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 March 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, 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 February 20, 2018 meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed.

Incomes for the month of February, 2018 were as follows: Recorder $14,964.56; Health Department $25,609.84; Auditor $150.00; Clerk _No Report Submitted_. 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: WERNER ESTATES PLAT**

Phil Buehler, Brosmer Land Surveying, representing Crystal F. and Cole E. Werner, appeared regarding a plat of Werner Estates, an addition in the NE NE Section 30-T1S-R4W, in Bainbridge Township, within jurisdiction of the City of Jasper, containing two lots. The plat had been approved by the Jasper Plan Commission. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the plat as presented.

**RE: BOB MEYER FAMILY FARM EXCEPTION**

Phil Buehler, Brosmer Land Surveying, submitted a request from Robert L. and Eileen M. Meyer for a proposed transfer of a 7.307 acre tract in the SE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 2-T3S-R6W as an exception to the plat requirement based on the County Family Farm Exception. There was discussion as to whether notice to adjacent property owners was required. On motion made and seconded, the exception was granted.

**RE: CAIRNSTONE – EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Mark Shrack, representing Cairnstone, appeared to inform the Commissioners that a proposed agreement from SIHO has been received and is being reviewed. Also being reviewed is a proposal from Cairnstone which establishes a 100 mile radius limit for inpatient rehab. Question was presented as to whether this could be extended to include the Indianapolis medical area. There was also discussion regarding the quality grade of services assigned to various medical personnel and facilities, and the comparable costs of such services. Shrack also reported on progress being made to have Dubois County designated as a “Healthy Community”, and on establishment of a local clinic. The Commissioners expressed a preference for a 200 or 250 mile radius for inpatient rehab treatment, and on motion made and seconded, approved an amendment to the Medical Plan to provide for a 250 mile radius. Discussion was also held on questions which have surfaced as the result in change of prescription coverage.

**RE: WEBSITE**

Commissioner Blessinger reported regarding the current status of the County Website. While improvements may be made in the future, the Commissioners believe that the current improved site is as good as or better than prior and therefore should be placed in operation. On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners determined the revised website be placed in operation.

**RE: MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WELLNESS PROGRAM**

Alissa Brosmer, Susan Weisheit and Karly Broerman, representing Memorial Hospital, appeared and explained the current Wellness Program Services available from the hospital. They explained providing of Health coaching to assist employees and or Health Educators to evaluate and encourage employees to develop better health practices. The Workwell Clinic is for wellness and is not an urgent care program. They do not replace the primary care provider but
assist the provider. The goal is to improve health and reduce medical claims. They suggested establishment of an employee Wellness Committee to coordinate a County Wellness program. The Hospital has different levels of wellness programs and cost of program will differ based on the level desired. The method of communicating screening results with employees was discussed. The Commissioners discussed re-establishment of the employee Committee and agreed to submit a survey to employees regarding medical wellness.

The personnel from Cairnstone discussed with the Commissioners the proposal presented by Memorial Hospital. Cairnstone also provides a similar service.

**RE: AMBULANCE CONTRACT WITH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

At the request of Commissioner Blessinger, Suzan Henke, Director of Medical Emergency Services, appeared to discuss and answer questions concerning the Contract between the County and Memorial Hospital. Currently, the County furnishes ambulances and medical equipment for emergency medical services. Questions discussed included responsibility of each party for certain expenses, which entity is to provide insurance and of what type, the effect of subsequent statute changes on the contract, the method used by the Hospital to calculate County reimbursement, the extent to which Cities and Towns should contribute to the overall cost, the qualifications of ambulance drivers, and the insurance coverage required.

**RE: COUNTY SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE**

Engineer Wendholt advised the Commissioners that he had prepared and distributed revisions of the original 2004 Subdivision Ordinance. The Ordinance and revision had received publicity and is open for discussion. Eleven members of the public, including a number of real estate agents, were present for the discussion. County Surveyor Brosmer advised that the Ordinance does not apply within the two mile City zoning jurisdiction. County Engineer Wendholt stated the proposed changes which had been made to the Ordinance. The proposals free up somewhat how the property owner is able to dispose of smaller tracts. It was suggested that the County should have a building commissioner or inspector to assist in orderly development. The Commissioners will continue to review the various alternatives suggested.

**RE: STEWART ROAD IN MADISON TOWNSHIP**

Marty Steltenpohl, a resident of Stewart Road off of Division Road in Madison Township, appeared to discuss the flooding of Stewart Road during heavy rain periods. The flooding results in total closing of the road at two locations, which is isolating the residents between flooded areas. Water over the road can be up to three feet in depth. The Highway Supervisor was directed to investigate and report back. The Engineer explained that both areas of floods are surrounded by extremely unstable soil conditions, and work outside the right-of-way will be extremely difficult.

**RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR’S REPORT**

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

- **Flooded Roads** - The Supervisor reported that up to 38 roads were closed as a result of recent flooding. As a result, there have been bank slides, road washouts, plugged culverts and shoulder washed away. Repairs are in process.
- **Equipment Bids** – The Supervisor has confirmed prior bids for equipment meet specifications and therefore all low bids were ordered as previously approved:
  - Altec Industries $136,988.00
  - Whayne Supply $ 54,357.20

**John Wibbeler Retirement** – Wibbeler has worked for the Department since January 17, 1983 and will retire on March 30, 2018. He will be replaced using recent job applicants.

**Annual Operations Report** – Submitted the Operations Report of the Department for calendar year 2017. After review, on motion made and seconded, the report was approved.
Sanitation Truck Replacement – The 1998 Chevy C-70 Sanitation truck #003, has 385,080 miles and is scheduled for replacement. It is recommended that the chassis be traded and the compactor be stripped for parts. The recycling revenue will be used to purchase the chassis and the County Council will be requested to appropriate $80,000 from the recycling fund and $80,000 for Cum Cap funds. On motion duly made and seconded, the application for appropriation was approved in the amount of $160,000.

Road Repairs – 91 County Roads have been damaged by freeze and thaw, flooding, and 364 areas will require repairs. This amount may increase by 10% before winter ends.

Paving Plan for 2018 – Paving under the Community Crossing Project was presented. Additional paving bids will be received at the next Commissioners meeting. A subsequent additional round of bids is being considered. Also, other necessary upgrades are being considered, based upon availability of funds.

Transfer of Appropriations and Additions - In order to fund the 2018 projects, the Supervisor would propose to request the following:

- Transfer of $35,000 from LRS to paving and sealcoating,
- $180,000 from LRS to Paving Projects to cover paving and sealcoating,
- Additional Appropriation in MVH for $550,000 in stone,
- $625,000 in Bituminous,
- $350,000 in Highway Paving,
- $100,000 in new chip and seal

On motion made and seconded, the transfer and additional appropriations were approved.

Summer Part-Time Employees – On motion made and seconded, the Supervisor was authorized to employ two part-time summer employees, beginning on April 2, 2018. The employees are normally engaged in weed control along and adjacent to County Roads.

RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER’S REPORT

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

Railroad Overpass – City of Huntingburg has submitted three invoices for services by DLZ on the Overpass project: $3950.56 Inspection; $813.49 and $141.37 for Design Engineering service to DLZ. On motion made and seconded, payment was authorized.

Highway Department Building – Proposals received for replacement of roof with flat or pitched roof. It is suggested that for long range, a pitched roof be used. It was also reported that replacement of furnace/AC unit should take place.

- Pitched Roof
  - Jasper Lumber $62,205.00 (includes roof and A/C relocation $2300)
  - B & A Construction $61,064.00
- Furnace and A/C Replacement
  - Huntingburg Machine Work $9,149.00
  - RG Mechanical $6,400.00
  - Mehringer Plumbing $9,930.00
  - Bettag Plumbing $8,075.00

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized acceptance of the Jasper Lumber proposal on condition that the charge for A/C relocation be removed, resulting in a price of $59,905.00 and RG Mechanical at $6,400.00, including A/C removal.

RE: PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE SECURITY AND RELOCATION

Courthouse Custodian Scott Hopf has requested proposals from three contractors on the Prosecutor’s office security and relocation required for security. One proposal has been received for $45,600, being Jasper Lumber. After discussion, on motion made and seconded, the Commissioners agreed to accept the one proposal, subject to approval of appropriation of $50,000 for the project by the County Council.

RE: NEW ENGINEERING SURVEY EQUIPMENT
Highway Engineer Wendholt requested replacement of the 15 year old surveying equipment with new robotic equipment with data collector, at approximate cost of $30,000. Equipment will reduce time and manpower required over current equipment. The Engineer was requested to obtain a proposal for purchase for the equipment.

**RE: ROAD PRIORITIZATION BOOKS**

The 2018 Road Prioritization Books were issued to the Commissioners.

**RE: WEED CONTROL BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

The Commissioners made the following appointments to the County Weed Control Board: James Meyer, Kenneth Eck, Mark A. Hochgesang and Pat Eckerle. Said appointment terms expiring December 31, 2021.

**RE: COURTROOM USAGE**

Sr. Judge Weikert has reported that a non-appealable hearing will be held in the Third Floor Courtroom in the near future and requested information as to whether the parties will be required to pay for use of the facility. After discussion, the Commissioners determined that the use would be comparable to arbitration hearings held using court facilities, for which there is no charge. The no charge would be made for the proposed use, being officiated over by one of the County’s Judges.

**RE: NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

On motion made and seconded, the Commissioners determined that the east side outside Courthouse steps could be used May 3, 2018 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm for the National Day of Prayer program.

**RE: TRI-CAP REQUEST FOR NATIONAL SERVICE RECOGNITION DAY**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners adopted a Proclamation proclaiming April 3, 2018 as the National Service Recognition Day, for service provided by senior volunteers in Dubois County. This request was made by Tri-Cap.

**RE: WI-FI**

The Commissioners discussed a request that the Courtroom areas and the Prosecutor’s area in the Annex be equipped with Wi-Fi. It was reported that the cost of initial installation by Matrix would be $10,243.60. The Commissioners approved the installation subject to appropriation of funds by the County Council.

**RE: FUTURE MEETING**

The next Commissioners’ meeting will be held on Monday, March 19, 2018, in the Commissioners’ Room of the Courthouse Annex, beginning at 8:30 a.m.