

**SPECIAL SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 3, 2020**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in special session Friday, April 3, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon and Bruce Levi physically in attendance. Commissioner Paul Wilkinson was present via conference call. Auditor Jodi Harr and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also in attendance. Jerry Sitton, Julia Apple, Chuck Kemker, Tony Personett and Reporter Frank Denzler were also in attendance.

The meeting was properly advertised along with the conference call phone number for public use and an agenda of the meeting. Public participants via conference call were Bruce Carter, Dr. Russ Daugherty, Mary Ann Bridges and Rushville City Mayor Mike Pavey.

Commissioner Mark Bacon called the meeting to order and offered a word of prayer.

**JAIL CONSTRUCTION**

The following new jail construction change orders were received and reviewed:

- 1520-009 to Greiner Brothers Inc. for a deduction of \$6,804.00. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.
- 1520-010 to Greiner Brothers Inc. for no change in dollar amount. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.
- 0960-004 to Bill Lawrence Company for an additional \$934.00. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

Quality Plumbing & Heating sent their proposal for routine maintenance contract at the new jail. It is in the amount of \$16,800.00 for the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021. Commissioner Levi clarified that the county will take bids on this contract next year. QPH has already went through the training on the equipment at the jail for this year. Levi made the motion to approve the contract. Wilkinson seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

**SHERIFF**

Two proposals were presented for a medical waste contract at the jail. Sheriff Rice recommends the Stericycle agreement. Wilkinson made the motion to accept the quote from Stericycle. Levi seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

Sheriff Rice requested the commissioners to sign a letter to terminate the contract with ERS effective May 5, 2020. The radio system has been replaced with a Kenwood system being

serviced by ECS. Levi made the motion to sign the termination letter. Wilkinson seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

### **HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested the Commissioners to sign an Unofficial Detour on Highway 52. County Road 50 North will have to be posted no trucks. This will not be effective until the end of March 2021. Wilkinson made the motion to sign the Unofficial Detour request. Levi seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

One bid was received to replace Bridge #37, located on County Road 600 N over Shankatank in Washington Township. Hoosier Pride submitted a bid in the amount of \$390,645.00. This is less than the engineer’s estimate for this project. Levi made the motion to accept the bid. Wilkinson seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

### **RUSH COUNTY POLICY CONCERNING COVID-19**

Sheriff Rice requested the Rush County Policy Concerning COVID-19 be amended to allow Correction Officer’s to work twelve hour shifts during the COVID-19 pandemic. This will result in each Correction Officer receiving at least four hours of overtime each pay. New part time Correction Officers have been hired but need to be trained. Levi made the motion to approve amended Rush County Policy Concerning COVID-19. Wilkinson seconded. Levi – Aye, Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

### **RESTRICTIONS DUE TO COVID-19**

Ordinance 2020-03 Order of the Commissioners for Restrictions Due to Coronavirus/COVID-19. Discussion was held on church services being held in a “drive in style”. Discussion was also held on extending the ordinance. Sheriff Rice voiced his concerns with extending the ordinance for thirty days. He recommends a two week extension. Wilkinson made the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-5 adding requirements for “drive in style” church services and extending the order until May 1, 2020. Bacon seconded. Wilkinson – Aye, Bacon – Aye, Levi – No because he would like a two week extension rather than thirty days. Motion carried. Dr. Russell Daugherty and Rushville City Mayor Mike Pavey are in agreement and will sign the document.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

Discussion was held on extending Resolution 2020-04 declaring a public health emergency in Rush County until May 1, 2020. Wilkinson made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-6 Extending A Public Health Emergency and Exercising Emergency Powers to extend until May 1, 2020. Levi seconded. Wilkinson – Aye, Levi – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

### **RUSH COUNTY COURTHOUSE CLOSURE**

Wilkinson made the motion for the courthouse to remain closed to the public. Appointments can be made as deemed necessary by the department head and employees may continue to work from home. Levi seconded. Wilkinson – Aye, Levi – Aye, Bacon – Aye. Motion carried.

The task force is working on a public service video to be replaced soon.

Bruce Levi made the motion to adjourn. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/Mark Bacon/  
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Paul Wilkinson/  
Paul Wilkinson

/Bruce Levi/  
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/  
Jodi Harr, Auditor