

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUGUST 19, 2019

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 19, 2019 with Commissioners Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi, Jodi Harr, Auditor, and County Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance. Commissioner Mark Bacon was absent.

Paul Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 5, 2019 were reviewed. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the minutes. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Auditor, Jodi Harr, presented the biweekly claims docket for August 19, 2019 in the amount of \$629,222.12. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Payroll ending August 23, 2019 in the amount of \$181,913.40 was presented. Auditor Harr commented that payroll was submitted for a sheriff deputy who is on workman's comp. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve payroll with the exception of \$1,498.32 for the sheriff deputy on workman's comp. for a new total of \$180,415.08. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

Requisition #40 for Jail Construction claims to be paid from the jail bond proceeds in the amount of \$56,918.34 were presented for approval. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION

John Painter with CCI presented the following jail construction change orders for approval by the commissioners:

- Change Order 1520-006 to Greiner Brothers in the amount of (5,829.00) deleting labor and cost related to the fiber hut. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. This is being taken out of the construction budget and being paid by Rush Shelby.
- Change Order 1600-008 to Banta Electric in the amount of (1,363.80) deleting labor and cost related to the fiber hut. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. This is being taken out of the construction budget and being paid by Rush Shelby.
- Change Order 1150-004 to Pauly Jail Building Company in the amount of (2,465.60) deleting the security ceiling in stair #2. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.
- Change Order 0960-001 to Bill Lawrence Company in the additional amount of \$170.00 to paint the gypsum board ceiling added on stair #2. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change order. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

- Change Order 0930-003 to Circle B Construction in the amount of \$481.11 to change the finish on the gypsum ceiling on stair # 2 from level 1 to level 4. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change order. Paul Wilkinson seconded.

Painter had the following updates:

- The revision for the two new windows and work stations in the reception area is now estimated at \$40,562.30.
- To add wood trim to the windows in the Community Correction Area is estimated at \$1,681.00.
- To seal the drywall in the security electronics room will be approximately \$772.00
- Roofers are on location today. He requested the auditor to continue to hold onto the check for their work until he says to release it.

TREASURER

Treasurer Cindy Humphrey presented the July 2019 financial report. She gave an update on the upcoming Tax Sale to be held on September 24. She reported that she has lost a second part time person. They have both gotten full time jobs.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Julia Apple gave an update on permits being issued through their department. She then asked Dr. Daugherty, Health Officer, to speak to the commissioners. He requested that Julia's pay be increased to \$50,000. The Health Board believes she is doing the job of three people. When Dr. Daugherty agreed to take the Health Officer position, he took a lower salary with the intentions of eventually reallocating the left over salary difference to an office manager. Her position does the administrative work of some of the Health Officer's responsibilities to alleviate some of the time the Health Officer is needed in the office. They are in agreeance to the position becoming an exempt position. Bruce Levi stated he is in favor. He believes the health department has done a tremendous job in turning the office around over the last year. Paul Wilkinson agrees. He has no problem making this position an exempt position. He appreciates the interoffice cooperation. Levi also commended Tai Morrell for stepping up to lead the changes. Bruce Levi made the motion to move the environmental position from non-exempt to exempt. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

BROADBAND

Carole Yeend asked the Commissioners to approve Ordinance 2019-6 Defining Rush County, Indiana as an Indiana Broadband Ready Community. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

With this Ordinance in place, the commissioners were asked to appoint someone to be the Point of Contact for Broadband. Bruce Levi made the motion to appoint Ron Jarman as the Point of Contact person. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Alisa Winters, Executive Director of the Rush County Community Foundation, was present to give an update on the Community Engagement Lilly Grant. They will be applying for a \$100,000 and a \$5,000,000 grant. Community outreach meetings will be held at several locations throughout Rush County over the next month to gather input from Rush County Citizens. She invited the commissioners to attend these meetings. She reported that over 100 riders have signed up for the 5 in Fifty bike ride to be held in conjunction with Willkie Day festivities.

