

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 20, 2020

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 20, 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 July 6, 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 20, 2020 in the amount of \$392,851.36 were presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for July 24, 2020 in the amount of \$190,774.28 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 20, 2020 in the amount of \$419,025.57 were presented for payment. John Painter was present to explain the claims for J.C. Ripberger. They cleaned the storage lot on Julian Street and removed the brick septic tanks from the new parking lot on First Street. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JAIL CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER

Change Order 280/620-13 to J.C. Ripberger in a deduction amount of \$845.00 was presented to delete the islands, curbs and landscaping in the First Street parking lot. The Commissioners did receive permission from the City of Rushville to remove islands, curbs and landscaping. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the change order. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Substantial Completion forms were presented for approval of the commissioners. The forms are not saying the project is complete. It says the building was ready for occupancy on February 27, 2020. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to sign the substantial completion forms. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Allan Rice gave an update for the sheriff and jail departments. He presented an amended Lexipol contract which contains a charge to the county in the amount of \$9,129.00 for Lexipol to enter the current protocols and procedures. He has money in his budget to cover. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Phil Caviness requested pre-approval for an employee to work from home should the schools move to e-learning due to COVID-19. He has the capability to monitor her work from home. Ninety percent of her work can be done remotely.

Commissioner Wilkinson commented these decisions will need to be made on a case by case basis, approved by the supervisor and the work has to be able to be tracked. Not everyone will be approved to work from home. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve working from home for this employee if the school is closed due to COVID-19. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HEALTH

Julia Apple presented the Health Department monthly report. She is still not doing retail food inspections unless a complaint is received.

They have requested a \$50,000 grant from the State of Indiana to conduct COVID-19 testing between September, 2020 and June, 2021. They will be partnering with Rush Memorial Hospital. They are working with Rush County Schools on a reopening plan. She is still getting complaints from the public regarding businesses and COVID. The state has stated local health departments will approve plans for large gatherings. Our local health department is working on creating a spreadsheet to be used by anyone holding a large gathering.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Carly Holland reported that Diana Stone will replace Gracie Marlatt effective August 3, 2020. This is a position hired by Purdue University. She comes from Shelby County with a great deal of experience. Purdue has a hiring and travel freeze in place. Training is being done virtually.

AREA PLAN

Area Plan Director Gregg Duke presented the following petitions. Both were given a favorable recommendation from the Area Plan Commission on July 15, 2020.

- Robert and Abe Keim requested to amend the zoning maps for property located at 8739 S 175 W in Milroy 70-14-13-300-002.000-001 from Rural Residential (A-1) to Manufacturing (M). Bruce Levi made the motion to approve the rezone. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Sarah Griffey and Grant Wilfong requested to amend the zoning maps of Rush County for property located at 10760 N. Carthage Pike 70-02-09-152-012.000-008 from Open Land District (O), commonly referred to as flood plain, to Residential (R). The Department of Natural Resources and FEMA do not show this as a flood zone. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the rezone. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Area Plan Commission will be holding a public hearing in August regarding the forty acre rule.

HR

The renewal of the Organ Transplant Insurance with Tokio Marine was presented for approval. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The final application for the Employee Health Insurance Stop Loss Insurance was presented. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Requested permission to hire Ashley Perkins as the Surveyors part time administrative assistant. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Personnel policy changes were emailed to department heads in March. Bruce and Janet Kile will be meeting with department heads on an individual basis on July 28, 2020 to go over any questions and concerns.

CARES ACT EXPENSES

Ron Jarman requested permission to use CARES Act funding to purchase/replace our current firewall. Due to COVID-19, there are more county employees working from home using access to our county servers from their home internet. This creates a greater risk for unauthorized users accessing our county data. He presented two quotes. Catalyst in the amount of \$17,128.00. Cloud Tech Store in the amount of \$18,627.31. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the quote from Catalyst in the amount of \$17,128.00 to be paid from CARES Act funding. Bruce Levi seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA Director Chuck Kemker reminded everyone that we have to have the claims submitted to the Indiana Finance Authority by December 30, 2020 to get reimbursement. He has ordered more mask. The courthouse is using about 200 per week. He has a copy of the building design for the proposed storage shed needed to house additional supplies and equipment purchased for use of testing sites, immunization sites, etc. The commissioners need to decide where it will be built.

Auditor Jodi Harr requested permission to purchase software that will enable tax payers to apply for Homestead and Mortgage deductions electronically. This will eliminate them from coming into the courthouse and allow them to continue to file property tax deductions in the event the courthouse is closed due to COVID-19 or any other health emergency. She has a quote from Schneider Corp in the amount of \$2,160.00 for start fees. The annual cost will be paid from the Auditor's budget. Bruce Levi made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA

Chuck Kemker reported an issue with the river gauge at Carthage. He has contacted the National Weather Service who will contact Department of Natural Resources.

He and the CERT team are providing traffic control for food, milk and backpack distributions.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Kristi Amos updated the commissioners on the Lilly Gift Grant for a community center. The foundation is moving forward with the second phase of the grant application. It is likely Rush County would partner with the Henry County YMCA.

TREASURER

Treasurer Cindy Humphrey emailed the June monthly report to the commissioners. The renewal contract with Forte to accept credit card payments for property tax payments was approved on a motion for Bruce Levi and Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor.

COUNTY LIABILITY INSURANCE

The county's insurance agent asked if the commissioners wanted to take the county liability policy out to market prior to renewal. Highway Superintendent reminded the commissioners they have done this before, saved money but did not have the coverage that we thought. GIE has always been good to work with us. Bruce Levi made the motion to stay with what we currently have. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

ASSEMBLY ROOM

Discussion was held on allowing public use of the assembly room. It was decided to continue with government use only of the assembly room.

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