

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 9, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 9, 2020 with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Bruce Levi present. Auditor Jodi Harr and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also present.

Mark Bacon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the American Flag. He acknowledged and thanked all Veterans who were in attendance for their service to the United States of America.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the regular meeting held on October 26, 2020 were presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Minutes of the emergency meeting held on October 29, 2020 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Mark Bacon Seconded. Bruce Levi abstained as he was not present at the meeting. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for November 9, 2020 in the amount of \$240,650.95 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for November 13, 2020 in the amount of \$193,385.27 was approved on a motion by Bruce Levi. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS

Jail construction claims to be paid from the LIT Special Purpose Fund 1114 in the amount of \$78,406.64 was presented for approval. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Change Order 280/620-14 to J.C. Ripberger in a deduct amount of \$287.00 was presented for approval. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the change order. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Carly Holland with the Rush County Extension Office presented the 2021 Extension Contractual Services Agreement between Purdue University and Rush County in the amount of \$44,820.00. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the contract. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HR

HR Director Tony Personett requested approval of the Health Benefit Plan Summary for the Rush County Employee Health Insurance. Personett and County Attorney Leigh Morning have reviewed the document. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The highway department has hired two new employees.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner updated those in attendance on upcoming events in Rush County. Discussion was held on becoming a Chamber of Commerce member in 2021. The annual dues are \$1,000.00. Bruce Levi made the motion to join for 2021. It was noted this will be a year by

year commitment depending on funds available. Paul Wilkinson seconded. Motion carried. The auditor will pay 2021 dues with 2020 funds.

COURTHOUSE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The commissioners discussed whether to bid out the preventive maintenance contract for the courthouse heating/cooling system. The decision is to bid it out and open the bids at their December 18 meeting. They will get the bid package together.

CLEARVIEW CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to allow Clearview Christmas Tree Farm to place a Christmas tree in the first floor lobby of the courthouse. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented the highway funds monthly report. He presented a contract between Rush County and United Consultants for bridge inspections between March 1, 2021 and February 28, 2025 in the amount of \$512,474.44. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was again held on Goose Road. Commissioner Wilkinson asked if we should do a traffic count or consult with DNR on the cost of the options. Sitton replied DNR said we would have to have an engineer and permit to repair the road. He does not feel there is enough traffic on that road to justify the cost when we have other roads with higher traffic that need our attention.

SHERIFF/JAIL

Jail Matron Megan Tate presented two quotes for water softener systems. Choice Mechanical quoted \$28,100 for the water system and plumbing. Another \$6,895 would be required for the filtration system. Moffett's Watercare quoted \$18,670 for the water softener system only. QPH sent their quote to Commissioner Wilkinson. It was \$18,000 for the filtration system and \$46,000 for the softener system. Commissioner Bacon asked if any of these systems will solve the water problem at the new jail. The commissioners would like a water test be done and sent to the state for testing. Tate will get the water samples.

The air units in dispatch has been looked at but no one has received a quote.

Sheriff Allan Rice noted the K9 cage approved at the last meeting in the amount of \$3,350 was for the Dodge Durango that he drives. The second quote in the amount of \$4,100 is for the Dodge Truck and it needs to be approved ASAP. They will both be paid for out of the K9 contribution fund. Commissioner Wilkinson commented he has been receiving calls asking how many K9's we have certified and why we are paying for two K9's but only certifying one. The sheriff's K9 has not yet been certified this year. He will get her certified for 2021. Wilkinson made the motion to approve the quote to Versatile Metal Works, LLC. in the amount of \$4,100. Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Sheriff Rice requested permission to apply for the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute grant for Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program Solicitation. This was approved by the commissioners at their October 26, 2020 meeting. He only needed the local grant form signed.

Commissioner Wilkinson made the motion to allow the replacement of the part time jail kitchen employee. Commissioner Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A citizen has inquired with the Sheriff as to the Fallen Officer monument that was to go in front of the new jail. It was a city requirement in the original jail plans to go in the corner of the new

parking lot. It was taken out of the second set of jail design plans because it was believed we could do it for less than the jail contractor. The commissioners will look into this.

Commissioner Wilkinson will check with Vogel's regarding doing snow removal of the new parking lot.

I.T.

I.T. Director Randy Herbert presented a contract with Suite 1 for the recording system that is being installed in the assembly room. County Attorney Leigh Morning will review it.

Herbert spoke of the possibility of tying in the school system to the county fiber. This would be beneficial to the sheriff department in case they need to monitor an event at the schools. He does not know the cost. Herbert will contact the I.T. Manager at the school system.

RIDE RUSH GRANT

Tina Logan was asked to be at this meeting but did not attend. The commissioners discussed the monitoring of the pass through grant. The grant agreement signed in June by the commissioners was for the CARES Act funds. INDOT is requesting better oversight by the commissioners. Morning will do a letter to Logan, her board and their attorney addressing the grant monitoring issues. Auditor Harr will set up a meeting with Jennings at INDOT. The request to sign the Ride Rush invoice was tabled until the next commissioner meeting.

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