not limited to litter, garbage, trash, debris, leaves, grass clippings or any other vegetation, shall remove the same.

RE: TREASURER'S OFFICE REQUESTS

Treasurer Cathy L. Merkley requested permission to receive quotes for a payment Kiosk to be placed in the Courthouse Annex building. Consensus was to have the Treasurer get quotes and return with information.

A second request was made to change the entrance of the Treasurer's office to a window versus doors for security reasons. Consensus was to gather information and bring to a future meeting. Coordination of changing the Auditor's office will be researched as well.

RE: TEMPERATURE KIOSKS

Scott Horney, Hoosier Business Machines, presented the IN-VID temperature verification kiosk program which can be purchased using funds from the CARES Act at a cost of \$2,495. The pedestal mount costs \$425 each and the desk mount costs \$175. A discussion was held on the program and various department needs. A motion was made to purchase three units and was duly seconded. Following a vote, the motion was denied 1-2 with Blessinger and Hostetter being the dissenting votes. A new motion was made to purchase two units with pedestal stands, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: COURTHOUSE DOORS

Custodian Scott Hopf requested permission to replace the Courthouse doors on all four sides. The current wooden doors can no longer be repaired due to age and weathering. The Custodian reached out to several businesses,

but no one was interested in quoting except Keusch Glass, Inc., at a cost of \$53,720. A motion was made to approve the request pending County Council approval of the funds. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

Samantha Chumbley and Jacqueline Bezy from Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center presented the Employee CORE Wellness Program for 2021 at a cost of \$20,234. A motion was made to approve the program, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN CHANGES

Angie Pfaff, Cairnstone, presented the removal of the Cares Engine program which will save approximately \$10,000 annually. Currently the cost is \$4.12 per employee per month and was only used for a few people. A motion was made to approve the removal, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on possible plan changes to encourage employees to participate in the wellness programs. Pfaff and Mark Shrack will present possible plan changes to deductibles, out of pocket expenses and/or employee premiums at a future meeting.

RE: BIS DIGITAL

Michael Morin, Account Manager, presented information on the DCR2 comprehensive recording solution for meeting management. Morin was directed to prepare a proposal with video and audio live streaming as well as meeting minute preparation. The proposal will be presented at a future meeting.

RE: OBSOLETE ITEMS

Auditor Morton presented items to be declared surplus from the Human Resources Department – two printers and a copier. A motion was made to declare the items surplus, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Auditor Morton presented items to be declared surplus from the 911 Communications Department – a personal computer and a DTN unit. A motion was made to declare the items surplus, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

RE: COUNTY NETWORK SERVERS

Auditor Morton presented a Professional Services Engagement Proposal for the Data Server to be replaced at a cost of \$72,590.30. Pending Contract approval by the County Attorney, a motion was made to approve the server refresh, was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Auditor Morton also provided information on the replacement of computers in the Clerk and Assessor's offices.

RE: DUBOIS COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL

Auditor Morton informed the members that the County Comprehensive Plan for the Substance Abuse Council has been approved by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

RE: NPO LITIGATION

The County is not participating in the National Prescription Opiate Litigation case.

RE: COVID-19 FACEMASK MANDATE

Due to the spread and increase in positive cases in Dubois County, a Joint Proclamation was issued on Friday, July 17, 2020, by the Mayors of Jasper and Huntingburg, Town Board Presidents of Ferdinand, Birdseye and Holland and County Commissioner President Blessinger. The Proclamation recommends and encourages the citizens to wear a face covering when interacting with others outside the home, especially in indoor settings. A face mask should cover the mouth and nose to prevent inadvertently spreading COVID-19. Exceptions were set forth. The Proclamation remains effective until the expiration or termination of the Governor's declaration of public health emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Interim Health Administrative Director Shawn Werner, EMA Director Tammy Humbert, Huntingburg Mayor Denny Spinner, Jasper Mayor Vonderheide, Jasper Chamber of Commerce Director Nancy Eckerle presented information to support the need to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by mandating the use of face masks Countywide.

Resident Bill Nonte presented his viewpoint of the Resolution and his opposition to a facemask mandate without having supporting data on the effectiveness.

Enforcement of mask usage is an issue of concern. Werner will reach out to the group and coordinate further action on a Countywide mandate.

RE: SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

A special joint meeting of the Dubois County Council and the Board of Commissioners will be held on August 3, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. to gather information on the Justice Project from the Architect RQAW and the Construction Manager Shireman Construction.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on August 3, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.