

CONTINUED MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners / Council Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 8:30 a.m. (EST) on September 17, 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 September 4, 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: COUNTY ROAD 550 SOUTH – JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Clarence Hurst appeared to discuss a County Road ditch on his property. The County Highway Department has currently cleaned the ditch but there still may be a problem with the tile which runs from his residence into the road ditch.

RE: SCHROERING PLAT – COTTAGE ESTATES

Phil Buehler and Phil Schroering appeared regarding a plat of 3.70 acres in the SW NE of Section 29-T2S-R4W in Jackson Township, near the County Park. The addition is an 8 lot subdivision. Buehler explained that the 4 lots on the circle do not satisfy the minimum 80 foot minimum frontage at the public road. The road from the addition accesses onto Fairground Road but must cross a small strip of the leased County Park property to reach the public road, which crossing was approved by the County Park Board. On motion duly made, the Commissioners granted an exception to the 80 foot Ordinance requirement and approved the Plat as submitted.

RE: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Commissioner Blessinger discussed the benefits which are given to full-time employees being medical, retirement, etc., and submitted a proposed flyer of the various benefits to be distributed to benefit eligible employees. There was discussion as to when the flyer should be distributed to each of the employees. It was determined that it should accompany the first paycheck of 2019.

RE: CRYSTAL STATION BOAT RAMP

The County Auditor submitted a proposed revised property lease with DNR for the Crystal Station Boat Ramp northeast of Dubois. There was discussion of the fact that the Highway Department has mowing and trash cleanup responsibility. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the revised lease.

RE: PROPERTY TAX SALE

The Auditor submitted a list of property unsold at recent property tax auction. The Commissioners considered which tracts are not acceptable for County ownership and the liability of acceptance. The Highway Engineer was requested to inspect the sites and report back. There was a question as to whether the County would be responsible for Lake Helmerich Association dues. An officer of the Association will be contacted.

RE: SURPLUS DESKS

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners declared as surplus three desks in the former Council Chambers and recommended distribution of the desks.

RE: CUSTODIAN HOPF - COINS

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners directed Custodian Hopf to deliver to the County General Fund the \$33.00 in coins located in the Annex vault, possibly left by prior building owner.

RE: 9-1-1 DIRECTOR

Janice Love, 9-1-1 Director, appeared to discuss current problems; vacant positions due to resignations and medical leave. Two replacement employees are needed by end of year. Love believes the Department must enter into

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12 hour workdays for the remainder of this year and 2019, in order to satisfy work demands. On motion duly made and seconded, the Director was authorized to advertise for a replacement employee. On motion made and seconded, the Director was authorized to convert employees from 8 hour to 12 hour employees work schedules.

On motion made and seconded, at the request of the Director, the Commissioners declared as surplus a former operator chair and authorized disposal thereof.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Highway Supervisor Berg submitted the following report of current Department projects:

Property Maintenance Violation – Supervisor reported that he proposes to send a detailed notice to the property owner at 4007W 400N of procedure to have property cleaned-up according to Ordinance. Commissioners reviewed and approved documents to be mailed. Bids for clean-up will be set for October 1, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.

Jasper 5K Walk/Run – Jasper Engines will conduct a Walk/Run on October 27, 2018, at 8:00 a.m., which would use Old Huntingburg Road north to County Road 100, then north to City limits. On motion made and seconded, closing of road was approved.

Railroad Crossing Improvement – Request has been made for installation of crossing arms at intersection due to accident with resulting injury. State and Railroad personnel are being contacted with regard to the installation. It has been suggested that if County contributed \$40,000 to cost, project may be done in 2021. Without contribution, 2 or 3 years would be added to time period. There was one death at same intersection within past several years.

Improvement of Dirt Road – New revised standards for improvement of dirt roads was submitted and approved, Policy 0917-18.

Flood Gates – The Supervisor advised that law enforcement has requested new flood gates at certain roads which frequently flood; 300N at 125E, 700N at White River; 400S east of US 231. The Supervisor advised of some local opinions against gates due to lack of use of roads when closed. The Supervisor was requested to submit added information as to County Road 400S and other gates.

RE: CAIRSTONE – EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Mark Shrack, representing Cairnstone, the County Health Insurance consultant, appeared to submit financial information showing comparison of medical plan costs. Submitted were comparison of Administrative Fees of SIHO of \$69,490 and Unified Group Services, estimated to be \$70,771.20. The advantages and disadvantages of the two TPA's were discussed. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners determined that for the 2019 insurance year the County would use Unified Group Services. Cairnstone will notify SIHO of the change prior to October 1, 2018.

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved a Diabetes Treatment Plan with Active Care, Inc. as previously submitted by Cairnstone.

Angie Pfaff distributed to the Commissioners a rate development report submitted by Delta Dental which has held the County dental plan for the last two years. HRI, the prior County plan holder submitted a proposal having a lower rate than Delta. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners agreed to return to HRI Health Resources for 2019, for a two year contract.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Railroad Overpass – Project is nearing completion and is scheduled for completion on September 28, 2018, but will not be open to public due to local road work.

Huntingburg Conservation Club – Culvert has been ordered with Metal Culverts being low bidder of 4 bids for \$15,196. Following installation, road will open as rock road. Additional cost will be approximate \$40,000. It will probably be in excess of one year before soil will be tested for Airport use purposes.

County Road 800 West – Knies Construction expects to begin work on County Road 800W on October 1, 2018.

Project Report – Submits list of proposed paving projects for remainder of 2018.

RE: SECURITY CENTER STUDY

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Commissioner Blessinger reported that four responses that fully adhered to the requested guidelines have been received for the Security Center study. Several additional responses fail to properly submit requested information. Question was raised as to whether a construction consultant should be used to select the group to perform the study and do architectural services. Each Commissioner will review all of the responses received to begin the selection process.

RE: RECORDS LIBRARY

Commissioner Blessinger recommended that the County Records' Library should remain open and staffed with a full-time employee through December, 2019. Commissioners will consider the future of the Records Library next year and plan any necessary transitional moves deemed necessary at that time. The recommendation is result of his recent discussion with the librarian, a review of the office, and in consideration of future needs.

RE: FUTURE MEETINGS

The Commissioners will meet on Monday, October 1, 2018, and Monday, October 15, 2018, with both meetings to begin at 8:00 a.m., in the Commissioners / Council Room of the Courthouse Annex.