

**CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**JULY 17, 2017**

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. (local time) on July 17, 2017. Present were Commissioners Chad A. Blessinger, Elmer F. Brames, and Nick J. Hostetter. 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 Blessinger. Minutes of the July 3, 2017 meeting of the Commissioners had been previously distributed to the Commissioners and were approved as presented. Payroll and claims were also approved as presented.

**RE: JAIL REPORT**

The Sheriff had previously filed the monthly Jail Report with the Commissioners, and the information therein was discussed.

**RE: UNUSED BOOKCASES FROM LAW LIBRARY**

It was reported that the County Extension Office has requested 14 of the unused bookcases. Approximately thirty remain for disposal. All County offices have been asked if they have need for these bookcases within their departments. Suggestions were made for determining the value. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners declared the approximately 30 remaining bookcases as surplus, and authorized the sale at \$80 each.

**RE: SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE – COLLETT PROPERTY**

Steve Collett requested to transfer a one acre tract to his son, Ty Collett. It was determined that the proposed transfer was within provisions of the Ordinance, and on motion made and seconded, a family farm exception was granted for the tract located in the SE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 35-T2S-R6W.

**RE: SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE – LAAKE PROPERTY**

Alan Laake appeared to request a family farm exception to transfer a one acre tract to his grandchild. The question was raised about the transfer of the property to a grandchild rather than a child. It was discussed that prior exceptions have been made for grandchildren. On motion made and seconded, the exception was granted, for one acre in the S ½ of Section 27-T2S-R4W.

**RE: SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE – SANDA HILLS EQUINE CENTER FIRST ADDITION**

Phil Buehler, Brosmer Land Surveying, presented a plat for a two lot subdivision along Meridian and Mendel Roads, located in the NW q of the SE q of Section 12-T2S-R5W, known as Sanda Hills Equine Center First Addition. The plat is within the City of Jasper jurisdiction and has been approved by the City. There was discussion of public road maintenance. On motion made and seconded, the plat was approved, subject to revision of a right-of-way for roadway shown on the plat.

**RE: COUNTY ROAD 800 W**

Darrell Lee appeared to discuss new State funding available for roadway improvement. The Highway Superintendent discussed the proposed use of funds on CR 800W. Mr. Lee also discussed the need for culverts during periods of flooding on said CR 800W.

**RE: RQAW**

## CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 17, 2017

Kevin Meyer, RQAW, introduced Eric Weflen, an officer of the company, who explained the services offered by RQAW, including potential facility studies of the Courthouse and Security Centers. He discussed the Washington County facilities, where the Courts and Jail are in the same location. Jackson County has also moved the Courts into a separate facility near (but not in) the Jail facility. He offered the services of RQAW to Dubois County for a future study. Eight other Indiana counties are currently considering the use of RQAW for facility studies. Many current jails do not meet current requirements. Several of the Commissioners had previously visited projects currently under construction using RQAW services.

### RE: COUNTY WEBSITE

Sarah and Alex, representatives from Revize, made a presentation via conference call and webinar on the new County website in order to get County feedback before going forward with future website development. The contractual timeline for the site planning begins as of today. A number of Department Heads and/or representatives were present for the discussion and commented on aspects of the proposed website presented. Following the presentation, those present were asked for comments.

### RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR REPORT

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

Co-op Chip Seal Request CR 150S	Ron Hopf has submitted payment of \$5,164.71 for paving, and he has submitted dedication of CR 150S. Paving will be done week of August 7 <sup>th</sup> .
Co-op Chip Seal Request CR 900S	Chris Tretter has submitted payment of \$2,539.20 for Paving, and he has submitted dedication of CR 900S. Work will be completed after the Hopf project.
CR 400W	The Supervisor had nothing new to report.
Dump Truck Replacement	Will meet with County Council on July 24 <sup>th</sup> to request funding in the amount of \$126,000. Will meet with truck dealers to discuss spec requirements.
Schnellville Community Club	Will sponsor annual four mile "Walk & Run" on September 17, 2017. They have requested use and closing of roads used: Market Street to 800E, to Schnellville Rd., to end at Elm Street, with traffic control to be provided by Schnellville Volunteer Fire Department. Road closing shall be 1½ hours, and will be on a limited basis. On motion made and seconded, permission was granted on the above conditions and that the County must be listed as "also insured" on event liability insurance, and a County held harmless clause included on the registration form.
Chip Seal Progress	Reported the current progress on chip seal overlays, patching and new chip seal projects.
CR 800 W	The Supervisor discussed a prior request for installing culverts on CR 800W and the possible results of such culverts.

### RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER REPORT

Engineer Wendholt submitted the following reports of engineering projects:

Bridge Inspection	A claim from Butler, Fairman & Seufert was submitted in the amount of \$505.60 for bridge inspection services.
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**CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**JULY 17, 2017**

On motion made and seconded, the invoice was approved for payment. Butler, Fairman & Seufert has submitted an agreement to allow inspection of 3 bridges without State refunding. Current projects would involve \$10,000 of services without INDOT refunding their portion. It is possible that, because of time requirements, the project would not be approved by INDOT within the 90 days required. The County attorney suggested changes in the wording of the proposed agreement. The Commissioners suggested attempting to complete within 90 days under the current contract.

Paving Update A schedule for proposed projects for the remainder of 2017 was presented to the Commissioners.

2016 Community Crossing Projects completed and closeout costs schedule was submitted. Two projects were overbid, but all projects came in under bid.

Huntingburg Conservation Club Lake Funding for repair of the dam does not look promising. Cost of rebuilding to current code is higher than expected. Cost to repair road only would still be within original proposal. Indiana DNR has control of dam repair as dam is 20 feet high, which substantially increases cost.

2017 Community Crossing Twenty projects have been submitted to State for funding. County will be advised in August which will be approved.

**RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – CHANGE ORDERS**

The following change orders were submitted on completed projects:

Project #16-13 (Holland Rd. E)	\$15,331.87
Project #17-06 (CR 900S)	( \$21.30)

On motion made and seconded, the change orders were approved.

**RE: DISTRESSED ROAD FUND REPORT**

Highway Clerk Messmer submitted her report concerning the \$1,000,000 Distressed Road Fund, which is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year, and has a balance of \$404,828.57 remaining to be paid within the 10 year loan period.

**RE: SOLAR SOURCES**

Mike Owen, Solar Sources, appeared to advise that Solar Sources intends to continue its mine operation in Boone Township westerly to move through CR 750W, north of CR 580N, towards CR 800W. He also reported that Solar Sources has completed work across CR 580N, which is now rocked and ready to receive a final finish. Prior history of the Solar Sources relationship with the County was discussed.

**RE: EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Current Policy is that insured employees and their insured spouses may participate in the annual health screening at no cost to them. Employees who are insured as a dependent child of another employee are required to pay for the screening.

**RE: HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM DEDUCTIONS**

**CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**JULY 17, 2017**

The Auditor discussed with the Commissioners the payroll deductions for the health insurance premiums. The Auditor will discuss this at the Department Head Meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion was also held on insurance coverage for an insured dependent that was injured at another job, and whether our health insurance should cover that injury in the absence of workmen's comp coverage.

**RE: ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.**

Kris Pilkington, Patrick Farris and Adam Adler, representing Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. out of Indianapolis, appeared to discuss the services offered by their company, including specialized attorneys, and awards for being named "Most Ethical Company". The Company is willing to be paid on either a fee or commission basis, and upon request they will change the method in the future. The company is one of the nation's largest broker firms. The process and procedures followed by the company were discussed. The fee charged is \$18 per employee per month. If based on commission, the company would review services used and current commission being paid. If engaged by the County, a change in TPA would not be required.

**RE: DUBOIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – UNKEMPT PROPERTIES**

Donna Oeding and Shawn Werner, Dubois County Health Department, appeared to discuss unkempt properties in the area. Such property is covered by the Highway Department for weeds, but the Health Department has no County ordinance dealing with other factors. A principal problem for Health Department is the lack of County zoning law for vacant or abandoned houses. If an Ordinance is in place, there may be grants available, and liens may be placed against the real estate.

**RE: AUGUST MEETINGS**

The Commissioners were reminded the Dubois County Solid Waste Board will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioners' meeting will follow at 8:30 a.m.