

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUGUST 17, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 17, 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 August 3, 2020 were approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for August 17, 2020 in the amount of \$465,723.65 were presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for August 21, 2020 in the amount of \$196,198.14 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 August 17, 2020 in the amount of \$7,643.96 were presented for payment. Commissioner Wilkinson stated the county council recommended to the commissioners to hold the payments to Construction Control until the jail project was completed. After discussion, Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims including Construction Control with the direction to County Attorney Leigh Morning to send a letter to Construction Control that this will be their last payment until the project is completed. The letter is to address the parking lot, issues not resolved within the jail facility and the JalMal contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER

Treasurer Cindy Humphrey emailed the commissioner's monthly reports for July 2020. The report was received by the commissioners.

CLERK –ELECTION

Clerk Angela Buckley requested a contract with Knowink for E-poll books be signed by the commissioners. The contract was reviewed by the county attorney. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HR

Tony Personett reported the health insurance committee met with PCE to discuss recommended standard changes to the employee health plan. The changes were regarding air ambulance and prescription drugs.

He requested the job description for the part time administrator in the Area Plan Office be changed. The current description gives specific hours for the employee to work. The APC Director would like there to be flexibility in the hours at his discretion. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the change. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The request was made to start new employees to be paid two weeks behind effective immediately. Current full time employees will be gradually moved to being paid two weeks behind between now and April 2021. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Personett requested an exception be made for comp time versus overtime for the County Health Nurse. Currently, comp time is not allowed for county employees due to COVID-19. The nurse is non-exempt working more than the thirty five hours per week. Since these hours are due to COVID-19 and was not budgeted for, the overtime pay will be reimbursable through the CARES Act funding. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the request. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AREA PLAN COMMISSION

Area Plan Director Gregg Duke requested approval of an amendment to the official zoning maps of Rush County. Mark and Merri Logan filed a petition to rezone property located at 308 E. 2nd Street Lots 44 and 45 Carthage parcel number 70-02-19-209-011.000-009 from commercial to residential. The APC gave a favorable recommendation at the public hearing held on August 12, 2020. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Duke provided an update on the public hearing held to discuss changes to the A3 and A4 zones. Nothing has been decided. Another public hearing will be held in the near future.

VACATE ALLEY REQUEST

Attorney Grant Reeves on behalf of the Stephen D Schwering & Marcia J Schwering Rev. Liv. Trust requested the commissioners set a public hearing to vacate alleys in the town of Sexton. Bruce Levi made the motion to set the hearing for September 14, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

I.T. Cares Act

Laptops purchased for the commissioners have come in. The new firewall will be installed by the end of the week.

Herbert presented a quote from BIS Digital, Inc. in the amount of \$45,555.70. They will provide the equipment necessary for county government meetings to be hosted via website link to the Rush County website. This equipment will integrate with Zoom and Microsoft. Public meetings will be able to be held during any current and future public health emergencies. The annual maintenance fee is around \$3,000. The system can be installed and invoiced by the end of 2020. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the purchase with the understanding that it will be reimbursed with CARES Act funding since it was not already budgeted. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RECORDER

Recorder Kevin Spilman presented a proposal from SBS Portals in the amount of \$39,231 to digitize records using CARES Act funds. This would enable researchers and public to access public records via the Rush County website. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve as long as preapproval is obtained from the Indiana Finance Authority. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Carly Holland introduced Diana Stone. She is the new Rush County Extension Educator.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner announced that Rush Fest has been cancelled in September due to COVID-19.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker updated the commissioners on the exterior doors of the courthouse. They should be done by the end of the week. He presented a proposed Building and Office key policy. He requested the commissioners determine who gets exterior door keys and who is responsible for making them. Commissioner Bacon believes that HR should be responsible for distributing and tracking who has keys. Keys should be issued only with permission of the commissioners. Bruce Levi made the motion to adopt the policy. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Carole Yeend announced that Tox Away will be held on the second Saturday of September.

SHERIFF

Jonna McIntire, Chris Plough and Terry Drake were present to give the Sheriff Department report. Sheriff Rice emailed the commissioners regarding the inmate medical services contract with Quality Corrections. The contract is renewable on October 1, 2020 but must give a thirty day notice if either party is terminating the contract. He meet with Quality Corrections last week. They will rebid with a lower price due to a lower inmate count than expected. Jail Commander Chris Plough expressed his positive experience that he has had with Quality

Corrections. It is saving him from paying transport fees and liability fees. There is a nurse on premises Monday through Friday. They are trying to find the indigent contract between Rush County and Rush Memorial Hospital for Quality Corrections to review.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton presented Amendment #1 to the right of way purchase contract for Bridge #127 between INDOT and Rush County. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the amendment. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Federal Fish and Wildlife in lie fee has been cut in half for Bridge #127.

AUDITOR

Auditor Jodi Harr requested approval to sign the contract with SBS Portals to digitize transfer, plat, commissioner and council records in her office. She did receive approval from the Indiana Finance Authority to use CARES Act funds to pay this. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Harr asked the commissioners their wishes on registering for the AIC Annual Conference. Due to COVID-19 the conference will be held virtually with sessions being recorded. Instead of each individual paying conference fees, the county would pay one fee of \$300 which will allow any county official to access the recorded sessions. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to register the county and pay the \$300 fee. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PLYMATE

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the contract with Plymate to provide and service the door mats at the courthouse. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. The auditor was asked to mark her calendar ninety days prior to the end of the contract.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

A letter of support for the proposed Community Center was presented for approval of the Commissioners. The county will commit \$25,000 in 2020, \$40,000 in 2021 and apply for a \$500,000 and funding of 10% match through the Community Development Block Grant opportunity in 2021. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the letter. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

/absent/
Mark Bacon, Chairman

/Paul Wilkinson/
Paul Wilkinson

/Bruce Levi/
Bruce Levi

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/
Jodi Harr, Auditor