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 April 16, 2018. Present were Commissioners Nick Hostetter, Chad A. Blessinger and Elmer Brames. Also present were County Deputy Auditor Sandy Morton, 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 Hostetter. Minutes of the April 2, 2018, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the Claims and Allowance Docket and the Payroll Docket.

**RE: DUBOIS STRONG UPDATE**

Ed Cole, Director of Dubois Strong, appeared to make a periodic report to the Commissioners, regarding activities of the organization. He informed the Commissioners about the wage study previously performed by the group and that a more extensive study is now being done. Cost of living in the area is also included in the calculation. It will be Fall 2018 before the study is completed. He also informed the Commissioners of the Mid-State Corridor system activity being performed through Regional Development Authority. Meetings are taking place with State Highway officials. He also advised that steps are being taken in an attempt to “sell” the Southern Indiana area to the public, with 11 Counties being involved. He discussed the draw to the County of residents of surrounding Counties and of an attempt to encourage these people to relocate into the County. The group is associating with Purdue University to collect wage and benefit data regarding the area. An annual meeting will be held in Jasper on April 19th and attendance was encouraged.

**RE: VETERAN’S SERVICE OFFICER AND HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT COMPLIMENTED**

Commissioner Blessinger reported that members of the public complimented the service received from the County Veteran’s Service Officer and from the Highway Department.

**RE: VOTING EQUIPMENT**

County Clerk Jarboe reported that the State is emphasizing the need for security for voting equipment and supplies. It is requested that such items should only be accessible by the County Clerk. She stated that the storage of the voting card supplies in the Clerk’s office and/or the machines in the jail basement may both be unacceptable due to limited access to both locations by the public. She reported that the new location for the early voting this year is working well.

**RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND UNSAFE BUILDING ORDINANCES**

Donna Oeding appeared and presented the Department’s annual report to the Commissioners. Oeding also presented two proposed ordinances to the Commissioners: 1) Sewage Disposal Systems and 2) Unsafe Buildings. Commissioner Blessinger had several questions regarding the Sewage Disposal Systems ordinance, which were answered. Inspection of sites and site permits were discussed. On motion made and seconded, the Ordinance was adopted as Ordinance 2018-1.  

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners adopted the Ordinance on Unsafe Buildings, as Ordinance 2018-2. The Ordinance will adopt State statute and allow enforcement by the local agency on properties with or without occupancy.

**RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR’S REPORT**

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

- **Sanitation Truck Replacement** – Truck #3 (1998 Chevy C70) will be bid for replacement on May 7 @ 10:00 a.m. Finance using $80,000 recycling funds and $80,000 Cum Cap Funds, with delivery in February of the replacement vehicle.

- **Interviews for Open Positions** – There will be two open job positions within the next month and application for replacements will be advertised later in April.
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**Road Closure Request** – the Contractor is requesting temporary closure of James Street in Ireland, north of 2620, for construction of new church. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners agreed to closing of James Street north of 2620 for two weeks.

**Club Road Closure Near St. Anthony** – Club Road between 550S and 600S is subject to need for closure to repair large bank slide. To make repairs, road closure is necessary from 8 am until 3 pm each day until repair completed. On motion made and seconded, the closure of Club Road was approved.

**Freeze and Thaw Ordinance** – Expired as of April 15, 2018.

**JH Rudolph Escalation Clause Increase** – Notice has been received of increase in materials prices due to increase in oil prices.

**Surplus Equipment** – Sealed bids have been received on number of surplus items at the Department and will be opened at 10:00 a.m.

**RE: SETBACK VARIANCE – ANGELA RECKER**

Angela Recker appeared to request a variance for setback line at 9759S 375W in Cass Township. She currently has a mobile home within the setback line in Hickory Hill Estates in the SW SW S21-T3-R5W, being a one lot subdivision. The current home is outside the road and utility right-of-way and is on permanent foundation. After review and discussion and on motion made and seconded, the Commissioners granted the exception requested, but only as to the current structure.

**RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER’S REPORT**

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

**Railroad Overpass** – Invoices received from DLZ for $77.48 and $3,464.72 for services on Huntingburg overpass. On motion made and seconded, the invoices were approved and payment authorized.

**Bridge Inspection** – Invoice received from Butler Fairman & Seufert for $1,090.00 for services on last year’s bridge inspection. Invoice approved and payment authorized.

**Culvert Replacement PA3E4112-0.311** – Work is moving slowly due to excess rain. One wall and footer poured and the other will be worked on this week.

**2018-2021 Bridge Inspection** – Invoice received for $78,008.36 or half of phase 1. On motion made and seconded, payment to American Structure Point for the invoiced amount was approved.

**Subdivision Ordinance** – Updated proposed Ordinance is submitted with request for review at 10:15 at the May 7th Commissioners meeting and for one hour to discuss changes at that meeting. Commissioners requested to pass any comments to Engineer.

