

**REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, September 14, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi present. Auditor Jodi Harr and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also in attendance

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 31, 2020 were approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Minutes of the executive session held on September 8, 2020 were approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS**

- Accounts Payable claims for September 14, 2020 in the amount of \$1,283,276.29 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**PAYROLL**

- Payroll for September 18, 2020 in the amount of \$194,151.52 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Bruce Levi. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**JAIL CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS**

- Claims to be paid from the Special Purpose Fund 1114 for jail construction in the amount of \$30,540.36 were presented for approval. DLZ engineer came to look at the issue with some of the exterior doors. They are working on a plan to correct the situation. The parking lot is to be paved this week. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to pay the claims as presented including the final payment to DLZ. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**HR**

HR Director Tony Personett commented that all keys have been distributed to county employees.

Personett reported two new jail employee resignations, two part time corrections officers have been hired and the new auditor payroll deputy has been hired and is to start October 5, 2020. Bruce Levi made the motion to accept the new hires. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Personett presented the proposed changes to the personnel policy for approval of the commissioners. The policy has been reviewed over the last year. Department heads and elected officials have been consulted. Commissioner Levi and Councilwoman Janet Kile also worked on the proposal. Following are the proposed changes:

- Sick hours do not count towards overtime Section 3.13 and 3.12
- Maximum comp time accrual is 20 hours and should be used within 30 days Section 3.13.4
- Separation and ending benefits Section 3.15
- Vacation, sick and personal time charts are in hours instead of days. Vacation time is use it or lose it. No carry over past the anniversary date. Sick time tops out at 600 hours. Section 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3.

The sheriff is concerned with limited comp time accrual and the five day carry over for vacation.

The commissioners would like a little more time to review these changes and comments. They will discuss at their next meeting in two weeks.

### **VACATE ALLEY**

A public hearing was held at 9:30 a.m. regarding a request by Stephen D. Schwering and Marcia J. Schwering Rev Liv Trust request to vacate the following alleys in the Town of Sexton:

- All lots refer to Lots in the plat of “Hamilton Station” known as the unincorporated town of Sexton, Indiana:
- Marion Street between Lots 5 & 6 to the north and Lots 17 & 18 to the south (to revert to Lots 5 & 6)
- Francis Street between lot 24 to the west and lots 25 & 26 to the east (with the western half reverting to Lot 24 and the eastern half reverting to Lots 25 & 26).
- The unnamed right of way running along the south edge of lots 17-25 (with the entirety reverting to such lots).

The Auditor, Commissioners and highway department have not received any questions, comments or complaints. No one was present to comment. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the request to vacate the alleys listed above. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CLERK**

Rush County Clerk Angela Buckley requested permission to use the north side of the assembly room for absentee voting from October 6, 2020 through November 2, 2020. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to allow. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Julia Apple updated the commissioners on an Indiana State Department of Health grant for COVID-19 testing. A contract is being prepared between the health department and Rush Memorial Hospital to provide the testing. She is also waiting on confirmation from the state as to when we will receive the money. Once she receives the information, she would like to request the commissioners hold a special meeting to approve the contract.

### **HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented his monthly highway financial report.

He presented an amendment to a contract between Rush County and INDOT for Bridget 127. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the amended contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bridge #37 on 600 north has been opened. Discussion was held on the repairs needed on Goose Road. It is currently opened in one lane. Sitton asked what the commissioners would like to do with the road. Commissioner Wilkinson asked about making it a one way road. The cost of repairing the road is not feasible at this time. Sitton does not think it needs to be made a one way road. His department has more pressing road issues right now. It was decided to leave it as it is now.

### **PAYROLL TAX DEFERRAL**

U.S. President Donald Trump ordered employers be allowed to defer payroll tax withholdings for the last four months of 2020. This is a deferral not a waiver. Bruce Levi made the motion that Rush County not participate in the payroll tax deferral program. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. 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