

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JUNE 24, 2019

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 24, 2019 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi, Jodi Harr, Auditor, and County Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance.

Mark Bacon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 10, 2019 were reviewed. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the minutes. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for June 24, 2019 in the amount of \$539,093.35. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Mark Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending June 28, 2019 in the amount of \$229,651.45 was presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve payroll as presented. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Requisition #36 for Jail Construction claims to be paid from the jail bond proceeds in the amount of \$2,761.21 were presented for approval. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION

The newest version of the new jail building plaque was presented. All names have been reviewed. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve Job # I18-1075 Version # 3 dated 6/20/19. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

John Painter updated on a couple of items. There is a current proposal request to changes around the receptionist desk in the front of the jail. This includes bullet proof glass and drywall. This is information only. A change order will be sent at a later date. Sheriff Rice asked if there would be two windows. One will be for the jail and one will be for Community Corrections. The lease on the construction trailer ends in September. He will contact them regarding an extension.

TREASURER

Rush County Treasurer Cindy Humphrey presented the May County Treasurer's Report. Her office is working on delinquent letters and demand notices. She will be certifying the tax sale eligible list to the Auditor on Thursday.

COMMISSIONER PROPERTY TAX SALE

Now that the redemption period has passed, persons who bought property at the Commissioner Tax Sale held on February 14, 2019 have 90 days, which is September 13, 2019, to apply for

the tax deed from the courts. Auditor Jodi Harr and Treasurer Humphrey have looked at the amount collected for each parcel. There is enough to pay the \$25.00 lien release for all liens except for liens on two properties. Recorder Kevin Spilman has agreed for those two parcels to only charge \$25.00 for the first lien and \$7.00 for each additional lien on those two parcels. This is a one-time exception and will not be done in the future. Humphrey asked the Commissioners how they would like to apply the remaining money collected. After discussion Wilkinson made the motion to apply payments in the following order – Lien release fees, conservancy fees, ditch/drain collections, property tax and if any is left to go to the sewer district who has the lien. Levi seconded. Motion carried.

BROADBAND

Mark McCorkhill and Carole Yeend were present to provide an update on the broadband project. Joint Resolution 2019-1 between the Rush County Board of Commissioners and the Rush County Council for support of the increased county-wide broadband connectivity was presented for approval. Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bacon seconded. Motion carried.

AREA PLAN

APC Director Gregg Duke presented the following rezone requests:

- John Megee requested a rezone from Manufacturing (M) to Regulated Livestock (A-3) for parcel numbers 70-11-09-200-001.000-010 and 70-11-04-400-002.000-010. APC gave a favorable recommendation at their public hearing held on 6-12-19. Wilkinson made the motion to approve the rezone. Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- Rebecca Cooper requested a rezone from Manufacturing (M) to Residential (R) for parcel number 70-02-18-476-001.000-008. APC gave a favorable recommendation at their public hearing held on 6-12-19. Levi made the motion to approve the rezone request. Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Julia Apple presented the health department update for June 18, 2019. The Preparedness Grant for fiscal year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 has been approved by the State of Indiana. It requires a new part time employee to administer the grant. The expenses will be paid by the county and reimbursed by the grant.

The Health Board would like to update their website. They would like to have Gary King do the website. He also helps with the County website. Several county departments have mentioned adding information to the page within the County's current website. The Commissioners requested that county department heads work together to update the website.

HR

HR Director Tony Personett stated that the employee health insurance renewal is underway. He presented an Application for Excess Insurance for stop loss coverage. The rates decreased by a

minimal amount. Wilkinson made the motion to approve the application. Levi seconded. Motion carried. He then presented the Organ Transplant Application. Again the rates decreased by a minimal amount. Levi made the motion to approve the application. Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. The third application is for prescription coverage with True Scripts. Levi made the motion to approve. Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Personett had two revised job descriptions and one new job description for approval. Currently the Prosecutor/Investigator is a contract position. After review of the position, it has been determined that position should be a county employee. It will be a part time exempt position. The only additional cost to the county will be the employer share of FICA which is 7.65 percent. Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Levi seconded. Motion carried. The health department has two revised job descriptions. The Nurse Supervisor was changed to RN and the Environmentalist/Food Inspector was changed to Administrator/Environmentalist/Food Inspector. Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Levi seconded. Motion carried.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On behalf of the group organizing the Willkie Day Covered Bridge Dinner, Sandy Fussner asked if the Offutt Covered Bridge would be ready and open. Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton does not know if it will be open by September 20, 2019. Moscow Covered Bridge has already been approved for use if Offutt is not completed.

FIBER HUT

Ron Jarman presented a quote with Hicks Air LLC to remove old equipment and install new equipment in the fiber hut located within the new jail. The cost is \$57,000 for two air units. Wilkinson commented that this is still less than moving the fiber hut to a new site. Once the equipment is installed, Rush Shelby Energy will be responsible. Rush Shelby will refund \$6,000 of the cost. Wilkinson made the motion to approve the quote of up to \$57,000. Levi seconded. Motion carried.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker updated the Commissioners on damage assessments caused by the tornado on June 15, 2019. There was not enough damage to qualify the county for FEMA assistance or Small Business Assistance. Kemker was thanked for his work during this situation. Rushville City worked with the county during this incident. One of the services was the use of their staff and drone. Bacon and Ron Jarman requested the county purchase for the City an additional charger and set of batteries as a thank you for their assistance. The City volunteered their services and has not ask us for any kind of compensation. Wilkinson made the motion to allow up to \$500 to purchase batteries and charger for use with the drone. Levi seconded. Motion carried. Auditor Harr will see if there are funds appropriated in the Riverboat fund to pay for the expense.

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Jerry Sitton is applying for another Community Crossings Matching Grant. The project will be to asphalt paving wedge and level of 725W from Base Road to just south of Arlington and for 900 N from Carthage to SR 3 in Rush County. \$300,000 of county funds will be used from the Highway Summer Construction budget. Levi made the motion to sign the letter to INDOT of commitment of county funds. Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Sitton requested the Commissioners approve and sign an On-Call Professional Services Agreement with USI Consultants for extra engineering services at an hourly rate. Levi made the motion to approve agreement. Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

In other Highway business, they have received their new pick-up truck. The Commissioners instructed him to sell the 2003 pick-up. Sitton has hired another full time person. This puts him at their maximum staff.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Allan Rice gave the department update. There are currently thirty seven inmates housed at the jail. The decrease is partly due to the pretrial release program and partly due to inmates be sentenced to DOC. The deputy vehicle used with a K9 unit was totaled in a car vs deer accident. No one was injured. He thanked all who helped during the tornado incident.

OTHER BUSINESS

John Wilson has some chairs from the courtroom and some old school desk chairs that were given to the Historical Society and stored in his barn. The Historical Society has decided they do not want them. Wilson wants to know what the Commissioners would like to do with them. Judge Northam says the courtroom chairs could be used for parts to restore the ones in the current courtroom. Levi will work with Judge Northam and Wilson.

Carole Yeend requested the Indiana State flag that flies in front of the courthouse be replaced. Marvin Rees will take care of.

Bruce Levi made the motion to adjourn. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

/Mark Bacon/
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Paul Wilkinson/
Paul Wilkinson

/Bruce Levi/
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/
Jodi Harr, Auditor