

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 6, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 6, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi present. Auditor Jodi Harr and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also in attendance.

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

MINUTES

- Minutes of the regular meeting on June 22, 2020 were approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for July 6, 2020 in the amount of \$304,913.64 were presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for July 10, 2020 in the amount of \$201,155.03 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS

- Jail Construction Claims to be paid from LIT Special Purpose funds for July 6, 2020 in the amount of \$50.00 were presented for payment. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDERS

- Change Order 1520-11 to Greiner Brothers in the amount of an additional \$7,920.00. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to deny the change order and to get a quote from QPH. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Change Order 280/620-006 to J.C. Ripberger in the amount of \$1,735.00 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Change Order 280/620-012 to J.C. Ripberger in the amount of deduction of \$1,735.00 which will void Change Order 280/620-006. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HR

HR Director Tony Personett presented an amendment to the employee health insurance which allows the copayment/deductible for COVID-19 testing and office visits for the period of February 4, 2020 through May 31, 2020 to be waived. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A full time correction officer resigned and would now like to work part time. Bruce Levi made the motion to allow him to work part time. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A request was made to move a current part time correction officer to full time. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the courthouse security officer and COVID-19 tracing. Everyone entering the courthouse must be tested and signed in for tracing purposes. Communication is the problem. Personett will work with Sheriff Rice to get these issues resolved.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber Director Sandy Fussner gave an update on local business happenings.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker announced the COVID Task Force will be meeting every two weeks through the start of school.

He and the CERT team will be helping with food and back pack distributions this month.

Kemker has requested permission from the Indiana Finance Authority to use CARES Act funds to purchase a new truck to pull the mobile command trailer. If we were to set up a mass testing center, immunization center, extra food drives, etc. due to COVID-19, he would need the truck. They did email a response that it would be a covered expense if it was not currently budgeted. Bruce Levi made the motion to allow the purchase pending approval from the county council to use the council use only line in the commissioner's budget. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AREA PLAN COMMISSION

Mike Waggoner from Washington Township was present to discuss the forty acre rule that is in the current zoning ordinance. He is wanting to replat his property for estate planning purposes not to create a subdivision. He believes he should not have to go through the added expenses with the Area Plan Commission to do this. Commissioner Levi recommended that Waggoner talk with Tom Monka with the Area Plan Commission. He has been given the option to go before the APC but there is additional cost to something that he feels like as the land owner he should have the right to do. The commissioners discussed that it is time to reevaluate the forty acre rule and quit restricting growth and construction in Rush County. The APC has discussed this for several years but now it needs to happen sooner rather than later.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested the commissioners to void the approved contract with INDOT signed on June 9, 2020 for bridge #63 for the purchase of right-a-way. It had the wrong amount on it. A new contract was presented with the corrected amount of \$37,576.00. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to void the original contract and approve the new one in the amount of \$37,576.00. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Highway financial report for June was presented.

Sitton reported the MVH monthly funds were down by twenty eight percent for June. The state predicts the amounts will continue to go down due to COVID-19. He has to cut an estimated one million dollars in the 2021 budget.

LEGAL NOTICES

Per the request of the commissioners, County Attorney Leigh Morning presented a letter addressed to our Indiana law makers requesting they review the requirements of I.C. 5-3-1-4 regarding the advertisements of public notices in a published newspaper. Rushville City Mayor and Rush County School Superintendent also signed the letter. With the Rushville Republican no longer publishing in Rush County, we are advertising in the Greensburg Daily News which is only circulated to 498 Rush County residents. The commissioners requested the Auditor also send this letter to the Association of Indiana Counties.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Allan Rice has received the official award letter for the COPS grant. After he reviews it, he will need for Commissioner Chairman Mark Bacon to sign it.

Sheriff Rice requested the commissioners sign a contract with Lexipol. They will provide a program for the Law Enforcement Policy Manual and Daily Training. Leigh has reviewed the contract. Bruce Levi made the motion to sign the contract. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

He has made arrangements for the second security officer to be on the third floor of the courthouse through 2020.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Darilyn Bedel with the Community Assistance Program was present to request COVID-19 funding to help cover the expense of the individual wrapped school supplies to be placed in the free back pack program. The grant that they had secured for this fell through. The supplies will cost just under \$10,000 and will be purchased from Harcourt Outlines. The Commissioners requested that she contact the IFA to make sure these would be a covered expense under the CARES Act and to also check with the school system.

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