

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

July 3, 2023

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

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
Attorney Andrew Kruse

MATTER OF 2ND FLOOR BATHROOMS

Second floor restrooms: painting came in at \$3,660 for the women's \$2,980 for the men's includes painting restroom and hallways in and out from Derek Weimer. Talked with Northside Heating & Plumbing and asked Larry to remove and take in some of the hardware to see if they can accommodate the need.

Michael Watson made a motion to proceed with updating the 2nd floor employee bathrooms. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty announced the current Code Enforcement Officer submitted his resignation and she reminded the Commissioners of the current Job Description and also had Chris Gaumer review the description and will get the job posted. Recruitment around the County was discussed next. Parkview has contacted Dotty on setting a March 2024 wellness date and she has held them off for a bit depending on what happens with the clinic that has been discussed. Commissioner Hartman feels she should schedule with Parkview as he feels the County is not ready to do the clinic at this time, Commissioner Sanderson agrees, Commissioner Watson had no comment. The main event happening in HR the past few weeks were dealing with the new Health Plan updates. HR through DeKalb County is being recognized as an affiliate with Association of Indiana Counties.

MATTER OF SPOUSAL CARVE-OUT RULE

Currently, if a married couple both work for the County they are on their own insurance plan, and then one of the adults will cover any children under their policy, which then leads to higher out of pocket. HR is proposing to change this as when a couple begin a family that all of them be under one 'family' policy instead of continuing to have one of the adults on their own policy. Rick Ring wanted to point out that the savings of the spousal carve-out is when the spouse has a different employer.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to allow married county employees to be on one plan vs. separate plans. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF THE PUMP ACT ADDITION TO HANDBOOK

Michael Watson made a motion to insert the PUMP ACT policy into the DeKalb County Government Handbook. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF SHERIFF OFFICE PROMOTIONS

Sheriff Thomas presented promotions of 2 deputies into Sergeant positions with the Board of Commissioners: Ben Browand an 8 year member of the department and Bret Parker an 6 year member of the department.

Attention to Orders:

The DeKalb County Merit Board has advanced Ben Browand from the rank of Deputy to the rank of Sergeant as of July 3, 2023.

Attention to Orders:

The DeKalb County Merit Board has advanced Bret Parker from the rank of Deputy to the rank of Sergeant as of July 3, 2023.

MATTER OF DEKALB CENTRAL SRO POSITION

Currently, the DeKalb County Sheriff's department has an SRO officer at DeKalb Central; DeKalb Eastern and Garrett-Keyser. DeKalb Central would like to hire a 2nd Full Time SRO with the school reimbursing for the SRO wage, as they currently do. The Sheriff's Department would like to provide an experienced officer for the SRO officer to start in August. Sheriff Thomas is requesting to add an additional officer to replace the road officer that will be open by sending a 2nd officer to the school. The Commissioners would like Sheriff Thomas to check with the school to see if they would be willing to pay for the benefits of the 2nd officer. Sergeant Parker feels it is not a tax burden and feels the SRO program is very important for schools and that we definitely need to add the 2nd officer.

Dave Holt spoke on having children and grandkids and feels the SRO position is very much needed and should consult with the schools with possible funding, but in the end the SRO is needed.

MATTER OF MAINTENANCE SOFTWARE

Sheriff Thomas has been in discussion with having a maintenance program in place for his department. Currently there is not a plan in place for maintenance and this would be able to be utilized by other County departments. Commissioner Sanderson reminded everyone that the program is only as good as the data put in. Commissioner Sanderson would like to see a demo of the project and will act on the agreement next week.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Jack Smith, IT Director provided 4-separate proposals from SAS (Security Automation Systems) to Highway Superintendent, Ben Parker for the Commissioners review/approval.

SAS Proposals Dated 6/29/23
Proposal #23273 -\$46,095.00
Proposal #23274 -\$43,405.00
Proposal #23275 -\$49,750.00
Proposal #23276 -\$49,750.00
Total- \$189,000.00

Attorney Kruse's concern was on splitting the invoices between product and labor in order to not bid the project. Jack Smith has been in conversation with other companies but not able to get any quotes returned. Commissioner Watson believes he remembers the bid threshold is \$150k and Attorney Kruse will look into this amount.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve payroll for the period June 4-17, 2023 that was pre-approved by Michael Watson due to the Commissioners meeting not held on June 26, 2023. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF LARE PROJECT

Nellie Peffley sent the Commissioners an update on the LARE Cedar Creek Stream Stabilization Project and with the recommendation from the County Attorney both bids should be rejected due to alternates give and future funding changes.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to reject the bids and pursue new bids and extended funding. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

Michael Watson made a motion to approve June 2023 Bookkeeper and Payroll claims along with Special claims in the amount of \$959.00 consisting of warrant #'s 134330 thru 134332 that were processed on 06/23/23 and General claims processed on July 3, 2023 in the amount of \$458,541.24 consisting of warrant #'s 134336 thru 134355 and wire transfer #'s 25049 thru 25171. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Todd Sanderson made the motion to approve the minutes as dated June 19, 2023. Michael Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

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

- 1) First Sgt. Jared Ulrick to attend the Taser Instructor Certification Course held at the Elkhart City Police Department on July 31, 2023. Estimated cost \$495.00 paid by department travel.
- 2) Jail Commander Josh Hicks to attend the PREA Law and Transgender Inmate Training held at the DeKalb County Jail on July 17, 2023. Estimated cost of \$150.00 paid by department travel.

William Hartman seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF COMMISSARY REPORT JANUARY – JUNE 2023

Todd Sanderson acknowledged receipt of the Commissary Report for January 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF REPUBLICANS WITH OTHER IDEAS APPLICATION FOR USE OF COURTHOUSE LAWN

R.O.I is requesting to take pictures on the Courthouse Lawn on July 9, 2023 at 2pm. Andrew Provines did confirm that the organization is a pact, not a 501(c)(3). The Resolution currently in place states the organization must be a non-profit. The Commissioners are all in agreeance of the photos being taken on the courthouse lawn.

MATTER OF SHERIFF VEHICLES DECOMMISSIONED/ACCIDENT

Todd Sanderson made a motion for the President to sign the vehicle titles for the following vehicles. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

2016 Dodge Charger: VIN#2C3CDXKTXGH223545 due to being involved in a crash and a total loss

2018 Dodge Charger: VIN#2C3CDXKT5JH167733 due to be decommissioned and going to auction

MATTER OF BAT REMOVAL WITH ADVANCED WILDLIFE & PEST CONTROL

Bill Knapp submitted a quote/contract that includes bat exclusion with lift rental, Guano removal & disposal, bat bug treatment and disposing of ceiling tiles as well as a 1-year conditional warranty.

Michael Watson made a motion to accept the quote from Advance Wildlife & Pest Control in the amount of \$8,300 to be paid by building maintenance funds in County General. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

NEW HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUNDING

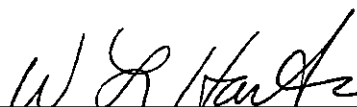
Commissioner Hartman asked what the others feel on whether to opt-in or opt-out of the funding. Commissioner Watson is all for opting in, Commissioner Sanderson thought the County had to provide additional funding in order to get the money and also asked what services the County was lacking in for the need of this additional funding and stated he could not get that answer from Dr. Mark Souder. Auditor Sleeper handed out the funding requirements for the Local Public Health Funding 2024 and 2025. Commissioner Watson feels they need to collect the facts and there are people willing to zoom in to a meeting or attend to ask questions. All Commissioners agree they need to gather the information and be ready to decide on opting in or out of the new funding.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Topics include- Sunny Meadows top of well house: Commissioner Hartman is working on, part-time maintenance position vs. work at DCCC, NIRCC traffic study.

EXECUTIVE SESSION BEGAN AT 10:30 A.M. as NOTICED

The Commissioners met in Executive Session as noticed beginning at 10:32 a.m., in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9). There were no decisions made and no other matters discussed. The Executive Session concluded at 10:48 a.m.



William L. Hartman – President




Michael Watson – Vice President



Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:



Susan Sleeper, Auditor