

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 9, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (EST) on July 9, 2012. Present were Commissioners Lawrence M. Vollmer, Randall L. Fleck, and Doug M. Uebelhor. Also present were County Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, Highway Engineer Jason T. Heile, and County Attorney Arthur C. Nordhoff, Jr. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Vollmer. Minutes of the June meetings of the Commissioners were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of June, were as follows: Recorder \$20,633.43; Health Department \$22,174.77; Auditor \$54.00; Clerk \$35,159.06. 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: RALPH WAGNER

Ralph Wagner from Patoka Township appeared to discuss a creek flooding problem on his property in Section 36-T2S-R5W. The property is on Indian Creek but is also influenced by Short Creek and Hunley Creek. The Creeks are affected by two railroad bridges, by 2 State Highway #64 bridges, and 2 bridges on vacated Old State Road #64. He stated that removal of certain bridge(s) would greatly assist in the flooding problem. The bridges on vacated Old Road #64 are now owned by the Blessinger Family. Wagner requested that the County assist in removal of the western bridge on the Blessinger property and with ongoing contribution of funds from the Upper Patoka River District. The engineers present expressed concerns as to whether the State and Federal permits required to do work on the Creeks could be obtained, and if so at what cost (remediation). The Commissioners will review the problem.

RE: EXTENSION OFFICE BUDGET

Kendall Martin appeared to submit the proposed 2013 Budget. He requested that the position of Program Assistant be increased from a part-time to full-time position. He explained the reasons and benefits for the time increase. The time increase has been added to the Budget. Martin stated that there has been no staff increase for the past 25 years. The Commissioners approved the increase, subject to authorization by the County Council.

RE: RSVP BUDGET

Becky Beckman appeared to submit the RSVP budget for 2013, and a list of RSVP service programs. She stated that she was requesting an increase of \$1,000 from the \$5,000 2012 Budget. She explained the services now being offered to County veterans by RSVP.

RE: COMMUNICATIONS

Janice Love, County Communications Director, submitted the 2013 Budget for general fund, having a salary increase of \$1,000 per person, and the addition of association dues. She also submitted the wireless budget, with the same \$1,000 per employee, and the resulting retirement, FICA and tax increases. The Director also stated that as a result of changes in radio frequencies, the City of Jasper currently has reduced 9-1-1 coverage. She requested approval to place an antenna on the Courthouse to allow extended City and Courthouse coverage. The Commissioners expressed concern with placing an antenna on the Courthouse tower, and requested discussion with the Communications tech advisor.

RE: SHERIFF DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Sheriff Donny Lampert appeared and submitted the monthly jail report, which reflects an increase in jail population. He also submitted a proposed Budget for 2013 reflecting replacement by purchase of four vehicles, an additional jailer (16 currently) and one additional deputy. The Commissioners on motion duly made and seconded approved purchase of four replacement vehicles, with trade-ins, subject to Council approval. The same request was

made in 2012 and not granted by the Council. The Commissioners on motion duly made and seconded, approved adding an additional jailer, subject to Council approval.

The Sheriff discussed the current increase in drug related arrests, and that additional assisted help is required to deal with this and other problems, the Sheriff proposed a deputy to be assigned drug investigation duties, which would require an additional deputy. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the addition of a new deputy, subject to Council approval.

In order to allow the addition of new employees, on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners removed the hiring freeze imposed in 2011 as to all County Officers.

RE: RIDE SOLUTION

Beth Browning appeared representing Ride Solution program to request renewal of the \$8,000 contribution made by the County. During 2011, 24,969 trips were made within Dubois County, which was an increase of 4,785 over the prior year.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR REPORT

Highway Supervisor Berg reported:

IDEM
Kyana Road Project

Underground Storage Tank training will be held this week
Highlift work completed in 9 hours less than estimated. Top soil has been placed and reseeding will be completed when all dirt work is completed.

Valley View Subdivision

On recommendation of the Highway Supervisor, on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners accepted into the Highway system the roads in Valley View Subdivision, south of Celestine, consisting of .24 miles of roadway. Funds have been received for chip and seal of roads.

RE: AMBULANCE SERVICES

Suzan Henke, EMS Director, appeared to submit a revised Ambulance Fee Schedule for ambulance services. On motion duly made and seconded, the Fee Schedule was approved.

Suzan also submitted a proposed Budget for 2013, which included an increase in Director compensation and vehicle maintenance and funds for ambulance replacement during 2013. She also stated that the Hospital subsidy has decreased and that the Hospital share has increased by approximately \$60,000. She also discussed the current fleet and the need for replacement vehicles. Currently a new vehicle is scheduled for this year (\$142,000) and that due to current mechanical condition, an additional replacement may be required in late 2012 or early 2013. Permission was granted for the additional replacement. Permission was also requested for sending a stand-by unit to a State training school (2 day) in central Indiana. Permission was granted.

RE: OLDER AMERICAN CENTER

Carie Dick appeared, representing Older American Center, to submit her request for 2013 Budget contribution and to report on events and programs during 2012. Participation has been 4,818 from the City and 1,840 from the County. The Center's proposed Budget for 2013 is \$231,000, of which the Center requests a County contribution of \$30,000, which is a \$5,000 increase from 2012.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER REPORT

The Highway Engineer, Jason Heile, reported:

Kentucky Street (Holland)

Notice has been received that full funding, in the amount of \$2,182,000, has been received from State funds. The project will now proceed.

