

## **DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**DECEMBER 22, 2014**

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissionersq Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 5:15 p.m. (EST) on December 22, 2014. Present were Commissioners Randall L. Fleck, Doug M. Uebelhor and Lawrence M. Vollmer. Also present were Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, County Surveyor Kenneth L. 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 President Fleck. Minutes of the December 9, 2014, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented.

### **RE: DUBOIS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Brenda Sermersheim and Alan Smock representing the Dubois County Soil and Water Conservation District, appeared to advise that the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Dubois County Solid Waste District have agreed to shared use of an employee, to be an employee of the Soil and Water District, with reimbursement from the Solid Waste District, for 20 hours per week for Soil and Water District and 15 hours per week for the Solid Waste District. Discussion was held regarding budgeted funds, insurance coverage, and payment of under-budgeted amounts. The Commissioners stated a desire to review the details of the proposal. If accepted, a contract would be prepared. In the meantime, the Soil and Water Conservation District will approach the County Council for its approval.

### **RE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANT**

Tammy Humbert reported that the State Homeland Security Department has extended the County EMS a grant of \$8,485.29, to be used for electronic equipment. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved acceptance of the grant.

### **RE: CR 450 S IMPROVEMENT**

Brian Blackgrove appeared to inquire as to the improvement of CR 450 S in Patoka Township.

### **RE: SECURITY CENTER REPORT**

Sheriff Lampert appeared to submit his report of activity at the Security Center and as conducted by the Sheriff's Department. A high number of calls, responses and admissions have been experienced recently. Property status was discussed including the need for hot water heater replacement. A speaker on drugs will be brought to the County to speak to the four County high schools. The Sheriff reported that the part-time sex registry clerk has been working fine and will remain within budget below the 28 hour level.

### **RE: HEALTH INSURANCE – JUDGES AND PROSECUTOR**

The Commissioners discussed the prior policy of offering health insurance to the judges and prosecutors. Also discussed was the part time Senior Judge, who is restricted as to the number of work days per year. The prior Senior Judge was not covered by the County plan. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners determined that two full time Judges and Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutor will be covered by County insurance

for one year, and will subject to review at the end of 2015, but that Senior Judge shall not be covered by the County, but should rely on the State Plan.

**RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Highway Supervisor Berg submitted his report of current status of Department projects, including:

Equipment Purchases

The following equipment recently bid and purchased stand in the following status:

- a. Dump truck chassis . all are delivered. Being processed for payment.
- b. Dump beds . none are delivered.
- c. Bridge truck chassis- is here. Being processed for payment.
- d. Bridge truck service body . not delivered.
- e. Snow plow . PAID and delivered.
- f. Brine truck . delivered at Meyer Body for bed installation. Being processed for payment. Bond to be held until delivered here.
- g. Sanitation chassis . delivered to Pak Mor on Nov 24<sup>th</sup>. Payment to Freightliner is being processed. We will still hold the bid bond until the truck is delivered here.
- h. Sanitation compactor body . not delivered.
- i. Engineers vehicle . delivered. Being processed for payment.

Holiday Site Hours

No special hours will be required at collection sites due to this year's calendar.

Freeze Thaw Ordinance

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners adopted the following Freeze Thaw Ordinance (#2014-3) for 2015 regarding 10 ton weight limits on designated roads, as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, OF DUBOIS COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

1. To prevent damage cause by excess weight on County Roads during periods of freeze and thaw, the Commissioners hereby establish a 10 ton gross load (weight) limit on all motor vehicles operated on County Roads within Dubois County, Indiana during the period from January 15, 2015 through April 15, 2015. Jasper 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue from Jasper city limits south to S.R. 162 is exempt from this Ordinance.
2. Operation of a motor vehicle on any County Road in violation of this Ordinance shall be a Class C infraction, as defined by I.C. 34-6-2-85 and I.C. 34-28-5-4.
3. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication as required by law.

Adopted: December 22, 2014.

