

**CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:00 a.m. (EST) on February 20, 2018. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger and Elmer Brames. Also present were County Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, Highway Supervisor Steven L. Berg, Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt, and County Attorney Arthur C. Nordhoff, Jr. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by Vice President Blessinger. President Hostetter had earlier advised he would be absent due to unexpected business.

**RE: BAILEY HOFFMAN ONE LOT SUBDIVISION**

Gary VanWinkle appeared to advise that the original plat of said Subdivision dated November 30, 2017, as approved by the Commissioners on November 20, 2017 omitted the name and signature of one of the owners. The revised plat contains names and signatures representative of all current owners. On motion made and seconded, the revised plat was approved.

**RE: AGRICULTURE EXEMPTION – JOHN JACKLE**

John Jackle appeared to request an agricultural exemption for construction of a grain bin, adjacent to other farm facilities, in the N½ of the NW of Section 26-T1N-R6W. The exemption is as to the County Subdivision Ordinance. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized the transfer of a one acre tract from current owner Jerry and Joyce Jackle to John Jackle or his designee.

**RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Highway Supervisor Berg submitted his report of current Department projects as follows:

Flooded Roads – Due to recent rains, there are currently 10 County Roads closed. Additional rains are forecasted and for this reason additional roads will probably be closed in the near future.

County Weed Board Appointment – Reported that the Soil and Water District appointed Pat Eckerle as representative to the County Weed Board.

Pipeline Safety Program - Paradigm Liaison Service will present a program at Venue 1408, formerly Reflections, in Huntingburg on February 21 on Pipeline Safety. A number of Highway Department employees normally attend the safety retraining session. The program is attended by any personnel who work around gas lines including firemen, first responders, and road workers.

Road Repairs – The Supervisor submitted to the Commissioners a report of the condition of a number of County Roads and the current condition thereof after the recent winter conditions. He discussed the type of repairs planned for the roads and the cost of each project. Due to lack of funds, certain repairs are being delayed and other roads are scheduled for permanent repairs later in the year. Further, certain repairs cannot be made at this time due to the current weather conditions.

*President Hostetter joins the meeting.*

**RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Highway Engineer Wendholt submitted his report of current engineering projects as follows:

2018 Paving Projects – Eight projects will be bid at 9:00 a.m. on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Highway Garage Repair and Upgrades - Garage door replacement has been awarded to the low proposal made by Dubois County Garage Door for \$4352.33. Additional quote of \$4861.00 was received from Crown Lift. Work on the garage building roof and roof structure is currently being assessed, but a higher cost is expected due to the extent of repairs required.

**RE: MINUTES AND DOCKET APPROVED**

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the minutes of February 5, 2018, and the payroll and claim docket were approved as submitted.

**RE: EMPLOYEE MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN**

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Auditor Hopf discussed with the Commissioners the current Health Insurance Summary Plan description. She emphasized the fact that the plan needs to be distributed as soon as possible. Due to the changes in the companies involved in the plan, the plan has been delayed in printing and distribution. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the current description with the idea that an amendment may be made next November. The Commissioners questioned the current status of a proposed local clinic for individual medical care. The Commissioners also discussed the applicability of manufacturer discounts on drugs and who benefits from the discount.

**RE: TAX DISTRIBUTION**

The Commissioners discussed the current policy for the distribution of the Local Income Tax; 60% of which goes to COIT and is distributed to all tax units except schools, and 40% of which goes to cities, towns and county. The distribution becomes important should additional funds be required for a County project such as the jail.

**RE: AREA DISCUSSION GROUP**

President Hostetter reported that Jasper Mayor Seitz has requested periodic meetings between the Commissioners, County Council, Jasper, Huntingburg and Ferdinand for purpose of discussing common problems.

**RE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY RELOCATION**

The Commissioners discussed the financial conditions of relocating the EMA office to Huntingburg. The Council has confirmed that the cost of relocation has increased from the \$280,000 range to \$340,000. This increase is beyond the ability of the County to fund the relocation.

**RE: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Commissioner Blessinger distributed copies of the current ambulance agreements between the County and Memorial Hospital, and requested that the Commissioners review the agreements prior to the next meeting.

**RE: SALE OF DIVISION ROAD REAL ESTATE**

The Auditor reported that the legal notice requesting bids for the purchase of County real estate on Division Road have been submitted for publication. Bids will be received on March 29, 2018, for opening on April 2, 2018.

**RE: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

The Commissioners discussed the composition of the Regional Development Authority five member board. The primary proposed project for the RDA is construction of the Mid-States Corridor. The Commissioners discussed possible appointments to the RDA Board.

**RE: HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT BIDS**

It being 10:00 am, being the time advertised for receipt of bids for purchase of equipment for the Highway Department. The Commissioners were advised that a proposed bid was received at 10:00 am by email at the highway Department office. The Commissioners determined that published notice required sealed bids filed at the Auditor's office and therefore the email was rejected as not satisfying bid requirement. Bids were received as follows:

Bucket Truck

Alter	\$139,988.00	<u>Trade-In</u> \$3,000.00	<u>Gross Bid</u> \$136,988.00
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Boom Mower

Hudson		<u>Bid # 1</u> \$54,655.52	<u>Bid #2</u> \$58,556.83
Wayne Supply	\$54,357.20		

The Commissioners took the bids under advisement and submitted the same to the Highway Supervisor for review.

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**RE: JAIL STUDY COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Brames reported on the activities of the Jail Study Committee regarding the current Security Center Study and Report. The Committee could serve as a resource of materials and information regarding the Study and the various factors to be considered. The final decision regarding the project is made by the Commissioners, with funding by the Council.

**RE: WAGE STUDY**

Committee is in the process of reviewing wage rates and placing employees into classifications for wages. The results will be reported within the next several meetings.

**RE: VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER**

The Commissioners discussed the operation hours of the Veterans Service Office. The services extended to veterans were discussed in regard to the operating hours. The Service Officer has requested a reduction in hours. Currently services are available 24 hours per week as a combination of office hours and field work. The Commissioners would like to discuss the reduction with area veterans. Service Officer will be contacted to continue the conversation and determine what action is in the best interest of area veterans.

**RE: EQUIPMENT BID - BUCKET TRUCK**

The Highway Supervisor reported that the bucket truck bid, a sole bid, has been reviewed and was determined to be lower than expected. He did express concern as to whether the towing package was included in the bid. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the acceptance of the bid, with trade-in, subject to the specification towing package being included.

**RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Commissioners will meet on Monday, March 5, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. and Monday, March 19, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., both meetings to be held in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex.