

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

January 6, 2020

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

Others Present: Auditor Jan Bauman
First Deputy Susan Sleeper

Absent: Attorney James P McCanna

MATTER OF MINUTES

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to approve minutes dated December 30, 2019. Donald Grogg seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve Payroll and Bookkeeper claims for the month of December 2019 and to approve General Claims consisting of warrant #'s 129989 thru 130071 in the amount of \$83,479.62, and wire transfer #'s 13793 thru 13925 in the amount of \$682,176.11. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the following travel requests:

- 1) Richard Ring (Council) to travel to Indianapolis February 11-12 for the AIC Legislative Conference. Estimated cost of \$433.96 to be paid from Commissioners' travel.
- 2) Elysia Rodgers (Extension) to travel to Muncie January 9-10 for the County Extension Director's Update. Estimated cost of \$74.86 to be paid from department travel.
- 3) Ryan Hull, Bailee Grayless, and Michelle Ford (Probation) to travel to Indianapolis February 25-26 for 2020 Veterans Enhancement Training. Estimated cost of \$512 to be paid from department travel.
- 4) Cheryl Lynch and Debra Krafft (Health) to travel to Fort Wayne on January 10 for an LHD meeting and Healthcare Coalition meeting. Estimated cost of \$41.02 to be paid from department travel. They will need to drive separately if a patient who must be administered medicines to is available that day to receive the meds. If that is the case, estimated mileage of \$11.02 will be paid to the second driver.
- 5) Cheryl Lynch and Debra Krafft (Health) to travel to Plainfield April 14-15 for 2020 Pink Book Training. Estimated cost of \$1,048 to be paid from department travel.
- 6) Cheryl Lynch and Debra Krafft (Health) to travel to Whitley County for a PHN meeting. No expenses are being claimed.

Seconded by Jacqueline Rowan, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL POLICY

A change was made to the statement regarding mileage, and after updating the policy, Donald Grogg made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2020-R-1, DeKalb County Code 22-1-6, DeKalb County Travel Policy. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Donald Grogg made the motion to approve the advertising to send out bids for County Road 40 from County Road 36A to County Road 5 and County Road 60 from State Road 1 to State Road 101 for the Community Crossings grant project. Bids will be due 10:00 a.m. January 27th and opened at 11:00 a.m. The advertisement to bid will run on January 10th and 17th.

There was discussion about the circle and the right-of-way where County Road 62 was closed west of County Road 327. Utilities there were also discussed.

As of February 7, 2020, all new CDL drivers and CDL drivers who want to upgrade their license will be required to attend a course at the cost of \$4,000-\$6,000. Anyone who goes to the BMV for these licenses through February 6th will be under the “old” law for testing. Mr. Parker would like to have his drivers tested for Class A Restricted while there is a short window of opportunity at the lower cost. Would the Commissioners be willing to reimburse the employees when they pass the test? Commissioner Grogg made a motion to allow the current Class B CDL drivers to achieve their Class A status, with the employees paying the cost up front. Once they have achieved passing their Class A certification, the Commissioners will reimburse the employees out of LITED #24. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved. Going forward, if Ben Parker and/or one of his employees are willing to become instructors, it will greatly benefit the County.

Mr. Parker presented a document for signature regarding the environmental review for the County Road 56 road project, authorizing IDEM to give their input. Donald Grogg motioned for William Hartman’s name to be penned in, crossing out Donald Grogg’s name, and for the President to sign. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

Mr. Parker brought more information on Bridge 46 located on County Road 17. He will be sending out an RFP for the bridge. He is looking at different alternatives for the bridge structure. He would prefer a small structure rather than a box if possible. This is DeKalb County’s highest priority bridge according to the most recent USI bridge inspection report.

The goal is to be able to replace one bridge per year, depending on what kind of bridge it is. Something will be in the works at all times—whether design of a bridge, or construction. The bridge portion of the Cumulative Capital Development fund is helping tremendously.

Mr. Parker wanted clarification of his vacation time. He has three weeks’ vacation. He has completed four years as of December 2019 and has begun his fifth year. The Commissioners believe they had intended to award Mr. Parker a fourth week of vacation that would go into his repository. Donald Grogg made a motion to give Mr. Parker a fourth week of vacation to go into his repository. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVELERS’ NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

The Commissioners acknowledge receipt of settlement statement for Kay M Tule v DeKalb County.

MATTER OF TITLE VI/ADA POLICY STATEMENT

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve and for all three to sign the DeKalb County’s Nondiscrimination Statement of Policy. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF 2020 SHERIFF SALARY CONTRACT

The Sheriff is not asking for an increase to his salary for 2020. His fixed amount will remain at \$106,515. However, due to 27 pays for the calendar year 202, the compensation will total \$110,612. Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the 2020 Sheriff Salary Contract. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF TREASURER APPEALING TRAVEL REQUEST DENIED ON 12-30-19

Treasurer Sandi Wilcox requested to revisit the travel request that was denied last week. Sandi Wilcox & Joni Humbarger would travel to Monroe, Green & Lawrence County as well as New Albany on Jan. 15th-16th to visit three counties for the County Treasurers Meet and Greet with tours including the tax payment-printing vendor. She explained that the travel is to attend a gathering sponsored by the company that prints the County's property tax bills as well as to visit other county treasurer offices to share ideas and processes. The State has changed their tax bills again this year. The Treasurer has had some difficulty with bill printing and would like to work out the problems with the vendor. Commissioner Grogg asked a couple questions. First, if they are having problems with their vendor, shouldn't the vendor be coming to DeKalb County to assist? Second, isn't the Treasurers' Conference the place to exchange ideas? The Commissioners explained that travel requests are increasing, and the costs add up and that there are too many requests for travel being presented to the Commissioners on a regular basis that are not required. Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to rescind last week's denial of the Treasurer's travel request. The motion was not seconded. The travel request denial from 12-30-19 stands.

MATTER OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND COUNTY WEATHER EMERGENCIES

The Commissioners discussed with Director Jason Meek that it is the responsibility of the County Commissioners to make the final call for any type of weather emergency with coordination of Homeland Security Director, Highway Superintendent, and Sheriff. Director Meek had been acting under misinformation and didn't understand that the Commissioners make all weather emergency declarations.

MATTER OF ECKHART LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the reappointment of Barbara Morrow and Steven Teders for the term beginning February 1, 2020 and ending January 31, 2024 and for the President to sign. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF BUILDERS RISK POLICY CANCELLATION

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve and for the President to sign the Cancellation Request/Police Release for the Builders Risk Policy #QT6609K052016 through Travelers Property Casualty Co of America One Tower Square. Policy Term effective January 11, 2019. Policy Cancellation Date effective December 1, 2019 at 12:01 a.m. due to the Community Corrections Building completion. Seconded by Jacqueline Rowan, and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Other discussion included the following topics: Desk and chair for VSO; possibly selling two properties in Wilmington Township; options for County property for City's proposed restroom location; Democratic requirement for PTABOA Board; and Community Corrections may have up to \$5,000 for miscellaneous needs out of the Project Fund soft costs prior to next Monday.

William L. Hartman - President

Donald D. Grogg – Vice President

Jacqueline R. Rowan – Vice President

Attest: _____
Jan Bauman, Auditor