Paul Wilkinson reported the Community Discussion training held for three days by RCCF was productive and hopefully good things will result from these discussions

EAST CENTRAL INDIANA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Peggy with the East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center was present to request the commissioners make a \$500 donation to their organization. They assist individuals seeking to start a small business.

WIND TURBINE MORATORIUM

Kevin DeWitt requested the commissioners extend the moratorium on wind farms which expires September 18, 2019. He stated the Area Plan Commission is working on the new ordinances. County Attorney Leigh Morning stated there is currently no contact or conversations being held regarding wind farms. Area Plan Director Gregg Duke expects a favorable recommendation at the next Area Plan meeting. Bruce Levi made the motion to extend the current moratorium for an additional ninety days until December 17, 2019. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton had nothing to report.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Allan Rice gave a department update and then had several things to report.

- Both of the Courthouse Security Officers have turned in their resignation notice. He will be posting that position. He has two individuals starting their pre-basic law enforcement courses today.
- The Youth Academy in Knightstown has contacted him about providing a School Resource Officer. He will be talking with Leigh to see how this will need to be handled.
- The K9 Golf outing will be held Saturday, August 31. Proceeds support all four K9's used by Rushville City Police Department and Rush County Sheriff Department.
- He has a full time dispatch and a full time corrections officer position open. He will also need to post a job notice for part time help in both of these areas.
- He commended the work of the department detectives. After five pursuits, the suspect was finally apprehended.
- He will be out of the office from August 21 through August 30. Chief Deputy Terry Drake will be in charge of the department.

- One of the new deputies were injured while attending the mandatory law enforcement academy. He is on workman comp. They are hoping to be able to get him back to the academy to finish the classroom portion of the program. The physical portion must be completed by the end of December. He would like to address the shortage of pay while on workman comp. He would like the commissioner's to consider that without a deputy knowing they would get their full pay if injured on the job, they may not take the job and responsibility of law enforcement. Leigh Morning stated workman comp pays 66 1/3% of their base pay. Allan is requesting that the county pay the balance. Auditor Jodi Harr stated our insurance agent recommended we not pay the balance. Wilkinson commented there is no taxes, retirement, etc. being withheld from the workman comp payment. His pay at 2/3's is not much different. He is not in favor of paying the additional amount. This is nothing against our deputies. Levi asked HR Director Tony Personett if he has talked to other counties to see how they handle this. Shelby County is the only one he has talked to. They have a separate line to pay it but their HR Director does not agree with it. Levi would like Personett to check with other counties to see how it is handled. Rice is not asking for additional money. Only for him to receive his regular pay.
- Bruce Levi requested that security retrain courthouse employees on where the panic alarms are in their office and to access them. EMA Director Chuck Kemker will take care of it.

2020 SALARY ORDINANCE

The commissioners reviewed the 2020 salary and wage requests submitted by county department heads. All county employees except sheriff, jail, dispatch and elected officials were already set by new ordinances earlier this year. Wilkinson noted we increased the sheriff, jail and dispatch salaries two or three years ago and did not increase any other employee's pay. Bruce Levi made the motion for the recommendation to the county council for no salary increase for the sheriff, jail and dispatch employees for 2020. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. Longevity will be addressed by the council at their budget hearings.

BAKER TILLY FNANCIAL SERVICES

Leigh Morning presented a contract with Baker Tilly for fees to conduct a financial study for Rush County. The study will determine if taxes and fees can be realigned to increase revenue for needed courthouse repairs. Levi does not see any need to do this now unless the council recommends it. The commissioners decided to refer this to the county council for their recommendation. The commissioners will reconsider based on their recommendation.

COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE

The heating/cooling unit in the HR office needs to be replaced. These units are no longer made by Trane. QPH has searched and found another company that will make them at a cost of \$5,500. The water pans are rusting out of the bottom causing the water to leak onto the floor. This will eventually rot the floors. Bruce Levi made the motion to replace the unit. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