Equipment Inventory

The Supervisor submitted a list of Department equipment which is no longer functional and has

no operating sales value, the only value being as scrap. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners declared that equipment listed as scrap surplus, and authorized disposal of the items listed as scrap.

**RE: CR 525 W WATER PROBLEM**

The Highway Engineer reported that he has conducted an investigation of the road pipe on CR 525 W on property owned by Brian Meyer. The current 15 inch pipe does not meet requirements of the location and must be replaced by a pipe of not less than 18 inches in plastic. If not removed, the pipe in public right of way will be removed and an open ditch will remain. The Department will install the pipe (without charge), but the land owner must pay for the pipe. The Engineer is to advise the property owner.

**RE: HOLLAND KENTUCKY STREET**

The Highway Engineer submitted the following claims relating to Kentucky Street:

Town of Holland in the amount of \$30,311.33 as reimbursement of invoices from:

Midwestern Engineers for engineering  
D-Lite Excavating

Invoices from Beam, Longest and Neff

Preliminary Engineering	\$481.76
Construction Observation	\$317.24

On motion duly made and seconded, the claims were approved and payment authorized.

**RE: 4-H FAIRGROUNDS HANDICAP PARKING**

The Highway engineer reported that plans have been drafted for construction of handicap parking lot at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Weather permitting; construction of the lot should begin in January.

**RE: WARNING SIGN ON PORTERSVILLE ROAD**

It was reported that a request has been received to install Horse Back Warning Signs on the Portersville Road and/or on CR 500 N, in locations where such riding takes place. The Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of such signs, the long term effect of such signs on operators of vehicles, and a sense of false security which individuals riding may have. The Commissioners also discussed the precedent set for other types of such signs all over the County. After extended discussion, the Commissioners determined not to grant the request.

**RE: CITY OF JASPER GIS (ELEVATION) REQUEST**

The Auditor advised that the City of Jasper has requested authority to use a new elevation program recently completed for the County. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners granted the City access to the elevation program, with the City to pay any access expense from WTH.

**RE: PATOKA VALLEY HEALTH CARE**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved and signed an Amendment of the County's agreement with Patoka Valley Health Care Cooperative so as to require the County to provide notice to Patoka Valley should the County elect to change the Claims Administrator under the County's employee health insurance program.

**RE: EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE WELLNESS PROGRAM**

The Commissioners examined a proposed letter to County employees explaining the benefits of the Wellness Program offered under the County Health Plan, the reward which the Commissioners had determined to

offer to those employees participating in the Wellness Program, and the savings to those participating. The letter encouraged those not participating to enroll in the Program in order to gain the reward in 2016. On motion made and seconded, the letter was approved and distribution authorized.

**RE: RADIO SYSTEM UPGRADE**

The Commissioners discussed a proposed Contract submitted by the consultant engaged by the County to upgrade the County's radio system. The Proposed plan had been approved by the evaluation team formed for that purpose. After receipt of proposals, it was determined that the best combinations of proposals were submitted by Advanced Radio Communications and by Digital Sky Wireless LLC. After discussion, the proposed contract was approved, at a cost of \$747,144, subject to an approval of funding by the County Council and review and approval of the contract by the County Attorney.

**RE: CELL PHONE CONTRACT**

The Auditor reported on progress being made on consolidation of the various cell phone contracts into a single contract for all County cell phones, except for the Sheriff's contract. There would be a reduction in charges, only one provider would be involved and the County would have more control over use and misuse of the phones. The provider would be Verizon. Except for a separate contract for the Sheriff's Department, hereafter any cell phone issued to any County agency must come under the County Verizon contract.

**RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Commissioners determined that future meeting of the Commissioners will be as follows: January 5, 2015, beginning at 8:00 am; January 20, 2015, beginning at 8:15 am for Board of Finance, and 8:30 am for continued Commissioners meeting; January 20, 2015, Solid Waste Board beginning at 7:15 am.