

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
August 26, 2019

Commissioners Present: President Donald D Grogg
 Vice President Jacqueline Rowan
 Vice President William Hartman

Others Present: Acting Auditor Susan Sleeper
 Attorney James P McCanna

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty discussed with the Commissioners the transition from the current vacation policy to PTO and how the logistics would work for those days that are unused at 12/31/2019. The consensus among the Commissioners is any unused vacation and sick time will be placed in the repository to be used within 5 years. The Commissioners will review the proposed PTO policy one more time before it is sent to the department heads to review a second time before final approval. Jason Meek met with Dotty to get his part time position posted to begin the hiring process. Cheryl Lynch talked with Dotty and they have some feelers out for the Environmentalist position. Sunny Meadows had some position changes and Don Pierson is working with Lauren on making sure all information is correct for payroll. Probation Officers for Veteran's Court and Family Leave Court postings will come down today and they are pleased with the applicants. Dotty had a wonderful conversation with WIS to fill in some gaps of information they needed. Central Communication Director Position is still at a stand-still, awaiting feedback from the mayor. Dotty explained how well Lauren is doing in her position.

MATTER OF JAIL ELEVATOR REPAIR

Sheriff Cserep was in to discuss the jail elevator that broke down during a meal pass. Otis Elevator did a very temporary fix and then needed a contract signed to repair further. The Sheriff signed a \$3,977.30 contract to get the work completed due to the vast usage of the elevator on a daily basis.

William Hartman made a motion to accept the contract for Otis elevator signed by the Sheriff for the emergency repair that was needed. Jacqueline Rowan seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF FORMER BRIDGE AT COUNTY RD 75-MIKE LEY

Mike Ley, candidate for Mayor of Auburn to address the Commissioners on an initiative he is bringing to the City that involves the County. Mike Ley would like to request the permission to investigate the use of the former CR 75 Bridge. The vision is to construct a pedestrian bridge over Cedar Creek to connect the outdoor theater with Downtown Auburn on 11th street extended east. Mike feels the Outdoor Theater is a wonderful community asset to Downtown Auburn. Mike explained that per the fair board there is needed for two bridges across Cedar Creek and this would help fulfill one of the needs. The plan will be known as the Community Bridge to be built by our entire community and connecting segregated areas of our town and various community activities. The historic bridge project

would be constructed using all LOCAL companies for engineering, excavating, concrete, steel, erectors, sawmills, painters/carpenters, asphalt and landscaping. The funding will be an inclusive community effort, funded by a mix of local contractor in-kind services, supplier donations, grants and support from local and area organizations, citizens and businesses. The bridge would be owned and maintained by DeKalb County Fair Association. Mike displayed images of what the bridge is intended to look like and the anticipated timeline would be 24-30 months after commitment, depending when that actually starts the time ticking. Mike Ley is excited to be able to take a piece of history from our county and resurrect it with a purpose that unites our civic and cultural needs and something that our community will be very proud of.

William Hartman spoke on his positive view of the proposed project. Don Grogg had a question on the Fair Board ownership being a not-for-profit entity, and instructed Jim McCanna to research on if we can donate, lease or the proper way to move forward. Jacqueline Rowan also expressed her support for the project.

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to approve Mike Ley to move forward on the investigation of the use of the bridge, dependent on the legal processes that need addressed. William Hartman seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Tony Vie handed out the actual construction costs vs. contingency balance handout. Currently the Total Actual Construction Cost is at \$4,541,590.93. Change Order #10 was discussed that includes: erosion repair and sidewalk reroute and added data and power outlets for the total amount of change order #10 of \$11,955.47. William Hartman expressed his issues with the sidewalk and why the road was designed with the dips in the street that seem to be contributing to the sidewalk issue and now money is being requested. Steve Feters feels the building should have been raised before the building was constructed.

William Hartman made a motion to accept the Change order #10 and the president to sign to keep the project moving. Don Grogg seconded and motion passed 2 aye, 1 nay (Jacqueline Rowan).

Tony and Don Grogg had discussion on the furniture presentations. Tony explained the furniture aspect was not part of his fees and would be a \$3,500.00 fee. Tony also explained that the only way to get a true apples to apples comparison would only be if all three or more vendors were quoting the same manufacturers on everything. The main issue is how to word the request for quotes to get as close as possible from at least three vendors so that the comparisons are equivalent. Tony's team would review the quotes that are presented and can compare the ratings on the manufacturers that are quoted.

William Hartman made a motion to approve the plan that Tony has presented on the furniture proposal. Jacqueline Rowan seconded and all approved.

Steve Feters feels things are moving along. Kellie said they are plugging along and asked where the Commissioners stand on the outbuilding. Tim Baker asked for the Commissioners to allow three first aid kits to be added to the Cintas billing, one would for Change Academy and two for the Work Release Facility. The Commissioners gave Kellie their approval for her to go ahead and get the Hot Box ordered and shipped, this is the device to help eliminate bugs from coming into the facility.

