

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 2, 2016 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Mary Ann Beard Auditor and Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance. Paul Wilkinson was absent due to a medical issue.

President Bruce Levi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Levi thanked the Beard family for installing the "In God We Trust" national motto in the Commissioner's chamber.

Minutes of the last regular meeting were approved on a motion by Mark Bacon. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of the following four executive sessions were approved:

Mark Bacon moved to approve the meeting on April 15th. Bruce Levi seconded the motion.

Mark Bacon moved to approve the meeting on April 25th. Bruce Levi seconded the motion.

Mark Bacon moved to approve the litigation meeting on April 29th. Bruce Levi seconded the motion.

Mark Bacon moved to approve the meeting on April 29th for the purpose of acquiring land. Bruce Levi seconded the motion.

Bi-weekly claims were presented by the Auditor. Mark Bacon questioned the claim for the juvenile detention contract. Mr. Bacon then moved to pay the claims. Bruce Levi seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Payroll for the period ending May 6th was approved on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Bruce Levi.

STATE ROAD 244 BRIDGE

The Commissioners received a request to be a consulting party in an effort to identify historic properties potentially affected by the replacement of a state bridge in Orange Township. Since highway superintendent Jerry Sitton had reviewed the bridge project the Commissioner determined that there was no need to become a consulting party.

APC

Executive Director Bryant Niehoff submitted a request to re-zone 5.838 acres owned by Jonas and Saloama Kemp from A-2, Agri-Business to A-3, Regulated Livestock. Mark Bacon moved to approve the petition. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Phil Caviness requested permission to carpet two offices and the conference room on the third floor of the courthouse at a cost of \$2,421.50. The quote was from Smith Carpet in Spiceland and was half the cost of refinishing the floors. The project would be paid for by IV-D Child Support funds. Mark Bacon moved to approve the request. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE

Solid Waste director Carole Yeend reported that the State Board of Accounts has completed the audit of the last three years and there were no comments.

On May 9th at 1:00p.m. Yeend requested a location and volunteers to wrap 800 tree seedlings to be distributed at Garden Fest sponsored by Clean Green Rush, Rush County Soil & Water, and Purdue Extension Services. Sheriff Cowan offered the use of the Sheriff's garage for the location for the tree prep and Yeend graciously accepted.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner Chamber director urged everyone to vote. The Mayor's 5K Run/Walk will take place on May 14th to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. The Heart of Rushville will conduct the Spring Yard Sale on May 21st.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Cowan reported 52 inmates consisting of 41 males and 11 females. The department has completed 1,160 hours of training. Two men are being sent to a stress management course offered by Rush Memorial Hospital. A business burglary from 2013 has been solved. The annual jail inspection will take place on Friday, May 13th.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton highway superintendent reported that county road 700W from 300N to 800N will be scrub sealed on May 10th & 11th.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Leigh Morning presented a contract for a three year cost allocation plan with Maximus at a cost of \$3,500 per year. Mark Bacon moved to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A contract with SRI, Inc. to conduct the tax sale in Rush County was approved on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

CERRY STREET ENDORSEMENT

The city of Rushville requested a letter of endorsement for phase II of the Cherry Street extension. Spectator Barbara Van Sickle questioned why the city didn't finish up what they started and why is the county encroached by the city. Commissioner Levi stated that those questions need to be addressed to the City administration. Levi proclaimed that he supported the project. Mark Bacon moved to sign the letter. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SENATE ENROLLED ACT 308

Auditor Beard informed the board that Senate Enrolled Act 308 was adopted by the 2016 legislature. This bill will decrease the assess value of farm ground over the next three years. This decrease will create a shift of property taxes to homeowners. Once the taxpayer hits the tax cap, taxes are no longer collectible which will cause a loss of revenue.

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

/s/ Bruce Levi
Bruce Levi, Chairman

/s/ Mark Bacon
Mark Bacon

/s/ Paul Wilkinson
Paul Wilkinson

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor