

SPECIAL SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 29, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in special session Friday, April 29, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi physically in attendance. Auditor Jodi Harr, County Attorney Leigh Morning, Sheriff Allan Rice, Councilman Charles Smith, EMA Director Chuck Kemker, Julia Apple and Dixie Meyer from the Health Department 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.

Commissioner Mark Bacon called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and offered a word of prayer.

SHERIFF

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve a five year contract with Ricoh for the sheriff department. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve a one year contract with Arab Pest Control for the new jail. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to sign a letter of support to the Rush County Economic & Community Development Corporation to apply for funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assist with small business loans in Rush County. This is not a financial commitment from the county at this time. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY CALENDAR

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to cancel the Tuesday, May 5, 2020 holiday closing of the courthouse and reschedule it for Tuesday, June 2, 2020. This is due to the change of primary election day in the State of Indiana. Business will be conducted as usual in all county buildings on May 5. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

3:45 p.m. Commissioner Bacon called a recess of the meeting to address and correct call in phone line issues. Motion to approve the recess by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

4:15 p.m. Commissioner Bacon reconvened the meeting.

NEW JAIL CONTRUCTION ISSUES

The following issues were discussed:

- The HVAC System in dispatch. Wilkinson made the motion for the county attorney to send a letter to DLZ and CCI expressing the dissatisfaction of the HVAC system. Levi seconded. Motion carried.
- The Sally Port doors have been fixed.
- The fire alarms have not been moved away from the showers.
- The hot water issues have been looked at and will need to be re-plumbed. The commissioners would like an engineer from DLZ to physically come here and look at it.
- Horning Roofing pay application #11 has still not been paid. The commissioners have not received anything stating the final roof inspection has been completed.
- The Substantial Completion forms will not be signed by the commissioners until they are satisfied with the completion of the project. County Attorney will send a letter to CCI.

COVID 19

Governor Holcomb is not announcing any extensions to his executive orders until Friday, May 1, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. Our ordinance expires at Midnight May 1, 2020. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-7 extending restrictions due to Coronavirus/COVID 19 until 11:59 p.m. Monday, May 4, 2020. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried.

The special commissioner meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2020 is cancelled.

Wilkinson made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-8 extending the public health emergency and exercising emergency powers until 11:59 p.m. Monday, May 4, 2020. Levi seconded. Motion carried.

The following discussion was held regarding courthouse employees and courthouse maintenance needed due to COVID-19:

- The EMA office has sanitizer and cleaning chemicals for each office. After this distribution, it will be up to each office to maintain their supplies.
- Employee work spaces will need to be at least six feet apart.
- Require mask to be worn if six feet social distancing is not possible. The EMA office has some masks but recommends that each employee bring their own cloth face covering.
- Plexishields will be required on counter tops. These will be paid for in the commissioner's budget.
- Employees will report back to work in the courthouse on Monday, May 4, 2020. If an employee wishes to continue to be off, the department heads are encouraged to allow an employee to use any earned paid time off.
- A department head meeting will be held on Friday, May 1, 2020.
- Use of altered work schedules should be approved by the commissioners.
- Work from home can continue for anyone who is immunosuppressed with a doctor statement and approval from the commissioners.
- Discussion on other changes needed to the courthouse building.

The second amended Rush County Policy Concerning COVID-19 returning employees to work on Monday, May 4 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson and seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

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