

## **DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

March 1, 2021

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

Others Present: Auditor Jan Bauman  
Attorney James P McCanna

### **MATTER OF SOIL & WATER REQUEST TO MODIFY OFFICE HOURS**

Soil & Water District Director Nellie Peffley asked the Commissioners if they could change their office hours from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m.–3:30p.m. and explained why. Soil & Water customers consist of local producers, landowners, and conservationists. The majority prefer to conduct business early. Furthermore, Soil & Water utilizes the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service that works 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The Soil & Water Board supervisors and staff believe this would be an ideal time to make the change due to the building currently being closed to the public. Todd Sanderson made a motion to allow Soil & Water to change office hours to 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF HIGHWAY**

Ben Parker distributed a breakdown of each bidder's submission for the 2020 Road Resurfacing Project. Mr. Parker's recommendation is to go with API for the contract which was the low bidder. Todd Sanderson made a motion to accept API's bid of \$1,187,180 for the Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund 2020 Road Resurfacing Project. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

Mr. Zehr from 4670 CR 46A has submitted a right-of-way permit requesting to run electricity underneath the road with from his house to his barn. Mr. Parker explained when private utilities are installed in the public right-of-way, they are not tracked. Mr. Parker is concerned someone could get electrocuted if they cut into it. The Commissioners do not want the permit granted due to the liability. Todd Sanderson made a motion to reject the permit to run electricity underneath the road for Mr. Zehr at 4670 CR 46A. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved. The Commissioners want Mr. Parker to continue bringing these types of permits to them so they can have their rejections on record.

A situation with another property owner who years ago had requested to run his gas line underneath the road from one side of his property to the other side. At the time, the Commissioners had allowed it. Mr. Parker and the Commissioners are concerned about the liability risk since it could be a very dangerous situation. The Commissioners advised Mr. Parker that the farmer either needs to get a propane tank or have 811 locate the line so they can enter it into their system and have it on record.

Steven Zachrich from Zachrich Construction is requesting a 2-week extension for the concrete abutment that the Commissioners wanted installed on the covered bridge as well as an additional 2-week extension due to the weather. This would push the completion date from the first of April to the end of April. Todd Sanderson made a motion to allow an extra 28 days to Zachrich Construction so Mr. Zachrich can do a good job on the covered bridge. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

The State of Indiana told Mr. Parker that 14,000 ton of asphalt millings is available to the County if we can use it. They will even deliver it. Mr. Parker said he doesn't have a place to put it and doesn't want to turn it away. It could be potentially used to convert gravel roads. It could also be used on the new property as back-fill to build up the ground before constructing new buildings.

There was discussion about moving forward with the sale of the Highway property and getting a purchase agreement written up for the Henderson property that they would like to purchase.

#### **MATTER OF MINUTES**

Michael Watson made a motion to approve minutes dated February 22, 2021. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Michael Watson made a motion to approve Payroll and Bookkeeper Claims for the month of February and Special Claims for the week of March 1, 2021. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS**

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

- 1) Matt Tamez (Sheriff) to travel to Archbold, Ohio, March 3-7 for the Kray Mage Instructor Course. No expenses will be claimed.

Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIAL TRAINING INVOICE FOR AMY PROSSER**

Michael Watson made a motion to pay the AIC invoice for 2020 Newly Elected Official Training for Councilwoman Amy Prosser in the amount of \$100, and to pay it out of the Commissioners' travel/training/education account. Todd Sanderson seconded. With 2 ayes and 1 nay, motion passed. This was remote training December 9-11, 2020.

#### **MATTER OF WESTWOOD CAR WASH CREDIT APPLICATION**

Commissioner Sanderson was able to negotiate a discount that he said would apply across all departments: \$4 for basic wash and \$6 for protection. Michael Watson made a motion to approve the Westwood Car Wash Credit Application for Community Corrections. Second by Todd Sanderson, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF INCARCERATED OFFENDERS PROVIDER AGREEMENT WITH FSSA**

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the Incarcerated Offenders Provider Agreement between the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration and DeKalb County. The term of the agreement is October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2023, unless terminated earlier. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

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William L. Hartman – President

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Michael Watson – Vice President

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Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:

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Jan Bauman