

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 1, 2018

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 1, 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 September 17, 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 October 1, 2018 in the amount of \$260,709.37. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending October 5, 2018 in the amount of \$193,156.70 was presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve payroll. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

Requisition #17 for Jail Construction claims to be paid from the jail bond proceeds in the amount of \$1,507.80 were presented for approval. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HR Director Tony Personett gave an update on the reorganization of the Rush County Health Department. They are looking at reassigning duties within the current job descriptions for the office to run more efficiently. They have interviewed candidates for the environmentalist position and he hopes to have a recommendation for you at the next commissioner meeting.

He requested the commissioners approve Geoff Wesling as the legal counsel for the Health Board and Health Department. It would be a contract amount of \$375 per month with an additional charge of \$150 per hour for any in depth legal research that he would need to do. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the request with the understanding that a contract will be prepared and brought to the next commissioners meeting. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

The Health Department also prepared a Record of Appointment of Local Health Officer for approval of the commissioners. The request is for Dr. Russell Daugherty to act as Interim Health Officer beginning August 30, 2018 until a new health officer is hired. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the request. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

HR Director Tony Personett requested the following approval of personnel:

- Surveyor's office – Jonna McIntire to be hired as part time clerk in the surveyor's office. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the hiring of an existing position. Bruce Levi second. Motion carried.
- E911 Dispatch – Ryan Mundt as a part time dispatcher starting November 2, 2018. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the hiring. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Personett requested clarification on the motion made at the September 17, 2018 commissioner meeting regarding courthouse employee work hours. He ask how the commissioners wish for new hires to be treated. Commissioner Levi recommended leaving the hours as they are right now until the Personnel Committee meets and makes a recommendation to the commissioners at their October 15 meeting.

Personett reminded the commissioners that the Personnel Committee will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 10, 2018.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker reported the updated communications plan is almost ready to be presented to the commissioners. They are waiting on information from ECS.

He updated the commissioners on the two grants that he applied for. The grant for the courthouse alarm system was denied. The grant for a mass care trailer was approved in the amount of \$38,511.15.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner noted there will a movie shown on the courthouse lawn on Saturday, October 6, 2018. Proceeds will go to benefit the Princess Theater Restoration fund. She also reminded those in attendance that the Chamber is accepting applications for the Chamber Citizen of the Year award. Commissioner Levi thanked Sandy and all involved for their work on making Willkie Days a great success.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton had the following agreements for the commissioner's approval:

- Railroad Grade Crossing Fund Grant Agreement between Indiana Department of Transportation and Rush County in the amount of \$32,110.00. This is a state reimbursable grant to cover the expense of replacing railroad crossing signs and repainting railroad markings. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the grant application. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.
- Unofficial Detour Reimbursement Contract #B-38321 between Indiana Department of Transportation and Rush County in the amount of \$265,886.00. This is for expenses to restore the unofficial detour route for bridge repairs done by INDOT at 750 W in Homer. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the contract. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION

John Painter with CCI was present to answer any questions related to change order #0310-001 to J.C. Ripberger in an additional amount of \$2,650.00 to revise the brick ledge elevations on the exterior foundation walls of Unit B. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the change order. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried. The commissioners asked Painter for the status of moving the courthouse chiller. That project is on hold. They are waiting on approval from the new Duke Energy engineer. No date has been set for the replacement and move of the current chiller.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jim Cowan reported fifty nine inmates currently housed at the jail. There was an electrical fire in the kitchen. The outlet has been replaced. He is having discussions with the Health Board regarding the jail funding the health department for providing nursing services to inmates.

Cowan requested the commissioners sign the titles to a 2013 Dodge Ram and a 2014 Dodge Charger currently being used as patrol cars. They are being traded for Ford Explorers. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the signing of the release of titles. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

With the end of the year and the election of a new sheriff approaching quickly, Cowan requested permission to start the hiring process for at least one new deputy to replace whoever is elected sheriff beginning January 1, 2019. He would like to get the preliminaries to the hiring process out of the way so the new sheriff can choose a deputy candidate immediately. There is the potential of two other deputies retiring soon after the first of the year but he has not received any official notification. Bruce Levi made the motion to start the application process to get a list of candidates for the new sheriff. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

Cowan than asked how the commissioners would like to handle hiring a replacement for current secretary Sheri Raab. Commissioner Wilkinson commented we need an official letter with her date of retirement before we can agree to replace her. Cowan would like to hire her replacement by the end of 2018. Commissioner Bacon asked what the sheriff would do if something happened to Raab today and she needed to be replaced. Cowan commented the Chief Deputy would need to take over her responsibilities until a replacement was found.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Current Veterans Service Officer Donald Rolfe submitted his letter of resignation effective 12/31/18. The commissioners requested the auditor to advertise for interested persons to submit a letter of interest to the commissioners.

CITY FIRE EMS

Chief Chuck Jenkins appeared before the commissioners to request a letter be signed from the commissioners and Rushville City Mayor Mike Pavey to Franklin County Commissioners regarding EMS runs to Franklin County. Rush Memorial Hospital and City Fire EMS requested that Rush County only be called for mutual aid. Jenkins has found that

Franklin County is calling his service as a first responder which takes the ambulances out of service for an extended amount of time. This creates a public service risk for the taxpayers of Rush County. He did contact Franklin County EMS Director about this in August but has received no response from anyone in Franklin County. The letter will state that effective immediately Rushville Fire Department will no longer serve as the primary EMS responder to EMS calls in Franklin County, Indiana. They will only assist in situations in which one or both counties have declared a local disaster emergency under I.C. 10-14-6.5-1. Commissioner Levi's concern is that we would not be providing emergency help to Franklin County residents. He wonders if we should talk to their commissioners first. Jenkins made the contact to their county EMS director and did not get a response. Mark Bacon made the motion to sign the letter. Bruce Levi seconded but wants our services to work with Franklin County. Motion carried.

Jenkins then presented the commissioners with a credit summary from the billing service that does the ambulance billing. \$1,1492.75 has been collected for Rush County EMS services provided by Rushville City Fire department. He asked how the commissioners would like to handle this money. Bruce Levi made the motion for the county auditor to set up an account within the EDIT Fund to receipt the money back to the county. This will allow the county to see how much of the subsidy money being paid to the City is being returned. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

VACATE STREET POSEY TWP

Jeanette Smith filed a request with the Commissioners to vacate Keal Court in Rainbow Lake Subdivision in Posey Township. There is a garage built on the cul-de-sac and she is wanting to sell the property. Smith has talked to the county surveyor, county auditor and county area plan office. The commissioners set a public hearing to be held at 9:30 on Monday, October 29, 2018.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, October 15, 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