

## REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 4, 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 September 4, 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 August 20, 2018 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of August, 2018 were as follows: Recorder \$22,323.81; Health Department \$31,531.72; Auditor \$00.00; Clerk \$45,813.72. 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: COUNTY ROAD 800 WEST BIDS**

It being 8:00 a.m., the time advertised for receipt of bids for improvement of County Road 800W; bids were opened, only one bid was received being that of Knies Construction, Inc. The bid was determined to be in proper order and was announced to be \$113,500. The bid was submitted to the Highway Engineer for review.

### **RE: 9-1-1 DIRECTOR'S REPLACEMENT**

The County Attorney submitted a copy of I.C. 36-8-15 relating to Public Safety Communications, setting forth the responsibilities of the Commissioners and the 9-1-1 Advisory Board in selection of a replacement of a 9-1-1 Director based on the retirement of the current Director. The Commissioners discussed prior history in employment of new employees for the 9-1-1 system. Comment was made that the 9-1-1 Board should make recommendations to the Commissioners. Another comment was that the Commissioners are in charge of employments. Commissioner Blessinger a member of the 9-1-1 Board, will discuss the subject with other 9-1-1 Board members and report back to the Commissioners.

### **RE: COUNTY ROAD 800 SOUTH**

Vicky Trout, a resident on County Road 800S in Cass Township appeared to request improvement of the County Road which is part rock and part old broken blacktop. She stated that traffic on the road causes rock to fly up and hit people on the road and her mailbox. She stated that she had been informed that funds are available for improvement of the road. Her home is in the SW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 12-T3S-R6W. The Commissioners were advised that the current dedication is 50 feet wide, but the old dedication is not of public record. Trout stated that other property owners adjacent to County Road 800S are not willing to dedicate the added 10 feet. The Commissioners advised Trout of the requirements and lengthy process for paving of currently unpaved roads.

### **RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

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

Property Maintenance Ordinance – the contractors for the cleanup of the Seifrig property recommended a better description of actual work required and of areas involved. The property owner should be notified in advance of work to be done. A proposed clean-up of area was described and a recommendation of no structure activity should be stated. A copy of cleanup Notice was submitted.

Chip Seal Progress – Reported that most large chip and seal repair work has been completed. Work is now on pothole patching.

Pavement Sealing – Sealing work will begin next week on a number of County Roads, which will result in temporary lane closures. Road restriping will take place following seal work.

District #3 Foreman – Clint Buttery has completed his probation period and he has been elevated to foreman position.

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Divine Mercy 5K Race - Saint Anthony Parish requests closure of County Road 450S west of Ohio Street and east of Saint Anthony Road West on October 14, 2018, for 5K race. Approval for limited closure granted by Commissioners.

Road Usage Agreement – Department is discussing with Republic Transmission the use of County roads in the area of Duff to transmission line installation project. County Attorney will review proposed Agreement.

Dirt Road Improvement – Supervisor submitted a new proposed policy for improvement of dirt roads where gravel is to be added. Question exists as to addition of single residence as compared to a number of residences or a number of lots in subdivision. Current rule is, new road in subdivisions must be paved, but not road up to subdivision. Current subdivision ordinance does not require improvement of public road leading to subdivision passing through land owned by other parties. The Highway Engineer will study the current Subdivision Ordinance in relation to the above question.

County Road 600 North - The Supervisor reported that to date he has not investigated a complaint received regarding condition of home site along County Road 600N in Harbison Township.

### **RE: HUNTINGBURG CONSERVATION CLUB**

Bernie Main reported to the Commissioners that an agreement has been reached between the Huntingburg Conservation Club and Airport for purchase of lake dirt, conditioned upon ground being acceptable for Airport use. There is also question as to the amount of ground required at the dam to meet DNR requirements. The Club also feels that it has other dirt available, not from lake, to satisfy the Airport's needs. At this time, there is no timeline set for completion of the project. There is also no timeline set if Airport sale does not take place. Main stated he believes the Club has access to the \$35,000 available for the engineering study to determine the cost of the project. Limited engineer work and no dam design work has been completed. Previous discussion included comments the County would contribute \$150,000 towards the cost of repair of County Road 100W as located on top of Lake Dam with or without an agreement from the Club. The sale of dirt to the Airport is necessary for the Club to fund its portion of dam repair but it is not certain the airport would purchase from the Club. The Airport overpass project may begin about October, 2019. County Road 100 West could not be reopened until repair work is done. A question was presented as to who owns the Road and who owns the dam and who is responsible for repairs to the dam and culvert after completion of the dam project. The Commissioners are of the opinion that the one year delay for the Club project is not acceptable, and that the County should proceed with the culvert replacement in order to reopen the road. Commissioner Brames stated he was of the opinion that a decision must be made by year's end as to whether the project is a "go". Commissioner Blessinger moved that the County immediately proceed to replace the culvert under the roadway and within the dam to get the public road reopened. The road has been closed for nearly 1.5 years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hostetter. Commissioner Brames stated his objection. On vote the motion was adopted, two for and one opposed. Glenn Kays, with the Club, was also present and stated that he heard the dam failure was caused by improper dam fill in the past.

### **RE: DATA PIT STOP INC.**

Darren Bates, Data Pit Stop, appeared to demonstrate a proposed website listing data for real estate tracts within Dubois County, including prior taxes, rates per tax unit, various improvement information and allocations of taxes paid between units. The data would be of great value to the Auditor's office, at a cost of \$4,000 per year. Also included would be inventory items, capital assets and the allocation and flow of the items. Auditor Hopf recommended the Data Pit Stop web application, which was approved by the Commissioners without vote.

### **RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

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

Railroad Overpass – City of Huntingburg submits two invoices in the amount of \$3,000.27 and \$62.11. On motion duly made and seconded, claims were approved and payment authorized.

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Driveway Sight Distance Waiver – Resident on County Road 800W requested driveway permit at location which does not meet County standards. He is willing to sign waiver of liability and hold harmless County, and acknowledges problem. On motion made and seconded, waiver approved.

Huntingburg Conservation Club Lake Dam – Engineer stated his belief that based on current progress being made, it would be several years before the Club would be in a position to begin its proposed project. The Public would be able to use the road sooner using the decision adopted by the Commissioners.

County Road 800 West – Knies Construction bid is acceptable and is within the estimated price for the project. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved and accepted the bid.

2018 Paving Projects – Engineer submits list of status of current 2018 paving projects.

### **RE: WEIGHTS & MEASURES APPLICATIONS**

The Auditor submitted to the Commissioners a list of applicants for the vacant Weights & Measures Inspector position for the County. In order to reduce the number of applicants the Commissioners set an Executive Session for interviews with applicants on September 10, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

### **RE: WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS**

The Auditor advised the Commissioners that Matrix had advised that Wireless Internet Access could be available for the public in the Courthouse for \$750 to \$1,000. The Commissioners decided that the limited use would not justify the expense.

### **RE: TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

Matrix and Eck-Mundy will each be available at a future meeting to discuss a new telephone system for the County, as proposed. The Auditor will contact both vendors to schedule.

### **RE: SECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING**

The Auditor advised that Matrix has a computer security training program for one year for \$2,188.80 for County employees. We currently have 160 computer users. The Commissioners on motion made and seconded, approved the employee training program for one year.

### **RE: OAKLAND CITY UNIVERSITY PROGRAM**

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved enrollment in the Oakland City University program which offers a four year period for extending continuing education to employees for credit towards a degree.

### **RE: 4-H AND COUNTY PARK LEASE**

In view of the actual assignments of real estate between the 4-H and County Park, it was suggested that a meeting be held between the Commissioners and representatives for 4-H and County Park, to review the current leases between County, 4-H and Park Department. Commissioner Hostetter was selected to meet with 4-H and County Park representatives.

### **RE: RDA AGREEMENT**

The Commissioners discussed recent activity regarding the RDA Agreement and the status of State participation in the project.

### **RE: FUTURE MEETING**

The next Commissioners' meeting will be held on Monday, September 17, 2018, in the Commissioners/Council Room of the Courthouse Annex, beginning at 8:30 a.m.