

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 22, 2016 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson, Mary Ann Beard Auditor, and Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance.

President Bruce Levi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the meeting of August 8th were approved on a motion by Commissioner Paul Wilkinson with the striking of a line regarding a comment of an audience participant Commissioner Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of the Executive Session of August 12, 2016 were approved on a motion by Mark Bacon. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Paul Wilkinson moved to approve the minutes of a Special Meeting of August 12, 2016. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Levi informed the audience of a new protocol. Anyone that would like to address the Commissioners must step to the podium and identify themselves.

VACATED ROAD

Cory Kiser representing of Rush County Stone requested a section of County Road 750S at 600W to a dead-end be vacated. A public hearing is scheduled for September 19th a 10:00a.m.

PURDUE EXTENSION

Gracie Marlatt reported that the staff is transitioning from the events of the State Fair. The staff is also working on new training programs.

APC

Bryant Niehoff, APC executive director submitted the department's monthly report for July. Niehoff reported that the City of Rushville was presented the prestigious Stellar Award by Lt. Governor Eric Holcomb at a ceremony at the State Fair. The Commissioners offered their congratulations to the City officials and all who were involved in attaining this designation.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jim Cowan reported a slight decline in prisoners reporting 56 inmates. The average for July was 60 inmates (40 male and 20 female). Cowan stated that the investigators are working on one new burglary, one sex offense, and two thefts.

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Jerry Sitton reported that he will be paving a street in Sexton in October. As ADA coordinator Sitton noted that our website must be updated to become ADA compliant. Net Noggin will update the website at a cost of \$3,500 and will create a site for

Clean Green Rush for the amount of \$999. The monthly service amount of \$125 will remain the same amount with this new company. Mark Bacon moved to approve the update pending approval of the contract by the County Attorney. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION

DLZ architect Eric Ratts and CCI construction manager Jack Krouse staged a presentation of the three phase design development of a new Rush County jail. The 5,400 square foot building will house the Coroner, Community Corrections, 911 dispatch, as well as the jail administration and cell block.

Niehoff explained that the lots included on the site plan must be combined to one lot in order for construction approval.

Jack Krouse expressed the need to solidify the cost of the project with an estimated cost of 20 million dollars. Bids will be sought in December and bonds will be sold in January 2016. The construction time is estimated to be twenty (20) months with a completion date of the last quarter of 2018.

Mark Bacon moved to approve the design plan and the cost estimate. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. All approved.

Commissioner Bruce Levi stated for the record that the proposed site is costing a lot. He and architect Eric Ratts wanted to see the construction of the jail on a farm lot. The city requested the downtown location for the Stellar recognition.

Resident Patty Monka inquired where the recycling bins will be moved for the jail construction. Commissioner Levi shared that the Clean Green Rush property on Spencer Street is being discussed.

CRAIG CUSTER

County resident Craig Custer addressed the Commissioners with a series of questions regarding the lack of economic development for Rush County. Speaking for the Custer family, Mr. Custer expressed the support for the Flat Rock Wind project noting that allowing the wind turbines would offer other economic opportunities. Custer asked the Commissioners please open negotiations with the Apex Wind.

CLAIMS

Claims were approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Mr. Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The payroll claims were presented by the Auditor. Mark Bacon moved to approve the payroll. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

JAIL/DUKE ENERGY

Jail committee member Ron Jarman reported negotiations with Duke Energy continue. The latest plan puts eighty (80) foot poles on the East and West side of the proposed jail structure. These poles would have no guide wires. Duke would also give authorization to build

under electric lines in the future. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Jarman for his diligence in order to move this project forward.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Mary Ann Beard presented the Ancillary/Administrative Fee Schedule for 2017. Mark Bacon moved to approve the schedule. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- A tort claim was presented to the Commissioners and has been forwarded to Assured Partners Insurance.
- The Treasurer's monthly report was presented since the Treasurer was not available.
- EMS run reports were submitted for Raleigh and Carthage.
- The Auditor reminded the board that the contract with QPH heating and cooling expires in October. The contract may be renewed or request for bids may be advertised.
- The County Commissioners' conference will be held in Indianapolis on November 28th thru December 1st. All three Commissioners agreed to attend.
- The County Council will conduct a public hearing on the 2017 budget on Wednesday, August 24th. It was noted that the Council will need to cut 1.7 million dollars from the General Fund budget.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Leigh Morning noted that a special commissioner's meeting was conducted on August 12th to approve the eminent domain agreement for the Mike Pavey building required for the jail construction project. City attorney, Tracy Newhouse interjected changes in the proposal after the agreement was approved which would jeopardize the timeline for the jail construction. Commissioner Paul Wilkinson made the motion for a fifteen (15) minute recess, returning at 10:40a.m. for Ms. Morning to confer with the jail consultants. The meeting was reconvened and Commissioner Mark Bacon extended the recess until the consultants returned and Mr. Wilkinson approved.

The meeting was reconvened with Attorney Morning suggesting that Mr. Pavey be given the opportunity to agree to the original terms of August 12th by Friday, August 26th at noon or a court hearing will be scheduled. Mark Bacon move to approve the plan and Mr. Wilkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Morning received a clarification from Grant Reeves, APC attorney who stated that the certification date for the wind amendment was missed by ten (10) days. Therefore, there is no need for the Commissioners to set a public hearing at this time.

DAVID HINER

Resident David Hiner asked when we can expect to have a comprehensive plan. Bruce Levi stated that there are currently no binding time lines.

Mark Bacon moved to adjourn with Paul Wilkinson seconding 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