

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECEMBER 18, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Friday, December 18, 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.

Bacon presented an appreciation of service plaque to Rush County Treasurer Cindra Humphrey for her thirty two years of service to the Rush County tax payers and to Commissioner Bruce Levi for his service to the taxpayers.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the regular meeting held on December 7, 2020 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts Payable claims for December 18, 2020 in the amount of \$1,490,099.57 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for December 23, 2020 in the amount of \$206,073.24 was approved on a motion by Bruce Levi. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS

Jail Construction claims in the amount of \$2,178.77 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF/JAIL

Megan Tate reported the water lines have been flushed once again but they are still having issues.

Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval and signature of the Incarcerated Offenders Provider Agreement between Rush County and Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. It says that Rush County will help offenders apply for Medicaid upon their release. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rice requested approval and signature of the Criminal Justice Institute Grant for COVID Relief in the amount of \$37,015.48 for reimbursement of the second courthouse security guard salary. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Since there was no fuel bid received, Rice is signing up to purchase fuel at the state fuel bid price.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Julia Apple gave an update on the COVID 19 pandemic in Rush County. She made the request to pay out some vacation time and comp time for the county health nurse. The extra time is accumulating due to the extra hours worked concerning COVID 19.

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to pay the twelve hours of earned comp time and two weeks of the already earned vacation time for the health nurse due to her inability to take the time off due to her COVID 19 pandemic responsibilities. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to allow up to fifteen hours a month of overtime for extra time spent working on COVID 19 responsibilities by the county health nurse through May 1, 2020. This needs to be paid out of 2020 funds as appropriated by the county council. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. It is the recommendation of the commissioners to pay this from the county general fund.

Apple will be on medical leave starting December 23. She requested permission to work from home once the doctor allows it. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the request. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE BIDS

At 9:30 a.m. bids were opened for the 2021 Courthouse preventive heating/cooling maintenance contract. Bids were received from Choice Mechanical and QPH. County Attorney Leigh Morning advised the commissioners to take the bids under advisement so that they could review them. Bruce Levi made the motion to take the bids under advisement until a special meeting to be held on December 28, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RECORDER

Rush County Recorder Kevin Spilman requested approval of a bulk user agreement with Zillow. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HR

HR Director Tony Personett reported the information he found on I.T. Director's salaries in other counties. He did confirm that this position can be made an exempt position.

Bruce Levi made the motion to approve personnel replacement of a retiring probation officer. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. The request was also made to start the new probation officer prior to the retirement for training purposes. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the request as long as no additional salary then already budgeted is needed. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the hiring of a full time correction officer. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the hiring of a part time correction officer. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COUNTY LIABILITY INSURANCE

Josh Estelle with PCE was present to give the renewal recommendations for county insurance. The workman comp premium will increase by \$18,000 with IPEP. He believes this is in line with our experience. Our property insurance deductible will increase to \$5,000 or \$10,000. This is for the building only. Cars and equipment will remain at the \$1,000 deductible. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to select the \$5,000 deductible coverage. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

STORAGE BUILDING

Mr. Spurlin as representative for Garry Hickman was present to extend an offer for the commissioners to purchase real estate owned by Hickman located at 626 N. Spencer Street. Commissioner Wilkinson has toured the building and the property. The building would be used for EMA storage and courthouse attic storage. The commissioners are interested but would like to table this until the December 28, 2020 special meeting.

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented a contract between Rush County and INDOT for the state to refund 80% of the Bridge #63 project up to \$972,000. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE JANITORIAL CONTRACT

Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the 2021 Janitorial Contract with Gilliam Janitorial. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OFFICIAL BONDS

Auditor Jodi Harr presented the 2021 county official bonds to be approved by the commissioners. These do not include any newly elected officials. They will be brought once

the elected official is sworn in. Bruce Levi made the motion to sign the bonds. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE SIDEWALKS

Ron Jarman presented quotes to reconstruct the sidewalk entrances to the courthouse on the West side of the building to make them ADA compliant. A quote in the amount of \$74,000 from JJJ and a quote from Schutte in the amount of \$58,699 were presented. He tried to get a local contractor to bid but was unable to secure one. This is part of the courthouse exterior updates that need to be done. Schutte is doing sidewalk work for the City of Rushville. The City is very pleased with their work. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the work to be done by Schutte not to exceed \$60,000 and to be paid from the cum cap funds. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEV.

Commissioner Wilkinson presented a request made by the Eastern Indiana Regional Economic Development Commission. They would like to conduct another housing study to include Rush County and asking Rush County to pay their share in the amount of \$2,000. It would look at housing needs and the economic impact. Rush County was recently part of the housing study along with the City of Rushville. The Mayor is happy with that study. The commissioners are not interested in participating at this time.

STATE ROAD 3 RIGHT OF WAY PURCHASE

INDOT is wanting to purchase Right of Way along State Road 3 by Rush Memorial Hospital. The commissioners will bring this up at the next hospital board meeting.

ARA GRANT WRITERS

Commissioner Wilkinson would like to bring in ARA Grant Writers at the beginning of 2021 to look for any grants that would benefit Rush County.

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