

REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FEBRUARY 5, 2018

The regular 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 February 5, 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 and Highway Engineer Brent Wendholt. A quorum was declared present, and the meeting was opened for business by President Hostetter. Minutes of the January 22, 2018 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of January, 2018 were as follows: Recorder \$18,560.61; Health Department \$26,912.98; Auditor \$0.00; Clerk \$33,237.87. 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: SAINT PATRICK'S DAY - IRELAND

Janet Schitter and JT Stenftenagel, representing the Ireland Saint Patrick's Day Committee, appeared to request approval to close streets on March 18, 2018, between the hours of 12:00 noon until 3:00 pm for holding of the parade as follows: County Road 500W from Church Avenue, south to Clay Street, west on Clay, north on Grant Street, west on Central Street and north on James Street to the end of the parade.

Also requested the closing of West Walnut Street from 500W to Grant Street on March 17, 2018 from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm for the Irish Trot on March 17, 2018 along County Road 500 W from Ireland Elementary School south to County Road 150 N to Wheatland Drive to Ladino Lane to County Road 150 N.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the closings or partial closings as applicable.

RE: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

It was reported that request has been made that the County, as a member of the Regional Development Authority (RDA), make recommendations for appointment to the Board of the restructured RDA Group. The Commissioners discussed the qualification requirements for a Board member. Commissioner Brames will inquire as to the number of recommendations requested and qualifications of those individuals, including residency of certain areas.

RE: MAKER'S MOUNT SUBDIVISION

Bethany S. Hopf appeared to submit proposed plat of Maker's Mount, a subdivision in Ferdinand Township consisting of two lots on a 10 acre tract in the SE quarter of the NW quarter of Section 10-T3S-R4W, in Ferdinand Township, along CR 725W and Club Road. On motion made and seconded, the Plat was approved as submitted, on recommendation of the Highway Engineer.

RE: COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAX

Kitty Merkley, County Treasurer appeared to request that the County initiate a Tax Refund Exchange program whereby notices are sent to delinquent property taxpayers, advising that the County has the right to offset the delinquent tax against State Income Tax refunds. After discussion, on motion made and seconded, the Plan's use was approved.

The Treasurer also discussed a proposal for a Payment Processing Agreement with Forte Payment Systems for automated clearing house and credit debt card processing. The Attorney requested a copy of the prior contract for comparison purposes with Forte's proposed agreement.

The Treasurer also questioned the process for investing excess funds and whether such funds could be invested in non-County banks after requesting interest bid proposals from all local banks. The Commissioners advised that the highest comparable rate should be accepted, after having requested the best rate offered by each local bank.

RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

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

Sanitation Study – Berg reported on cost estimates for use of staffing agencies to staff employees at the solid waste collection sites. Discussions with site attendants had been held and alternatives for extra work hours were considered. Use of an additional floater is being considered. Further discussions will take place with all involved.

Bituminous Tank – The Supervisor reported that the bituminous tank recently on auction was bid higher than the Department was willing to offer for the tank.

Weed Board – The Soil & Water District will make an appointment to the County Weed Board shortly.

Department Equipment – The Supervisor reviewed with the Commissioners the Department equipment which would normally be replaced during 2018. He reviewed the condition of the sign truck, boom mower, sanitation truck and road patch machine, with the upgrade cost of each and estimated replacement cost. The different method available for disposal of old equipment was discussed, along with the sources for purchase of new equipment. A substantial waiting period for some of the equipment was described. The current Department budget has adequate funding for the proposed equipment. On motion made and seconded, the Department was authorized to seek bids/quotes for the equipment required.

Road Repair – Due to winter weather events, the roads appear to be in poor conditions and substantial repairs will be necessary in the spring. A number of base repairs will be necessary, in addition to over coating.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Railroad Overpass – Invoice for \$1676.80 submitted for services provided by DLZ. On motion made and seconded, payment approved.

Huntingburg Conservation Club Dam – Club has three months to raise \$17,500 to pay for one-half of the cost of design engineering for dam repairs. If funds are not raised, County will proceed with County highway repairs. The Club will have an additional three months to raise the second half of engineering costs. A larger problem would be funding actual repair costs.

Subdivision Control Ordinance – The Engineer submitted a redraft of the Subdivision Control Ordinance. Discussion included adding a processing fee for applications. The Commissioners requested a public hearing be held on March 5, 2018. The Commissioners reviewed a number of provisions contained in the proposed Ordinance.

Highway Building Upgrade – The Engineer reported on the failed condition of the roof at the garage. Additional price estimates will be received and presented at a later meeting. The design of the replacement and extent of replacement is still in question.

RE: WEED AND JUNK ORDINANCES

The Committee has been meeting and revisions are still being made. The building ordinance will be placed in separate ordinance. The final ordinance should be completed within the next week.

RE: SECURITY CENTER ASSESSMENT

Commissioner Brames reported on the outline prepared by Brames, Councilman Hunefeld and Sheriff Lampert of Purpose and Objectives of proposed Committee to be used in review of Security Center study. A summary of objectives are:

1. Study of NIC recommendations;
2. Identify options regarding overcrowding of Security Center, recidivism and staffing;
3. Develop long term solutions;
4. Develop plan that is economically feasible; and
5. Benchmark other communities' services, facilities and staffing to insure best practice.

JOINT MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND COUNCIL

RE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY RELOCATION

Huntingburg Mayor Denny Spinner appeared and first requested a decision as to whether the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) should be relocated to Huntingburg Highway Department office space, and if so, what should

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the space contain. Primary purpose of relocation is to increase EMA storage space. Secondary purpose is for more efficient EMA operation. The Mayor questioned if the move can be financially justified. A member of the engineering firm engaged by the City of Huntingburg discussed the fact that by assigning 18% of the building cost to EMA project, there would be approximately \$250,000 of additional cost which would result from inclusion of EMA in the building plan, and there is an assumption that approximately \$70,000 of that amount could be eliminated from overall cost. Overhead expenses of the occupancy would be covered by a lease with annual rental, which would be for a minimal amount. Parking availability was also discussed. EMA Director Humbert expressed the need of her Department for the additional space. Council member Hunefeld stated that the County Council will later this month consider a prior commitment to appropriate an additional \$200,000 to the EMA relocation project.

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners adopted a resolution to relocate the EMA Office to the Huntingburg location, subject to the appropriation of funds by the County Council.

Jerry Hunefeld, Michael Kluesner and Craig Greulich will serve on the planning committee for this project.

RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT PRN POSITION

Health Department Administrator Donna Oeding appeared to request that a part-time nurse employee be hired as PRN regular, as needed, using existing grant funds. On motion made and seconded authority was granted for such employment without benefits for so long as the current State grant funds are available.

RE: VOTING LOCATIONS FOR EARLY VOTERS

County Clerk Jarboe appeared to request that voting locations for pre-election, early voters be relocated to the County Council Chambers in the Courthouse Annex for a period from April 10, 2018 through May 7, 2018. The County Council members present on motion duly made and seconded, approved the relocation of County Council meetings for the necessary pre-election vote dates from the Council Chambers location to the County Commissioners' Room, both in the Courthouse Annex.

JOINT MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further County Council business to come before the joint meeting, the Council meeting was on motion made and seconded, adjourned.

RE: GROW DUBOIS COUNTY, INC.

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved Agreement of Professional Area Economic Development Services with Grow Dubois County, Inc.

RE: CAIRSTONE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING PROGRAM

The Auditor submitted a proposed 2018 Health and Well-being Program agreement with Cairnstone at a cost of \$7,000. The Commissioners requested receipt of a similar proposal from Memorial Hospital.

RE: JASPER MIDDLE SCHOOL ENTERPRISE IN ACTION

At the request of Greater Jasper Schools, the Commissioners approved participation in the School's job shadow program on April 4, 2018.

RE: FUTURE MEETING

The next Commissioners' meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex, beginning at 8:00 a.m.