

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DECEMBER 3, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:00 a.m. (EST) on December 3, 2018. Present were Commissioners Nick Hostetter, Chad A. Blessinger 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 Hostetter. Minutes of the November 19 and 26, 2018 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of November 2018 were as follows: Recorder \$17,247.69; Health Department \$55,073.65; Auditor \$0.00; Clerk \$ No report submitted for October and November. Clerk submitted income for the month of September as \$32,249.20. 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. On motion duly made and seconded, payroll docket was approved.

RE: TOBACCO POLICY PROPOSED

The Commissioners were given a preliminary copy of the proposed tobacco use ordinance for review. The members will review the proposal and discuss at the next meeting.

RE: JAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Commissioner Blessinger reviewed the County's current overcrowding situation at the Security Center. Blessinger stated that at the current time it is his suggestion that a consultant should not be hired, but that an architectural firm should be retained to study the current situation and recommend improvements. He expressed his belief that the Elevatus Architecture firm would best fit the needs of the County. Commissioner Brames summarized the three firms who had previously been interviewed by the Commissioners on October 29, 2018. He recommended the use of the RQAW firm. Commissioner Hostetter also summarized the interviews of the three firms and stated that it was his belief that RQAW would be in the best interest of the County. RQAW had quoted the lowest price. Commissioner Blessinger made a follow up statement expressing why he recommended Elevatus. In response, Commissioner Brames expressed additional reasons why he believes RQAW should be selected. Commissioner Brames moved and Commissioner Hostetter seconded a motion to select RQAW to represent the County on the Justice study question. The motion passed 2-1, with Commissioner Blessinger voting in opposition.

RE: BEAVERS' FLOODING DAMAGE

County Surveyor Ken Brosmer appeared to discuss the flooding problems from beavers' damage along Stewart Road within the County. He stated that he would make a more complete report at the next meeting.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Road Marker and Sign Replacement Plan – Berg reported on the current progress being made on replacement of County highway signs. He stated that he feels an additional \$10,000 in expense will be required. He listed the Townships and intersections which are involved in Phase 2 of the current Round 8. He listed those Townships currently involved and the number of signs in each, totaling 135.

Sanitation Holiday Schedule – Berg submitted the schedule to be used for operations of the County collection sites over the Christmas holidays with the five principal sites being open from 8 am until noon on December 24, and Monday, December 31, 2018. All sites will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day. The Supervisor also requested to place five extra attendants to be spread between all sites on December 27, and an extra person at Jasper, Ireland and Huntingburg on December 28, 2018. On motion made and seconded, the schedule was approved.

County Road 960 East – The Commissioners discussed the improvement of rock to dirt road 960E in Columbia Township. The Commissioners reported on the inspection of the road by the Commissioners and the need, if any, for special signage on the road at the end of the rock road.

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RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Bus Stop Sign – The Engineer reported on the condition of a bus stop on County Road 300N. The area in question is at a 90-degree curve in the road; however, there is clear sight distance in both directions. He stated that a need for a School Bus “Stop Ahead” sign is questionable. The School Corporation office has been requested to investigate the issue and the Engineer will continue to review the request.

Huntingburg Conservation Club County Road 100 West - No report or contact from Conservation Club.

County Road 800 West – Roadway has been completed and will be allowed to settle during 2019. Final paving will be done in 2020.

Holland Road Guardrail – Request has been made to install a guardrail on Holland Road East, close to State Road 161, a deep ditch along east side of road. Engineer will study the location and determine whether condition of road justifies the cost, estimate approximately \$20,000 of constructing a guardrail.

RE: APPOINTMENTS

The Commissioners reported and discussed the requirement for various offices. A question was presented on the representative of municipal boards on the Solid Waste Board. Several other Board vacancies were also discussed. The function of the County Attorney as to representing various other County Boards was also discussed. Future vacancies at the 9-1-1 Department was also discussed. The procedure for filling staff vacancies as set forth in the County Policy was discussed. The advantage of hiring from within current employees was discussed along with the benefits to which the re-employment of a former employee would be entitled. The 9-1-1 Director intends to retire in March 2019 and intends to begin training of her replacement on March 1, 2019.

RE: MARY LUEKEN

Mary Lueken, a former employee of the County, left her position in the County's Auditor's office in 2017 to take employment in another municipal office in the County. Lueken has been offered a position to return to the Auditor's office beginning in 2019. Lueken appeared to request to return with all benefits which she had when she left the County in 2017. She had been employed by the County for more than 10 years. There was discussion of the interpretation of the employee manual on this subject and prior policy followed as to returning former employees. There was expression of position that “continuous service” applies to continuous employment by the County. Several cases of return of prior employees were discussed.

RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BID AWARDS

The Highway Supervisor submitted to the Commissioners results of the review of highway material bids received by the Commissioners on November 19, 2018 with recommendation of the lowest and best bid for each item subject to bids. After consideration of each item, the following bids were considered and accepted:

- Item 1. Aluminized Steel Pipe
Awarded to Metal Culverts with E3 Bridge and CivilCon as backup.
- Item 2. Corrugated Polyethylene Pipe
Awarded to Southern Indiana Supply with E3 as backup.
- Item 3. Geotextile
Awarded to Southern Indiana Supply with ERS as backup.
- Item 4. Ready-Mixed Concrete
Awarded to IMI and Central Concrete dependent on size and availability.
- Item 5. Bituminous
Awarded to Asphalt Materials.
- Item 6. Hot Asphaltic Concrete
Awarded to JH Rudolph and Cave Quarries based on area of need.
- Item 7. Cold Mix
Awarded to JH Rudolph and Cave Quarries based on area of need.

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Item 8. Stone from Quarry

Awarded to Cave Quarries and Mulzer Crushed Stone based on price and area of need.

Item 9. Stone, Stockpile and Spread On Roads – Delivered by vendors.

Awarded to Cave Quarries and Mulzer Crushed Stone based on lowest price and area of need.

RE: SECURITY CENTER CHILLER SYSTEM

Commissioner Brames reported on the review of the Security Center chiller system and the need for replacement. Proposals had been received and the Commissioners will act on the lowest proposal when so advised of that amount and the proposals submitted.

RE: MID-STATES CORRIDOR PLAN

Commissioner Brames reported on recent activities by the Mid-States Corridor Committee.

RE: LONG TERM CAPITAL PLAN

Commissioner Brames reported on a presentation at a recent State Association meeting regarding establishment of a long-range comprehensive capital replacement plan. The Commissioners will review the Plan.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next Commissioners' meeting will be held on Monday, December 17, 2018, in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex, beginning at 8:30 a.m., following the Solid Waste Management District meeting which begins at 7:30 a.m.