The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 16, 2021 with Commissioners, Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson and Ron Jarman present. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Leigh Morning was also present.

Mark Bacon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the American Flag.

MINUTES
- Minutes of the Regular Session held on August 2, 2021 were presented. Ron Jarman made the motion to approve. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS
- Accounts Payable claims for August 16, 2021 in the amount of $304,583.41 were presented. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve the claims Ron Jarman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL
- Payroll for August 20, 2021, in the amount of $196,154.92 was approved on a motion by Paul Wilkinson. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA
- EMA Director, Chuck Kemker discussed the grant for Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan with Polis Center in Indianapolis to update the plan. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the Mitigation Plan with Polis Center in Indianapolis. Paul Wilkinson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

APC
- APC Director, Greg Duke discussed a rezone on property located 7123 US 52 West Arlington from residential to commercial. The APC held a hearing on August 11, 2021 and found findings of Fact concerning Burton Whiteside Rezone Request. The APC Board recommendation is Unfavorable. Chairman Mark Bacon allowed those present for discussion of the rezone to speak they include Burton Whiteside, Tom Monka, Laura Tackett, and Cathy Keen. Paul Wilkinson indicated there are some concerns with the platted alley and whether they will build over it and also if the street is wide enough to handle the business. Paul Wilkinson made motion to deny the Petition for rezone of property 7123 US 52 West from residential to commercial. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
TREASURER
- Treasurer, Jodi Harr presented the Monthly Treasurer’s Report ending July 31, 2021. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report ending July 31, 2021.00. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HEALTH
- Julia Apple presented to the commissioner a Grant Application on Covid Immunization. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the grant application on Covid Immunization. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Julia Apple discussed digital record keeping call Win Records. The cost is $20,000.00. The Health Department has the funds to pay for the program. The Commissioners will take the request on Win Records under advisement until the next meeting.

HR
- HR Director, Tony Personnett request an approval for new hires. Devin McCullum Merit Road Deputy starting August 21, 2021. Ron Jarman made motion to approve Devin McCullum for the Merit Road Deputy starting August 21, 2021. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Howard Storms, Part time Correction Officer starting August 16, 2021. Ron Jarman made the motion to approve Howard Storms for a Part Time Correction Officer starting August 16, 2021. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were favor. Motion carried.
- Jennifer Sammons, Circuit Court Administrator starting August 9, 2021. Paul Wilkinson made a motion to approve Jennifer Sammons for the Circuit Court Administrator starting August 9. 2021. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Tony Personnett also informed the Commissioners that the Auditor received a letter of resignation for retirement from Sue Kline. Her Last day will be October 29, 2021. Tony is requesting to advertise for her position. Paul Wilkinson made the motion to approve to advertise for the position in the Auditor’s Office. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
SHERIFF
- Sheriff Allan Rice gave an update on the power point that he email to the Commissioners. There is 84 inmates which includes 16 out of county inmates. Sheriff Rice also gave an update on the issues with the Jail.

HIGHWAY
- Highway Superintendent, Jerry Sitton presented a contract for the right of way on Bridge 1 on 1100 North. Federal aid funds will be used to pay 80% of the cost up to $24,880.00. Paul Wilkinson made a motion to approve right of way contract on Bridge 1. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Jerry Sitton also presented a contract for the right of way on Bridge 155 on County Road 450 South. Federal aid funds will be used to pay 80% up the cost, up to $27,152.00. Ron Jarman made a motion to approve the right of way contract on Bridge 155. Seconded by Paul Wilkinson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS
- Commissioner Ron Jarman discussed the southside sidewalks and they would tie the drains lines into the City’s storm drain on Perkins Street, after Verizon moved their line. This would increase the cost to $55,310.00. Paul Wilkinson made a motion to proceed with replacing the sidewalk on the southside of the Courthouse. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favored. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Paul Wilkinson made a motion to approve closing Carthage Pike on September 11, 2021 for the Carthage Festival. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favored. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman gave an update on Storage Shed. They are waiting on the ground samples.
- Paul Wilkinson gave an update on the Courthouse Roof. Bids will be turned in by August 26, 2021 and will be open up on August 30, 2021 at the regular Commissioner meeting.
- Carol Yeend requested to put Suicide Prevention Walk Signs on the Courthouse Lawn. Paul made a motion to allow Carol Yeend to put Suicide Prevention Walk signs on the Courthouse Lawn. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All were in favored. Motion carried.
Commissioner Paul Wilkinson made motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ron Jarman. All favor. Motion carried.

/Mark Bacon/          /Paul Wilkinson/          /Ron Jarman/
Mark Bacon, Chairman  Paul Wilkinson          Ron Jarman

ATTEST:
/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor