

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

September 11, 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 HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty updated the Commissioners on how the insurance meetings went last week, with a few negatives and positives. Recruitment around the County was then covered. Dotty gave a brief overview of what the Wage Study Committee will be discussing with the Council. Dotty had a meeting with Larry and the three departments on the logistics of the position. FLSA currently has a requirement that a salaried exempt position is to be paid a minimum of \$35,568/yr, DOL is proposing to raise the requirement to \$55,068/yr., this is currently out for public comment for 60 days, but HR is being proactive incase the rate is changed. Dotty then explained the updates that were made on the Separation Form she handed out to the Commissioners. The Safety Committee Meeting will take place this Friday.

MATTER OF DCCC-HAMILTON CHANGE ACADEMY

Michelle informed the Commissioners that the Hamilton Schools contacted the CHANGE Academy about joining the program and have received approval from their board.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve and for the president to sign the MOU with Hamilton Schools to join the CHANGE Academy Program. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF DCCC SCRAM MONITOR AGREEMENT

Michelle Fosnaugh brought an Amendment to the Master Agency Agreement By and Between Alcohol Monitoring Systems and DeKalb County Community Corrections that adds Section 7 of the Schedule ("Shelf Fee; Shelf Allowance; Loss and Damage Allowance; Lost and Damage Fee") shall be updated to reflect that Agency shall have a Shelf Allowance of 2 units for CAM Equipment and 5 units for Remote Breath Equipment.

Todd Sanderson motioned to approve and for the president to sign the amendment 1 to the SCRAM Monitoring Agreement. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF SIM/JPAR GRANT

Michael Lapham is requesting approval from the Commissioner to apply for a \$60,000 federal grant from Indiana Office of Court Services to be used to help create and support the creation of the Sequential Intercept Model for the granted County. The money can be used for staff, equipment, and support for SIM mapping. Michael had previously applied for this grant, was awarded but did not use the money as it was not an ideal time with the current staff at the County. Currently, Parkview has the plan already for the SIM Mapping and this position could support that, as well as the Crisis Intervention Team. Michael feels we have the support and resources to be able to utilize the grant at this time. Michael Lapham has stated that if the grants funds are only good for one year, he will be able to sustain the position through his Probation User Fees.

Michael Watson made a motion to approve and allow Michael to move forward with apply for the SIM/JPAR Grant through IOCS. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF LAKELAND INTERNET: MARK BYLER

Mark Byler gave a presentation on Lakeland's – Next Generation Fixed Wireless Coverage. Lakeland's broad coverage is a fixed wireless internet that can reach areas that are underserved by traditional wired connections, such as remote rural regions or areas with challenging terrain. It enables people in these locations to access high-speed internet without the need for extensive infrastructure investments. By using existing vertical assets, the projected build can be much more cost effective. The projected budget with building towers would be a cost of \$3,375,000 to the County and \$6,440,000 cost to Lakeland. The projected budget with EXISTING towers would be a cost of \$2,115,000 to the County and \$6,440,000 cost to Lakeland. Fixed wireless internet eliminates the need for costly infrastructure development, such as digging trenches or installing cables. This can result in significant cost savings for both service providers and end users. It also reduces the barriers to entry for internet service providers, fostering competition and potentially leading to more affordable pricing options. Average costs per passing in Wireless is significantly cheaper than Fiber \$9,500 per home for fiber vs. \$1,000 per home with wireless. Although fiber is often considered the ultimate solution for low total cost of ownership over the long term, this is not necessarily the case. Next-generation wireless technologies such as Tarana's ngFWA G1 platform have been designed to meet or exceed fiber in terms of economic feasibility. Mark is not here to monopolize DeKalb County; he is here to spread the knowledge and hopefully gain some more business in DeKalb County. Commissioner Hartman asked what the next step would be, whether it would be a proposal? Commissioner Watson believes that it would not hurt Mark to have a conversation with the Broadband Task Force that has been in play for a while but does not have any issues with seeing a proposal. Lakeland does not do contracts, does not raise rates, and has lowered prices.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to have Lakeland Internet bring an Official Proposal to the Commissioners. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Highlands Addition, Maintenance Bond #K40501770:

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve and all to sign the release of the Maintenance Bond above as of September 6, 2023, and to accept the roads Highlander Cove and Braveheart Circle. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

James Roadinger: Called Ben on the water lines that are going in and the possibility of tapping into that water main. Ben feels there are multiple avenues happening with the Highway Project and that it is not an ideal time to consider something like this. The Commissioners agree.

Career Development Days with Butler: Ben would like to participate in this again and it is good public relations for the department, as well as providing education to the kids and parents.

Misc: Ben gave a brief update on projects in his department, discussed selling old equipment or take for scrap instead of moving to new location.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

Michael Watson made a motion to approve August 2023 Bookkeeper and Payroll claims and General claims processed on September 11, 2023 in the amount of \$850,016.78 consisting of warrant #'s 134578 thru 134639 and wire transfer #'s 25671 thru 25819. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Todd Sanderson made the motion to approve the minutes dated August 28, 2023. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2023 ANNUAL JAIL REPORT

Todd Sanderson made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the 2023 Annual Jail Report submitted by Sheriff Thomas and prepared by Chance Sweet from the Indiana Department of Correction-Jail Division Director. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Topics include- No Trespass for next meeting, DART compliance, Sculpin presentation

Russ airport email: Todd wanted to be clear he wasn't talking about thru-the-gate operations, and wondered how soon Russ had plans to develop the area, further discussion took place on TIF possibilities. Todd would like to see Russ hear out the idea that is being thought of and see if something could work for everyone.

Live stream of all meetings held in Commissioners Courtroom: Bill Hartman would like to see an Ordinance be drawn up to begin now since we already have the set up.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to prepare an ordinance to live stream and record all meetings in the Commissioners Courtroom. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF COUNTY HOLIDY SCHEDULE FOR 2024

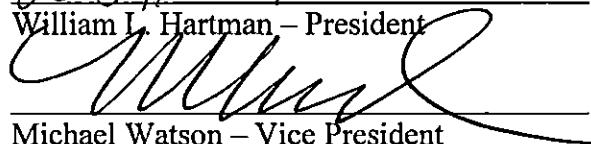
Michael Watson would like to make a motion to re-instate the MLK Holiday and revisit the Holiday discussion. Todd Sanderson seconded for discussion.

Michael Watson feels that MLK being a Federal Holiday when other places that our employees do business with will be closed as well. Todd Sanderson agrees that maybe MLK day was the wrong day to take away and would agree to re-instate MLK day if another holiday is removed, he feels 12 Holidays is more than enough compared to private sector.

Michael Watson would like to withdraw his motion and table until next week for further discussion. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.



William L. Hartman – President



Michael Watson – Vice President



Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:


Susan Sleeper, Auditor