**RE: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD**

Commissioner Brames reported on activity of the Regional Development Authority (RDA) meetings, establishment and appointment of a local Board for RDA, as approved by all participating governmental agencies. He reported on the five proposed individuals for Board membership and he submitted names as follows: Mark Schroeder, Scott Blazey, Barry Day, Sue Ellspermann, and Ken Mulzer, Jr. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the five individuals and signed the appointment form. Brames also reported that RDA will be meeting with State Highway officials regarding a proposed connector road, and requests are being made for funding of local share of costs for engineering and construction of a connector road project.

**RE: MEMORIAL DAY MILITARY SERVICES**

Deputy Auditor Morton advised that the Veterans Council has requested use of the west lawn of the Courthouse and restrooms on May 26, 2018, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon for the Annual Memorial Day Services. On motion duly made and seconded, permission was granted.

**RE: TRUE RX REBATE**

Deputy Morton reported receipt from True RX, a check for $8,095.44 as rebate on prescription drug program.

**RE: WTH – ELECTRONIC MAP DATA REQUEST**
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On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved HERE North America application requesting WTH/GIS electronic mapping data for Dubois County.

**RE: MEDICAL BENEFITS PROGRAM**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved Amendment #1 to the Employee Medical Benefits program regarding out-of-network providers.

**RE: HIGHWAY SURPLUS BIDS**

It being 10:00 a.m., the Highway Supervisor opened and read bids for purchase from the Highway Department of surplus equipment and materials, as follows:

1. Tractor & Boom Mower  $12,000.00  Loehr Farms  $16,110.00  
   Paul Beckman  $12,250.00  
   Brad Welp  $11,265.00  
   Adam Burke  $7,100.00  
2. Sander  $200.00  Todd @ IMPCO  $125.00  
3. Snow Plow & Bracket  $100.00  Loehr Farms  $155.00  
   Todd @ IMPCO  $100.00  
4. Four Concrete Tanks  $20.00  No Bidders  
5. Army Trailer  $125.00  Terry Hopf  $50.00  
6. Old Form Trailer  $250.00  Max Hopf  $252.00  
   Terry Hopf  $100.00  
7. Rhino Grader Blade  $275.00  Scott Kempf  $639.00  
   Ron Leistner  $633.00  
   Brad Welp  $535.00  
   Tom Hoffman  $305.00  
   Tim Lynch  $252.00  
   Loehr Farms  $205.00  
8. Big Steel 14" Beams  $4.10/ft  Loehr Farms  $310.00  
9. Big Steel 12" Beams  $2.50/ft  Loehr Farms  $81.00  
10. Big Steel 9" Beams  $1.20/ft  Glen Uebelhor  $600.00  
    Loehr Farms  $81.00  

Following review of the bids, on motion made and seconded, the Commissioners accepted the high bids in Lots #1, 3, 6 and 7 and rejected the bids in Lots #2 and 5. Accepted the high bids in Lots #8, 9 and 10, on a square foot basis, with the bid price to be allocated in each lot against the subject beams based on the floor price per foot.

**RE: JAIL GRANT FUNDING DENIED**

The U. S. Department of Justice has given notice that due to lack of funding, the request for the “Planning of a New Institutions” programming to assist with local jail planning was denied.

**RE: COMPLAINTS**

Commissioner Blessinger has received several complaints concerning the condition of properties within the County.

**RE: PROMOTION FUND**

Under Indiana Statute, the County would be permitted to establish a Promotion Fund. Auditor Hopf will be contacted.

**RE: JAIL COMMITTEE**

A list of items regarding jail improvement has been prepared and distributed by Commissioner Blessinger.

**RE: DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING**
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The Department Head meeting will be held this week and several items will be discussed, including new wage scale.

RE: COMMISSIONER BRAMES REPORT

Commissioner Brames reported on contacts made with him regarding: Opioid Lawsuit, Oversize Trucks, Patoka Dam Tour, Bids on New Service Building at Patoka Water; Health Partnership Meeting; Report on Physical and Mental Health; Employee Service Awards; Confined Feeding Reports.

RE: DUBOIS GROW AND DUBOIS STRONG FUNDING

The Commissioners discussed past practice regarding determination of annual contributions to the Dubois Grow and Dubois Strong funding.

RE: PROSECUTOR’S PART-TIME EMPLOYEE

Prosecutor Quinn reported to the Commissioners that one of his employees will be absent on medical leave and that due to the heavy work schedule of his office, he requests permission to engage a part-time employee to fill in for the absent employee until September 1, 2018, and working maximum of 29 hours per week. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved employment of a part-time employee, subject to approval by the County Council.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The Commissioners will meet on Monday, May 7, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. and Monday, May 21, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex.