

**REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 16, 2017**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 16, 2017 with Commissioners Paul Wilkinson, Mark Bacon, Bruce Levi, Jodi Harr, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney, in attendance.

Paul Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the flag.

Minutes of the October 2, 2017 regular meeting were approved with a motion from Mark Bacon and seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS**

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for October 16, 2017 in the amount of \$152,830.23. Bruce Levi moved to approve the claims. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Payroll ending October 20, 2017 in the amount of \$177,202.68 was presented. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER**

The commissioners received and accepted the September Treasurer's report on a motion by Bruce Levi and seconded by Mark Bacon. Motion carried.

**REASSESSMENT**

The commissioners revisited the single bid from Nexus Group for cyclical reassessment. Assessor Mary Ann Bridges explained the reason for the large increase is that Nexus will be doing more of the reassessment due to the partial retirement of Nick White in her office. The amount budget for 2018 will not cover the cost of this contract; however, after meeting with Councilman Gerald Mohr and Auditor Jodi Harr, the funds will be available. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the contract in the amount of \$101,000 per year for four years. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

**NEW JAIL**

Eric Ratz with DLZ was present to ask for final approval of the new jail design. He gave an overview of the proposed facility and noted the architectural drawings are complete. They are ready to address any questions from contractors and bidders. Mark Bacon asked if there was enough space to get into the fiber hut in case any repairs or replacements would need to be done there. Ratz assured the commissioners there is. CCI has no questions or concerns with the design. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the design plans of the new jail as presented. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

John Painter with CCI presented a change order for Custer Electric. A buried building was found on the new tower site. The building needed excavated and removed. The additional amount of the change order is \$15,148.10 making the total contract amount \$120,148.10. The additional cost will come from the contingency fund. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change order. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried. Painter noted the original contingency amount approved for the project in June of 2017 is on track. There is no anticipated problem of going over budget at this time.

Painter then presented the Milestone Schedule for the project. Bids will be received November 9, 2017 and the project is scheduled for completion in October 2019. Staff training should start in July of 2019.

County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Lease Agreement between Rush County and the Rush County, Indiana Jail Building Corporation. The commissioners approved it at their December 2016 meeting but did not want to sign it until after the county council and building corporation signed it. This is the lease for the new jail.

In order to transfer the property to the Rush County, Indiana Jail Building Corporation, we need two appraisals. Morning did get a quote from Don R. Schneidt & Company in the amount of \$4,200. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve their appraisal services. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried. None of our local appraisers are able to provide this service. Leigh trying to find someone to do the second one.

### **LIBRARY APPOINTMENT**

Sue Prifogle, Director of Rushville Public Library, was present to answer any questions regarding the appointment of someone to replace Laura Steenstrup. She gave the commissioners three names and feels like any of the three would do a fantastic job. Mark Bacon made the motion to appoint Karen Brashaber to complete the vacated term from October 16, 2017 through June 30, 2020. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Bruce Levi abstained due to potential conflict of interest with one of the persons recommended. Motion carried.

### **PROPERTY TAX SALE**

Auditor Jodi Harr presented the commissioners with a list of twenty three parcels that did not sell at the property tax sale held on October 2, 2017. No action was taken.

### **EXTENSION OFFICE**

Gracie Marlatt reported their office is wrapping up the one hundred year celebration of extension services in Rush County. They are preparing a picture booklet to commemorate the celebration. They are reworking the employment ad for the part time position in their office and finding other means of advertising.

### **RUSH COUNTY RIDE RUSH**

Wanda Henderson presented the 2018 Section 5311 & PMTF Operating Assistance Grant for the commissioners to sign. It is due to the State of Indiana on October 20, 2017. County Attorney Leigh Morning has not received the application for review. Bruce Levi made the motion to sign the grant agreement pending legal review by Morning. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried. Henderson also will be delivering the third quarter 2017 report for review. The last new vehicle has been delivered.

### **2018 RUSH COUNTY CALENDAR**

In reviewing the 2018 calendar for approval, the commissioners requested to change the meeting date on Monday, January 8, 2018 to Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 3 p.m. The auditor has permission to process payroll as normal on January 8, 2018 with the understanding that any changes needed will be done on the January 26, 2018 payroll. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the 2018 calendar with change. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

### **EMS REPORTS**

EMS reports were received for September, 2017 Carthage EMS and July, August, and September for Anderson Twp.

### **HIGHWAY**

There was one bid received for the chip spreader advertised for bid. The bid was from Southeastern Equipment Co, Inc. for one new 2017 Etnyre Hydrostatically Driven, Front Wheel Drive, Self-Propelled Chip Spreader. The cost is \$240,000 minus a trade in with a value of \$34,000 for a total of \$206,000. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the bid. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

### **SHERIFF**

Sheriff Jim Cowan reported 55 inmates currently housed at the Rush County Jail. He updated the commissioners on department statistics. He gave special note and appreciation to Cory Hill. Hill handled the dispatch communications between three counties in a vehicle chase.

### **EMA EQUIPMENT**

Commissioner Wilkinson has spoken with the new owners of the building on West Second Street that currently houses all EMA equipment. The new owners offered to sell the building to the county for \$150,000. They intend to refurbish the building and resale it. The commissioners need to look into somewhere else to store the equipment.

### **COURTHOUSE CANNON**

The cannon located on the East side lawn of the courthouse is leaning and in need of repairs. Wilkinson is trying to reach our local Veterans Service Officer to see if the local veterans can be of assistance. In the mean-time, County Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton will look at to see if his department secure the cannon.

**COATS FOR KIDS**

Clean Green Rush is a sponsor for Coats for Kids. There are collection boxes on the first floor of the courthouse for new or gently used coats.

**EMS SERVICES**

Commissioner Wilkinson noted the commissioners had asked the volunteer services to get with them to discuss any proposals the voluntary services had. He has an appointment with Raleigh Ambulance service today to discuss their proposal. No other service has contacted him with a proposal.

The next regular Commissioner’s meeting will be held on Monday, October 30, 2017 at 9:00a.m.

Mark Bacon moved to adjourn. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/Paul Wilkinson/  
Paul Wilkinson Chairman

/Mark Bacon/  
Mark Bacon

/Bruce Levi/  
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/  
Jodi Harr, Auditor