

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECEMBER 11, 2017

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 11, 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 November 27, 2017 regular meeting were approved with a motion from Bruce Levi and seconded by Mark Bacon. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for December 11, 2017 in the amount of \$222,456.98. Discussion was held regarding the claim to Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP in the amount of \$12,000 for legal services obtained by Circuit Court Judge David Northam regarding a possible mandate of repairs to the courthouse. Chairman Wilkinson's concern is that these services were not discussed or approved by the commissioners prior to them being obtained. County Attorney Leigh Morning commented the mandate was not filed. Her interpretation of the state code is that the Judge is to have the conversation with the commissioners prior to services being rendered but it does not address the legal fees associated with the mandate. It is up to the commissioners whether they want to pay this or not. Commissioner Levi asked if they want to start this fight all over again and possibly push the Judge to mandate the repairs or pay the fee with funds available. Morning commented there is the issue of funding. Judge Northam did email the commissioners prior to this meeting with an explanation of this claim. Commissioner Wilkinson commented regarding the courthouse study that the county has requested changes and other considerations; however, no additional fees have been discussed at this time. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims as presented with the exception of the \$12,000 claim to Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP which will be addressed at the December 22, 2017 commissioner meeting. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Commissioner Wilkinson asked Bacon and Levi to each separately talk to Judge Northam about this situation prior to the next meeting. Motion carried.

Payroll ending December 15, 2017 in the amount of \$180,051.92 was presented. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER

Treasurer Cindra Humphrey presented the November monthly Treasurer's report. Commissioner Wilkinson publically thanked all county department heads for working together to stay within the 2017 approved budgets and keeping expenses down. Humphrey also presented a list of twenty three properties which are eligible for a commissioner tax sale. She has talked to SRI regarding conducting the sale. They agree it is best to do an on-site sale at the courthouse in order to give surrounding land owners a better opportunity of purchasing the

properties. The expense to the county will be newspaper publication, postage, and the fee to SRI which is ten percent of the sale price. County Attorney Leigh Morning noted the commissioners will need to adopt a resolution stating how many properties are eligible and what the minimum is going to be. This will require three legal publications so February will be the earliest the sale can be conducted. Commissioner Levi will work with Western Rush Sewer District which consists of Posey and Walker Townships regarding releasing outstanding liens on the properties listed in their district. Commissioner Wilkinson will work with Carthage and Commissioner Bacon will work with Anderson Township. They will need to get a letter of intent from each of the districts stating they will file releases when the properties are sold and pay the recorder fees. Humphrey will get a list of liens for each property and provide to each of the commissioners.

EXTENSION

Amendment #3 Attachment A to the Extension Contractual Services Agreement between Purdue University and Government of Rush County, Indiana was presented for the commissioner's approval. The amount of the contractual services for 2018 is \$42,650. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Amendment #1 to The Rush County Employees Employee Medical Benefit Plan was presented for approval by the commissioners. The change is regarding Outpatient Renal Dialysis Services. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the amendment. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

The Administrative Services Agreement between UMR and Rush County Employees was approved on a motion by Bruce Levi and seconded by Mark Bacon. Motion carried.

EMS REPORT

The November EMS Report from Carthage Volunteer Fire Department was received and reviewed.

REASSESSMENT

Rush County Assessor Mary Ann Bridges requested the commissioners approve the 2018 reassessment contract with Nexus. The contract is for \$101,000 per year for four years. The contract has been reviewed by the county attorney. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the contract. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Peggy Cenova Regional Director of the East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center appeared to thank the commissioners for their support in the past. She reported on the programs currently being offered in Rush County. They meet quarterly at the local ECDC offices.

JAIL PROJECT

Ron Jarman reported that during the recent demolition of the 126 S. Main Street property two additional fuel tanks were found. There does not appear to be any additional soil contamination and the tanks are in the process of being removed.

The Rushville City Public Works Board gave permission for traffic to be routed one-way on Water Street and South Perkins Street around the construction site. It is anticipated to be January before the road changes are made.

Resolution 2017-3 was presented by County Attorney Leigh Morning. It is a Resolution of the Rush County Commissioners Accepting Appraisals and Approving The Sale of Real Property. These appraisals were needed as part of the process to sale the bonds for the new jail in January 2018. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve and sign Resolution 2017-3. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker reported that all of the EMA equipment has been moved to the White Felt Building which is owned by the Rush County Solid Waste District. Carole Yeend, Director of the Solid Waste Director, commented that her insurance carrier request there be a Letter of Understanding signed between the District and the County stating that the District is not responsible for any damage to the equipment while stored in the building. She also reminded the commissioners that this is a temporary solution. She has limited space of which some is used for storage by the City of Rushville.

The State of Indiana is redesigning the EMA districts. District 6 is being downsized from thirty nine voting members to thirteen members which will be the EMA Directors.

HIGHWAY

Bids for the replacement of Bridge #170 located at 450 East South of New Salem and South of State Road 244 were opened by County Attorney Leigh Morning. A consultant from USI was on hand to review each of the bids. The engineer's estimate for the project is \$331,082.15. After reviewing the six bids, USI recommended accepting the bid of the lowest bidder, Hoosier Pride, in the amount of \$255,911.25. USI and Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton have worked with Hoosier Pride in the past. They have no concerns over the large amount differences in the bids. Bruce Levi made the motion to award the bid to Hoosier Pride in the amount of \$255,911.25. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

Annual bids for supplies were then opened by County Attorney Leigh Morning.

- Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the submitted bid by Harvest Land for fuel. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.
- Rush County Stone, Derbyshire and St Paul Stone all presented bids for crushed stone. At the recommendation of Sitton Mark Bacon made the motion to accept all three bids with the understanding the highway department will use the closest location to the road project. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

- CGS and Irving materials submitted bids for crushed gravel. Mark Bacon made the motion to accept both bids with the understanding the highway department will use the closest location to the road project. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- Trisler Construction was the only bid received for equipment and labor. Sitton requested the commissioners take the bid under advisement for him to review it. Bruce Levi made the motion to take the bid under advisement per recommendation of Sitton. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

Sitton then presented the November financial report.

SHERIFF

There were no bids received for Sheriff fuel. The sheriff will contact the vendor he currently uses.

Sheriff Jim Cowan reported on the sheriff and jail department statistics. There are currently fifty three inmates housed at the jail. The Indiana Sheriff Association has developed a security plan for places of worship. Cowan will be offering these training sessions locally with the first one to be held on Tuesday, December 19 at 6 p.m. at the First Southern Baptist Church on Airport Road. He has had four other churches contact him regarding the training.

CONTRACTS FOR 2018

- Mark Bacon made the motion to approve an Independent Contractor Contract with Catherine Custer to be the Investigator for the Rush County Prosecutor's office. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- Bruce Levi made the motion to approve an Independent Contractor Contract with Don Rolfe to serve as the Rush County Veteran's Service Officer. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.
- Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the Courthouse Heating and Cooling Maintenance Contract with QPH. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the Janitorial Services Agreement with Gilliam Janitorial Services. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the Addendum to Ambulance Services Agreements through July 14, 2018 with Anderson Township, Raleigh Volunteer Fire Department, Carthage Volunteer Fire Department and Rush Memorial Hospital. Paul Wilkinson seconded the motion. Bacon and Wilkinson voted Aye. Levi abstained from voting stating he would have liked to review the documents regarding payment amounts. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS 2018

The commissioners will make the 2018 appointments at their next meeting on Friday, December 22, 2017.

Commissioner Wilkinson reminded the commissioners of the joint workshop with the county council regarding making a list of top five priorities for the county. The workshop will be held Wednesday, December 13, 2017 immediately following the county council meeting.

The next regular Commissioner's meeting will be held on Friday, December 22, 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