MATTER OF KRUSE PLAZA-OPPORTUNITY BOULEVARD

John Kruse was here on behalf of the Kruse Plaza in the American Heritage TIF: Opportunity Boulevard Road. The ultimate request is that the Opportunity Boulevard to be taken over by the County for maintenance and snow removal from 11A to the platted Education Avenue that doesn't exist at this time. Due to the potential of bringing more people to our county with Redevelopment, once the piece of Opportunity Boulevard is redone and ready would the County take ownership of the piece of road? Jacqueline Rowan asked why they are requesting the County to take ownership and John replied with one reason being because the Redevelopment Commission requested him to ask and also the ability to bring in revenue increases for the County. Discussion took place on all aspects. Robert Krafft spoke as a citizen on how supportive he is of what John Kruse has developed and would like to see the County support this plan. William Hartman made comment on how stressed both mentally and monetarily our current highway department is at this time. The Commissioners will review and talk with Ben Parker and be in touch with John Kruse with the decision.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY:

Ben reported that CR 60 paving is finished and CR 61 should be started next week. The stripping for many roads have been on order and hopefully will be here soon. Bridge #34 determination would have to go back to USI to finish the environmental standpoint and INDOT will need followed through since federal funds were involved. Ben talked with Allen County about their permitting and the winter maintenance of additions. Ben will request Jeff to update the maintenance bond for Fawn Creek.

MATTER OF ENERGY CONSERVATION: JOHNSON MELLOH

Rick Anderson from Johnson Melloh Solutions was in to discuss the logistics of energy savings as a follow-up to his presentation from a few months ago. Rick explained that this is a no cost plan to review the County buildings to have a work up of what we spend and why in the Counties energy plan.

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion for Johnson Melloh Solutions to look and our plan. William Hartman seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to approve minutes as written dated August 19, 2019. William Hartman seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

William Hartman made a motion to approve Special Claims as written for the week of August 26th. Jacqueline Rowan seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

William Hartman made a motion to approve travel request for the following:

- 1) Sandi Wilcox to travel locally to conduct County Banking in personal vehicle. Not to exceed \$25.00 per month and will be requested on a quarterly basis and travel request renewed each year. This amount is for a time period of 8/1/19 to 12/31/19 in the amount of not to exceed \$125.00.

- 2) Matthew Tamez to travel to Indianapolis to attend Leadership and management skills training on Sept. 25th-26th. Estimated cost of \$534.00 to be paid for from Commissioners travel.
- 3) Jonnie La Rowe to travel to Brown County on Oct. 9th -11th to attend ICCADS Fall Training. Estimated cost of \$448.00 to be paid for by departmental travel. (dept. vehicle will be used if available)
- 4) Bailey Gasper to travel to Brown County on Oct 9th-11th to attend ICCADS Fall Training. Estimated cost of \$296.00 to be paid for by departmental travel. (dept. vehicle will be used if available)
- 5) Ryan Hull to travel to Brown County on Oct. 9th-11th to attend ICCADS Fall Training. Estimated cost of \$498.00 to be paid for by department travel. (dept. vehicle will be used if available)
- 6) Sandi Wilcox and one deputy to travel to Plymouth on Oct. 28th to attend the State Called Auditor/Treasurer Meeting. Estimated cost of \$115.04 to be paid for from Commissioners travel.

Seconded by Don Grogg and all approved.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

William Hartman made a motion to approve payroll for the period August 6 – August 19, 2019. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF CHANGE IN POLLING LOCATION

William Hartman made a motion to approve the Auburn United Methodist Church to hold the Jackson North precinct. Seconded by Jacqueline Rowan and all approved.

MATTER OF PRIORITY ENGINEERING MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion for the president to sign the annual comprehensive supply & maintenance agreement with Priority Engineering for the new ROWE ecoPrint i4 printer in the Records office. Seconded by William Hartman and all approved.

MATTER OF SURETY BOND

The Commissioners acknowledge receipt of the Consent of Surety Company to Final Payment Bond Number SUR2001807 from Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company for Geiger Excavating, INC. signed July 15, 2019.

MATTER OF TRAILS DISCUSSION

Don Grogg explained to Rick Ring that he does not have any issue with the trails, and questioned whether or not any grant funding would have to run directly through the County or if it could go directly to the not-for-profit entity. In Rick's experience the counties do not own the trails, they are owned by a 501c3 entity. Rick believes the owning and maintenance of the trails will be on the organization not the county. The question arose on if a trail was in the County right-of-way if the liability would be with the county or the trail organization.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Other discussion included the following topics: AEDs for sheriff vehicles (#20 needed), fair parking plan from sheriff, out-building at Community Corrections, covered bridge tree planting and no trespassing signs.

Donald D. Grogg - President

Jacqueline R. Rowan – Vice President

William L. Hartman – Vice President

Attest: _____

Jan Bauman, Auditor

Susan Sleeper, Acting Auditor