

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

June 21, 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 HUMAN RESOURCES

Ms. Miller briefed the Commissioners on Soil & Water part time clerical position; security at the Annex Building; the transition from PHP to Anthem for employee health insurance; workers compensation claims; open and filled positions; and the HR budget.

MATTER OF POLICE RETIREMENT

Sheriff Cserep and Ron Dicke (Merit Board) explained that many counties are reducing the retirement age for Sheriff Merit Deputies from age 55 with 20 years of service to age 52 with 20 years of service. Officers can be secure in their pension early for planning purposes. It could save the County on insurance when the person retires 3 years earlier than they would have. The change in retirement age can help with recruitment and retention also.

In Spring 2020, the County paid the annual contribution earlier in the year so it could be invested in anticipation of good returns. The pension plan earned over a \$1 million in 2020. To be able to change the retirement age, it is expected to add an estimated \$4,000 to the sheriff pension plan cost per year. Todd Sanderson made a motion to decrease the retirement age for Sheriff Merit Deputies from age 55 to age 52. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Todd Sanderson made the motion to approve the minutes from June 14, 2021. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

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

- 1) Johanna Scott and Bailee Grayless (Probation) to travel to Lafayette July 19-20 for Spartan Academy training. Estimated cost of \$412.60 to be paid from department travel.
- 2) Cheryl Lynch, Debra Krafft, and Carma Johnson (Health Dept) to travel to Fort Wayne on June 25th for the District 3 LHD Preparedness Coalition Meeting. No costs will be claimed.
- 3) Ben Browand (Sheriff) to travel to Fishers on July 27th for Street Cop training. No costs will be claimed.
- 4) Thomas Elliott (Sheriff) to travel to Plainfield on August 11th for the Breath Test Operators Course. No costs to be claimed.
- 5) Jared Ulrick (Sheriff) to travel to Shirley on July 19th for the Taser Instructor Course. No costs to be claimed.
- 6) Mark Stump (Sheriff) to travel to Nappanee June 17-18 for the 2021 NEILETC Training Conference. No costs to be claimed.

Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF REPAIRS TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES TRAILER

Todd Sanderson made a motion to pay the \$6,028 Lockwood Welding bill out of LITED #61. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved. This is for the repairs to the Weights & Measures trailer.

MATTER OF MULTIFUNCTION PRINTERS

Jeff Bassett from Business Impressions updated the Commissioners on machines in the County. One in the Health Department will be retired, and it will be replaced with an existing machine currently not being used by another office. The Sheriff acquired a multifunction printer and agreed to pay for it out of his budget. The Commissioners typically pay for the cost per copy charges of machines in County departments. Jeff Bassett briefed the Commissioners on the machines in the County in general also and agreed with the Commissioners that using the 2021 budget as a guide for 2022 at a slight increase for a buffer is a reasonable idea. He is willing to work on exact numbers if the Commissioners need them. Todd Sanderson made a motion to sign the contract for the Sheriff's new multifunction machine to be put on the cost per copy plan through Business Impressions. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Ben Parker briefed the Commissioners on the status of CR 56 and the purchase of property agreements. The State prefers that property be purchased for road projects. One property will cost \$10,835; a waiver of partial mortgage release is recommended for it. Four more properties will be over the \$10,000 amount. One property may be offered setback damages due to how close the residence is to the road. Exact details on this will be forthcoming as they are learned. Todd Sanderson made a motion to give Ben Parker the authority to sign the Waiver of Partial Mortgage Release for Parcel 6 on County Road 56. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved. This is for Project 1702950.

The new LED lights have been installed on CR 11A.

Dust control starts tomorrow with calcium chloride.

Mr. Parker is having difficulty getting stone right now for chip & seal projects.

Other Highway topics covered: 2022 budget; progress on covered bridge repairs.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Other discussion topics included: hedging futures for natural gas delivery; getting estimate on replacement of Annex Building windows; delineation study of the Henderson property; some points to consider in the solar ordinance; 2022 budget; County Road 61 properties in Wilmington Township to be sold; possibly selling 220 E 7th Street building.

William L. Hartman – President

Michael Watson – Vice President

Attest:

Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Jan Bauman, Auditor