

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

May 1, 2023

Commissioners Present: President William L Hartman
 Vice President Michael Watson
 Vice President Todd Sanderson

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
 Deputy Auditor Jody Wiedenhoef
 Attorney Andrew Kruse

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty began today with recruitment around the County. Dotty provided the 2023 Wellness Event Aggregate Analysis report ahead of the meeting. The top three issues were weight, blood pressure and diabetes of the 44 participants. Dotty said there are many employees that would like to be able to utilize a clinic. Commissioner Watson explained that it would take about 30 days once the clinic agreement is signed and asked if the others would to have someone come in and discuss how the clinic works, and that was the consensus. Commissioner Watson will work on getting it set up for a presentation at a future meeting. The DeKalb Central United School District clinic is run by Lutheran, the facility is owned by DeKalb Central. Dotty explained she has been working on a project with Council when it comes to wages for the upcoming budget. She was tasked to compare wages with CDL holders, IT individuals and Nurses as those are the three biggest areas that the County has to compete with private-sector wages. Our insurance broker is still working on the information and she does not have any concrete numbers yet.

MATTER OF OPERATION GREEN LIGHT RESOLUTION 2023-R-9

Travis Holcomb explained he is representing both Ronda Hunkler and himself. The Operation Green Light Program was brought to their attention by HR and the Auditor just before Veteran's Day last year. They choose to hold off and collect information to put together for a presentation. Travis and Larry collaborated on how to turn the courthouse green, and Larry said he could put the candles in the windows of the courthouse in sooner and put green lights in them. Travis has also reached out to Haney's glass on green tempered glass to be put in front of the flood lights on the four corners of the courthouse and was quoted the amount of \$201.92, the amount of the green lightbulbs came in around \$148.00. They are asking if the Commissioners would be willing to fund this out of their LITED funds or if the Veteran's office needs to find the funds within their budget.

Michael Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-R-9 and approve funding not to exceed \$400 from LITED #62. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF STREAM STABILIZATION PROJECT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Nellie Peffley handed out an updated Advertisement for Bid on the Cedar Creek Stream Stabilization Project for the Commissioners to approve and sign. She also handed out and

updated Estimate of Probable Costs of the project as they have increase from \$192,254.32 to \$289,431. The LARE grant was approved for the maximum of \$100,000, so the difference in cost would be split between the County and The City of Auburn. Further discussion took place among the Commissioners and Eric from the City of Auburn/Nellie Peffley. Nellie Peffley explained that the County's portion would come from the Cedar Creek drain funds.

Michael Watson made a motion to approve and all to sign the Advertisement to Bid. Todd Sanderson seconded and motion passed (2,1) with Commissioner Hartman voting against.

Andrew Provines wanted to point out that everything that is in the plan is to protect the land, trees, etc.

MATTER OF CODE ENFORCEMENT/PUBLIC NUISANCE

Amanda Allard Property: Paul White gave an update on this property at 6964 State Road 1, Spencerville, IN 46788. Paul believes that the owners is still incarcerated at this time and was told that Amanda no longer lives there. Jarvis Asher is living at the address at this time. Paul has sent notices as required. The property is in foreclosure and the County should hold off until the foreclosure process takes place prior to filing a lawsuit.

3:16 Removal: Gentleman has contacted Paul multiple times about being interested in cleanup when/if the services are ever needed and will be giving a discount for the County.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Bridge #57 on County Rd 40: Ben provided the Notice to Bidders, Proposal, Contract and Specifications ahead of the meeting to the Commissioners. The bids will be due in the Auditors office on May 22, 2023

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve Ben to advertise the Notice to Bidders on Bridge #57. Michael Watson seconded and all approve.

LPA Contract for BF&S: Ben had sent the documents to the Commissioners and Attorney Kruse and wanted to be sure the Commissioners wanted to make any changes or if he could move forward and submit to INDOT. The Commissioners are all in consensus of Ben sending on to INDOT.

Misc: May 8th, Highway Dept. will begin their 10 hour days. Ben asked for a few dates of when to have the ground-breaking ceremony for the new highway project. Bridge #9 is moving forward and ahead of schedule at this time. Bridge #132 is getting close to bid and Ben is coordinating with property owners for temporary right of entry.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Michael Watson made a motion to approve payroll for the period of April 9-22, 2023. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve April 2023 Bookkeeper and Payroll claims. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Todd Sanderson made the motion to approve the minutes as dated April 24, 2023. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

Michael Watson made a motion to approve the following travel requests:

- 1) Michael Lewis to attend the Probation Officer Exam held Indiana Office of Court Services on May 4, 2023. Estimated cost \$155.50.
- 2) Holly Albright & Dana Hedrick to attend the AIC Northeast District Meeting held at the ACD Museum on May 24, 2023. Estimated cost of \$90.00 (registration only).
- 3) Rick Collins to attend the AIC Northeast District Meeting held at the ACD Museum on May 24, 2023. Estimated cost of \$45.00 (registration only).
- 4) Susan Sleeper to take the 8-week online course- Leading on Purpose-NACo follow-up program from Oct. 16 – Dec. 15, 2023. Estimated cost of \$500.00.


Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION


Topics include: Dark Sky Ordinance,

Region 3 NE Indiana: Commissioner Watson explained the Strategic Planning Commission ended up with a \$30 million (\$15 million for the region) line item in the budget that is targeted for Economic Development Projects, Housing, Infrastructure, Jobs, etc. They have been working for two years on a Strategic Plan for the region.


Andrew Provines: Came with some general questions on the UDO, he passed out a document with his questions on the UDO. Andrew asked: Will we be enforcing the UDO?, Are the Solar Panels Impervious Structures?, and If the 'Waivers' will be heard but not granted.



William L. Hartman – President



Michael Watson – Vice President



Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:



Susan Sleeper, Auditor