

**REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**JANUARY 20, 2015**

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:30 a.m. (EST) on January 20, 2015. Present were Commissioners Randall L. Fleck, Lawrence M. Vollmer 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 President Fleck. Minutes of the January 5, 2015, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented.

**RE: GRAMELSPACHER DITCH**

Arnie Renner and County Surveyor Ken Brosmer appeared to discuss cleaning of Gramelspacher Ditch in Madison Township, a public ditch which is just over 10,000 feet in length and runs into Flat Creek. The Ditch was last cleaned in 1987. Also discussed was the voluntary cleaning of Flat Creek, which is not a public creek. Brosmer stated that he would check with Department of Natural Resources before silt is removed to determine if a State permit is required. There are about 13 landowners on the Ditch, excluding Renner, who will clean his own portion. It will be Summer before the land will be drained sufficiently to allow work. On motion made and seconded, the Board authorized cleaning of the Ditch and directed the Surveyor and Attorney to initiate the process.

**RE: SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL**

Janet Schnell, Coordinator of the Substance Abuse Council, appeared to submit the Council's Community Plan, report of financial transactions, membership and distribution of funds for 2014. She discussed the drug programs in Dubois County and drug problems in the County and in nearby Counties. She state that Indiana is #1 for meth production. Dubois County continues and has always suffered with alcohol problems. Funding for the prevention program comes mainly from Court fees.

**RE: IRISH TROT – ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

Representatives of the Ireland St. Patrick's Day appeared for the partial closing of CR N 500 W, Green Street, Clay Street, Grant Street, W Center Street and N James Street on March 15, 2015 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm for the St. Patrick's Day Parade, as per maps presented. Representatives also requested total closing of West Center Street between Center Street and 500 W for erection of a tent on Friday, March 12, 2015 at 12:00 noon, until Monday, March 16, 2015 at 12:00 noon. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners closed the above roads, as set forth on March 15, 2015, as per maps presented. Also, requested was partial closing of route for Irish Trot on March 14, 2015, from 7:30 am to 9:30 am, on the following streets:

The route would begin at the intersection of CR 500 W and Clay Street near the Ireland Elementary School south parking lot. Participants would continue on CR 500 W to CR 150 N, then onto Wheatland Drive, Ladino W, and then head back to CR 150 N and finally CR 500 W.

On motion made and seconded, the request was granted and the streets partially closed as requested.

**RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS RENOVATION**

Jenny Fuhs from Community Corrections appeared to report that during renovation of the shower area as previously approved, it was found that additional repairs were required and the repairs were made at an additional cost of \$3,000. After review of the repairs, on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the additional \$3,000 expenditure, subject to approval by the County Council.

The Commissioners also discussed the replacement of the air conditioner system at the Corrections facility. The facility staff was authorized to seek proposals and report back to the Commissioners.

**RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Supervisor Berg appeared to report on current Department projects as follows:

Pipeline Safety Program	Paradigm is again putting on safety program at Huntingburg Event Center on February 3 at 7:30 am. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized foremen and operators to attend.
2015 Hourly Equipment Rates	Berg submitted list of proposed prices for use of Department equipment, without labor. On motion made and seconded, the list was approved.
Fuel Pump	Department is continuing review of pumps for gas at Highway Garage.
Celestine Centennial	Request has been made by community for road opening or improvement of platted, but not open road in Celestine. The road is not on County inventory. Improvement of the road would not help the County long term, but would only be used for the Centennial. It was discussed that since no long term use would take place, installation of temporary pipe is possible, but no road way improvement.
Road Marker Replacement	Berg submitted a proposal for round 3 (Phase 2) of road sign replacement. A map of locations was presented with a projected cost is \$3,800. A second round should take place later in year. On motion made and seconded, the purchase was approved.

**RE: TRASH COURT: ANGELA SCHWENK & ROBERT SCHWENK**

A complaint having been filed for unlawful disposal of trash, the parties named above in the complaint appeared, and also appeared the Director of County Solid Waste. The parties were placed under oath and the Director presented evidence regarding 6 bags of trash located on CR 50 N on November 21. Mr. Schwenk, through Sue Schwenk his legal guardian, stated that he had not lived at the address for over 4 years and has had no contact with the house address for that period of time, as there is a restraining order against him appearing at that address. Mrs. Schwenk stated that the family always took trash to County Collection Center. Minor son normally takes trash to Center. Mr. Schwenk stated he had not had possession of trash and did not dispose of the same. Mrs. Schwenk stated that son works at Sawmill and is busy with school sports. The matter was taken under advisement by the Commissioners.

**RE: DUBOIS LIBRARY REPORT**

Nathan Held of Region 15 appeared to submit a semiannual report of operations regarding the County Library at Dubois, as required by the Office of Community and Rural Affairs, which funded the project.

**RE: CAR LOT – BRETZVILLE JUNCTION**

The Highway Supervisor discussed a complaint regarding a large number of used vehicles located on a property on SR 162 north of Bretzville junction. The Sheriff agreed to check the status of the property with Indiana BMV.

**RE: SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Sheriff Lampert appeared to submit his report of Security Center operations. He discussed the problem in placement of prisoners with long term mental problems. He discussed educational programs being held for schools and security center population relating to drugs. Kitchen inspection has been completed without any exception. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized addition of 2 hours for Security Center health care by outside personnel.

**RE: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Susan Henke, Director of EMS, appeared to advise that French Lick will host the Senior PGA tourney on May 19-24, 2015 and I.U. Medical and Memorial Hospital have agreed to provide medical coverage for the event, on May 19-24, 2015. The staff will serve on days off without compensation. Request is made that a County Ambulance would serve in Orange County for 3 days during the period. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized the use subject to availability of insurance coverage.

Henke also discussed the renovations being made at the ambulance station in Huntingburg.

**RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER REPORT**

Highway Engineer Wendholt submitted his report of current engineering projects at the Highway Department:

Huntingburg Rail Over Pass	Claim submitted by City for \$2,005.38 for services by DLZ on Overpass. On motion duly made and seconded, the claim was approved and payment authorized.
Holland Kentucky Street	Claim submitted by Town of Holland for various services provided in the sum of \$81,686 for utility relocation. On motion duly made and seconded, claim approved and payment authorized.
Jasper 15 <sup>th</sup> Street (Ruxer) Bridge	Claim filed by American Contracting for final bill for construction work on Ruxer Bridge, in amount of \$274,587.28. On motion duly made and seconded, the claim was approved and payment authorized.
2015 Certified Road Mileage	The engineer submitted and on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the 2015 County Highway Road Prioritization Report.
Bridge Inspection	On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized an additional appropriation for extended requirement for bridge inspection in the sum of \$7,000, subject to County Council approval.

**RE: KENTUCKY STREET (HOLLAND) PROJECT**

Representatives of Beam, Longest and Neff, engineers, appeared to report on progress being made in relocation of utilities and construction of Holland & Kentucky Street. Relocations should be completed and reconstruction of the replacement road should begin April 6, with completion scheduled by October 31, 2015. BLN will have personnel on site during the full construction period. The effect of the new roadway on the community was discussed.

**RE: AUDITOR**

The County Auditor submitted to the Commissioners a certification of approval that the County has no covered bridge. Also presented was notification that IDEM has granted a Minor Source Operating Permit to Southern Indiana Hardwood. The Auditor submitted a certificate of PSAP operations which was signed by the President.

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved a Professional Area Economic Development Services Agreement with Dubois Strong, at an annual expense of \$59,262.89.

Auditor submitted a proposed job description for the Courthouse Security Officer. A discussion was held concerning the duties of the Security Officer and the amount of time spent on the first floor.

The Auditor recommended to the Commissioners that the County Handbook should be revised and that up to \$3,000 plus travel should be expended for this project so as to provide uniformity between various offices. A portion of cost over \$3,000 is being paid by the County insurance carrier. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved entering into an agreement for the revisions.

The Auditor advised that an insurance company has approached the County for a long-term disability policy. The Company also could provide life insurance for the employees.

**RE: ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners made the following appointments for 2015:

911 Advisory Board

Elmer Brames 1-1-15 . 12-31-15

Alliance to Promote Education, Inc.

Elmer Brames 1-1-15 . Until Term Expires

Dubois County Area Development Corporation

Elmer Brames 1-1-15 . 12-31-15

Dubois County Emergency Management Advisory Council

Randall L. Fleck - 12-31-15

Regional Elected Officials Board

Elmer Brames 1-1-15 . 12-31-16

**RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

Future meetings of the Commissioners will be held at the Courthouse Annex as follows:

February 2, 2015 at 8:00 am

February 17, 2015 at 8:00 am

March 2, 2015 at 8:00 am

March 16, 2015 at 8:30 am

**RE: 2015 NEW EMPLOYMENT AND PROJECTS**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners adopted a policy that during 2015, there will be no new employee positions and no new projects, except for emergency situations.