

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
July 12, 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 CLAIMS

Michael Watson made the motion to approve Payroll and Bookkeeper Claims for the month of June 2021, and General Claims consisting of warrant #132132 through 132178 in the amount of \$278,731.97, and wire transfer #18355 through 18461 in the amount of \$328,086.47. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

Later in the meeting, Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve some special claims that need to be paid later this week. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve payroll for the period June 20-July 3, 2021. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF FORESIGHT DELINEATION REPORT ON HENDERSON PROPERTY

Todd Bowers from ForeSight Engineering explained the delineation report for the Henderson Property that describes two wetlands. One is Cedar Creek, and the other is a man made, isolated excavated pond area that is not connected to public waters. We will need to find out who has jurisdiction over this pond. The Army Corp of Engineers will review it first. However, they may deem that the pond is under the jurisdiction of IDEM. Something else that needs to be learned is if the wetland is eradicated, at what rate must it be modified? It could be a 3-6 month permitting process. If the area is not going to interfere with what the County wants to do with the property, does anything have to be done with the wetland? That would actually be the best option. There was consensus that as long as any building took place on the northeast side of the property, to pursue that and sacrifice land to the west and not touch the wetland since it is such a small part of the overall property. President Hartman asked whether it was safe to close on the purchase of the property. It is.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Michael Watson made the motion to approve the minutes from June 28, July 2, and July 8, 2021, with an amendment to the June 28 minutes to change the word "efficient" to "inefficient." Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the following travel requests as presented:

- 1) Mike Watson (Commissioner) travel to Rochester on July 9 to tour the Fulton County Jail. Estimated cost of \$72.16 to be paid from Commissioners' travel.
- 2) Mike Watson (Commissioner) to travel to Huntington on July 21 for the Mayors & Commissioners Caucus Meeting. Estimated cost of \$42.68 to be paid from Commissioners' travel.
- 3) Kellie Knauer (Community Corrections) to travel to Marion on July 29 for Increasing Public Safety Training. No expenses will be claimed.
- 4) Kurt Grimm (Circuit Court) to travel to French Lick August 31-September 3 for the Annual Judicial Meeting. Estimated cost of \$805 to be paid from department travel.
- 5) Holly Albright and Karen Bishop (Clerk) to travel to Franklin on August 25 for the Indiana Voter Registration Association Conference. Estimated cost of \$400.32 to be paid from department travel.

Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH PETERSON CONSULTING SERVICES

Todd Sanderson made a motion for the President to sign the letter of engagement with Peterson Consulting Services for the preparation of the annual update of DeKalb County's capital asset information for financial reporting for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved. This is for a fee of \$3,425 plus any out-of-pocket expenses.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Todd Sanderson made a motion to allow Ben Parker to sign three overweight permits. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve Ben Parker's two additional overweight permits that he will draw up this week. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

The Commissioners think the County should start charging a fee for overweight permits due to the amount of time it takes for Mr. Parker to process them. This will be discussed further.

There was discussion whether to raise the cost of the permit fee for the covered bridge rental. Todd Sanderson made the motion to raise the covered bridge rental fee to \$250 for a two hour period. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF BIDS FOR CYCLICAL REASSESSMENT

Assessor Sheila Stonebraker was present to open the one bid received by the Auditor's Office. One company, Nexus, bid \$888,000 for a four-year cycle. Services would include things such as the annual adjustment, assessment for major remodeling, new construction, and sales disclosure verification. Todd Sanderson made the motion to acknowledge acceptance of the bid from Nexus and to refer the bid to the Assessor for her review against the specs and for her to return next week to give her recommendation. Second by Michael Watson, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRANSFER FOR COVERED BRIDGE REHABILITATION

Michael Watson made a motion to approve the transfer of \$12,301.25 from LITED #24 (Administrative) to LITED #58 (Covered Bridge Rehabilitation) to help pay for additional costs for the covered bridge

repairs that were unexpected. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved. This transfer does require approval from Council, but Council will review it at their August meeting.

MATTER OF 2022 BUDGET

Auditor Bauman had distributed a copy of the Commissioners' 2022 budget prior to this meeting so the Commissioners had time to review the numbers and make sure that what was entered was what they had instructed and intended to be entered. No changes needed to be made. Todd Sanderson made a motion to have the President sign the 2022 budget request amounts and the accompanying Form 144's. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF ACCESS EASEMENT FOR AUBURN RENEWABLES

Rudy Eidam requested an access easement for Auburn Renewables to be able to dig under a County easement (currently tax ID #07-09-01-300-009 and 07-09-01-300-010) that runs across the property that will be used for a solar farm. Michael Watson made a motion to approve the access easement subject to an agreement that Auburn Renewables will maintain it and reconstruct it and/or move it if necessary in the future and at no cost to the County. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Other discussion topics included: Maumee River Basin Commission allocation to remain the same for 2022; guidelines for possible wedding at courthouse; and Elevatus Architecture invoice for jail design services through 4-30-21.

William L. Hartman – President

Michael Watson – Vice President

Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:

Jan Bauman, Auditor