Bridge #55 (Cuzco)
ADA Transition Plan
Wood Product Building
Little Sandy Coal Co

Bad soil discovered at site but pour should be made today.
Presentations will be made at next meeting.
DLZ is preparing proposed contract.
Old SR 64 is in need of repair; Little Sandy Agreement as

CR 580 N	approved is modified to allow escrow fund use for repairs. Solar Sources in process of road reconstruction. Commissioners approved reduction of width from 24' wide roadway to 22' wide and addition of geogrid under the pavement base.
Dubois Stormwater Project	After discussion, Commissioners approved O'Mara change orders #1 (\$2,896.28 increase), and #2 (\$65,597.20 decrease).
Claims	On motion duly made and seconded, Commissioners approved payment of O'Mara Application #7 for \$7,538.13; O'Mara Application #8 for \$61,067.74, pending Rule 5 termination; Brosmer Invoice #17607 for \$3,232; Butler Fairman & Seufert Invoice #66644 for \$6,850.50 on Bridge Inspection project.

RE: SOUTHERN HILLS CENTER

Joe Kimmel, Director of Southern Hills Counseling Center, appeared to present his proposed 2013 Budget. He presented a summary of services offered in the five counties served by the Center, and stated that 22% of individuals served by the Center are minors. He stated that 2013 contributions will be \$299,234. Contribution is set by State law and is not controlled by the County.

RE: SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Brenda Sermersheim and Judi Brown appeared to submit proposed 2013 Budget, and explained the larger than normal salary requests for several positions, resulting in total Budget of \$117,827.

RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – REBAR PURCHASE

The Highway Engineer reported receiving quotes for the purchase of rebar for Highway Department inventory, as follows:

Westfield Steel	\$7,859.25
O'Neal Steel	\$8,546.71
Sugar Steel	\$8,842.30
Modern Welding	\$9,055.63

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized acceptance of the Westfield quote.

RE: DUBOIS COUNTY SOLID WASTE

Toni Lubbers, Director of the County Solid Waste District, submitted her proposed Budget for 2013, being in the total of \$180,811. She explained the changes from prior year included in the 2013 Budget.

RE: CONTRACTUAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Kathy Tretter submitted a Conflict of Interest statement as member of the Library Board, the conflict being her involvement with the Ferdinand News, in which the Library publishes legal notice. On motion duly made and seconded, the Conflict statement was accepted and approved.

RE: SIRS

Patty Oser and Larry Waninger, representing SIRS, appeared to discuss the services offered by SIRS to residents of Dubois County and the numbers served. The organization services five counties. The request is \$37,000, which is the same as in the prior year.

RE: CELESTINE EMERGENCY SIREN

Chris Hasenour, a member of Celestine Fire Department, appeared to request \$2,345 for replacement of the circuit board for the emergency siren at the Celestine Fire Department. He stated that the principal problem is the change to narrow band radio by the County Communications. There are four additional sirens in non-incorporated communities. The Commissioners will review the subject as other communities have previously made similar repairs.

RE: EMERGENCY BURN BAN

Tammy Miller and Mayor Seitz of Jasper appeared to discuss the current burn ban imposed during the prior week. The County restriction is imposed until revoked and the restrictions by Jasper and Huntingburg will expire on July 14. The

rain received by portions of the County (from 0 inches to 3 inches) on July 8 also has caused speculation that the ban is no longer required. Miller state that because of lack of uniformity of rain within the County and based upon discussions with various County fire chiefs, it was her recommendation that the County not discontinue the fire ban at the current time. Mayor Seitz expressed the same recommendation. The Commissioners expressed their opinion that the current fire ban should not be terminated at the present time.

RE: 4-H COUNCIL

Jerry Egloff, president of 4-H Council, appeared to discuss the activities of the County 4-H program. Due to the graduating 4-H class and State imposed \$15 per member fee, there has been some decrease in membership. Future plans include chip and seal of some rock roads within the 4-H park and the replacement of grandstand seating. Where possible, water will be used from the Park lakes. The 4-H request is for \$140,000, being the same as 2012.

RE: CLAIM – LECHNER’S EXCAVATING

On motion duly made and seconded, and on recommendation of the Highway Supervisor, the Commissioners approved and authorized payment of a claim from Lechner’s Excavating in the amount of \$8,100 for machine work provided on the Kyana Road construction project.

RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET

The Highway Supervisor and Engineer discussed with the Commissioners the method of computing compensation increases for various Department employees as part of the 2013 Highway Budget.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

It was determined that future meetings of the Commissioners will be held at the future dates during 2012:

July 23	Continued Meeting
August 6	Regular Meeting
August 20	Continued Meeting
September 4	Regular Meeting

All meetings to begin at 9:00 am except July 23 meeting, which will begin at 9:30 am, and will be held at the Courthouse Annex.

RE: COURTHOUSE CUSTODIAN BUDGET

The Auditor submitted to the Commissioners the proposed Budget for the Courthouse Custodian for 2013, with the standard compensation increase and increases in repairs and elevators.

RE: STATE HIGHWAY GAS TAX

The Highway Supervisor and Engineer presented to the Commissioners video presentation regarding revenue and distribution of the annual highway gas tax, and the reduction in such distribution to Dubois County at a time of increasing costs and needs. The distributions to State agencies is further reducing the County funding.