

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JUNE 25, 2018

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 25, 2018 with Commissioners Paul Wilkinson, Mark Bacon, and 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 June 11, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the minutes. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for June 29, 2018 in the amount of \$600,163.27. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending June 29, 2018 in the amount of \$184,014.87 was presented. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve payroll. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Requisition #10 for Jail Construction claims to be paid from the jail bond proceeds in the amount of \$8,077.29 were presented for approval. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

CARTHAGE RAILROAD

County Attorney Leigh Morning presented a Joint Petition of the Town of Carthage and Rush County, Indiana to determine as abandoned or inactive certain railroad crossings in Rush County owned and/or operated by the Carthage, Knightstown and Shirley Railroad. The petition will go to the Indiana Department of Transportation. If the petition is approved, it will become Rush County's responsibility to maintain the roadways involved. County Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton is aware of this and is in agreeance. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the petition to be signed on behalf of Rush County by County Attorney Leigh Morning. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton requested approval of an engineering contract with VS Engineering, Inc. for Bridge #27 replacement. Bridge #27 is located on 1100 N over the Flatrock River. County Attorney Leigh Morning has reviewed the contract. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve and sign the engineering contract. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Michael Dora, Indiana State Director of USDA Rural Development conducted a presentation on possible community funding via loans from the USDA for the drug crisis in south eastern Indiana. He encouraged inter-local agreements with other counties, partnerships

with businesses to give jobs to those in treatment and to leverage our resources together. He suggested acquiring a loan from USDA to be paid back through an additional property tax. Commissioner Levi commented it will take cooperation from other higher levels of government to fight the drug crisis. Commissioner Wilkinson worries about how a new tax rate would hinder our already struggling county general fund.

TREASURER

Rush County Treasurer Cindra Humphrey presented the May Treasurers Financial Report. The delinquent tax deadline is June 26. At that time the properties eligible for Tax Sale will be certified to the county auditor. At this time there are 65 properties eligible for tax sale of which 22 have been on the tax sale list for several years. She recommends the commissioners look at having a commissioner property tax sale in January or February of 2019. She updated them on the investment balances and earnings on the investments.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker informed the commissioners he will have the mobile command center set up at the Rush County Fair next week. Residents will be able to sign up for the emergency response Nixle system. In order to maintain salary reimbursement, the EMA grant has been cut in half. Instead of applying for funds for a new truck and a new trailer, he only applied for the trailer. He will need other funding to pay for the truck to pull the trailer. The state is working on a new state level training exercise. They are using Rush County's training exercise as a model.

COMMERCE PARK

Rush County ECDC asked for the commissioner's to issue a letter of support for the Commerce Park for Prime Site Certification by the State of Indiana. Commerce Park is located on North State Road 3. A letter to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs was presented. Mark Bacon made the motion to support the project and sign the letter. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

RIDE RUSH

Sande Land with the Rush County Senior Center ask the commissioners to sign the Contract Invoice Voucher for 1/1/18 to 3/31/18 in the amount of \$32,063.00. County Attorney Leigh Morning has reviewed the voucher. Bruce Levi made the motion to sign. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

NEW JAIL CONSTRUCTION

The following change orders were presented for the commissioner's approval:

- Pauly Jail Building Company in the additional amount of \$1,710.00 to relocate location of custom made medical cell boxes, provide and install custom lockable power and data boxes by Willoughby Industries in medical cell chase boxes. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change order. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

- Banta Electrical Contractors to decrease the amount by \$158.95 to delete the lockable box cover shown on detail 9 on sheet E8.1 in the medical cells. Furnish and install 2 CAT 6 cables to custom medical cell boxes provided by cell manufacturer. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the change. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- Delaware Glass & Mirror Company to decrease the amount by \$265.00 to delete the ¼” clear tempered glazing in door 1303. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the change. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Auditor Jodi Harr presented a Construction Progress Reporting Survey preparation request from the U.S. Department of Commerce. It was emailed to CCI for their completion. They typically do not participate in these surveys but they would should the commissioners wish to. Bruce Levi made the motion to not complete the survey. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Auditor Jodi Harr presented a letter for approval by the commissioners requesting the rider for Dialysis PPO coverage on the employee health insurance be extended until August 1, 2018. At that time dialysis coverage will become part of the United Healthcare policy. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the extension. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

PROSECUTOR STOP GRANT

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute approved the fiscal year 2018/2019 extension for fund 8118 federal Stop Grant for the prosecutor’s office. Bruce Levi made the motion to sign the grant. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

GIS DATA REQUEST

The Auditor’s office received a request from Avalara for them to access our GIS Data indicating the municipal boundaries within Rush County. They will use the data as part of their tax calculation software. The commissioners asked why they cannot use the Beacon system to get the data they need. Bruce Levi made the motion to table the request in order for them to talk to GIS Specialist and IT. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

EMS

Commissioner Wilkinson read the following recommendation received from the Rush County Council:

The Rush County Council’s recommendation to the Rush County Commissioners is to extend the EMS addendum to the 2017 contracts for all agencies for an additional sixty (60) days from July 15, 2018 through September 12, 2018. They also recommend a committee consisting of one member from the Raleigh Volunteer Fire Department, Anderson Township Volunteer Fire Department, Rush Memorial Hospital, Rushville City Fire Department, One Commissioner, One Council member, and Thomas Moore with Fitch and Associates to meet and make a recommendation to the Rush County Commissioners and the Rush County Council for a five year

contract for EMS services in Rush County. It is requested the committee meet as soon as possible after the June 25, 2018 Commissioner meeting.

Wilkinson responded that the proposal accepted by the commissioners are funded for 2018. He does not know what the council will do for 2019 funding. He has much respect to Rush Memorial Hospital staff for the great service that they have provided. He has worked along with the hospital board for two years to work with outlying agencies. He does not want to give up that service. Although the county has given increases to RMH for ambulance services, they are still operating the ambulance service in the red. He does not wish to go to a single emergency ambulance service. The commissioners have held several open meetings and discussions were held regarding this issue. He feels the commissioners need to move forward and work on other business within the county.

Commissioner Bacon commented that he suggested another committee at the last commissioner meeting and no one wanted another committee. He is not interested in another committee at this time. He stated the commissioners made their decision.

Bacon made the motion to sign the contracts once they are ready with the three EMS districts as proposed. Commissioner Levi commented the question is how will the council fund EMS in 2019.

Citizen Howard Lower gave testimony for the RMH paramedics. He believes that paramedics in the field saves lives.

Wilkinson seconded Bacons motion to sign the EMS contracts once they are ready. Bacon and Wilkinson voted Yes. Levi voted No. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jim Cowan presented sheriff department updates. There are currently fifty seven (57) inmates housed at the jail. The female population has decreased. Commissioner Bacon asked how many of the inmates are Rush County residents. Sheriff Cowan will need to check on that. Bacon is wondering if we are housing inmates who live in other counties but committing crime while here. Discussion was held regarding finding jobs for inmates once they are released. Rush County employers have been willing to hire them.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner reminded all in attendance of the 4th of July festivities. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. and fireworks will be at dusk.

Sheriff Cowan noted that on July 10 a Model T club will be doing a tour of the covered bridges in Rush County.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, July 9, 2018.

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

/Paul Wilkinson/
Paul Wilkinson Chairman

/Mark Bacon/
Mark Bacon

/Bruce Levi/
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/
Jodi Harr, Auditor