

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

February 7, 2022

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

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
 Attorney James P McCanna

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty Miller gave kudos to the grounds keeping for the back approach to the Annex Building being very clean and salted to prevent possible falls. The Community Corrections debacle is a continued challenge and will be until the Advisory Board meets and gives further direction. Dotty explained that Justin Savage who was appointed to Interim Director is asking someone to be appointed to his prior position, as his plate is extremely full. Dotty did explain that with any of these Interim positions there will be a stipend that needs to be paid for the time the increased duties are being performed. Dotty used the example of when Jan Bauman was out on leave, and the then First Deputy Susan Sleeper received a monthly stipend. Current Auditor Sleeper clarified that she did receive the stipend, but did NOT have someone step into her First Deputy position, she performed both positions. An employee at Sunny Meadows has been out on worker's comp. for quite some time, the employee has not been very accessible for information, or open for treatment. IPEP is taking lead and assigning a case manager to try and remedy the situation, if the employee does not cooperate then IPEP will cut benefits off and the County will need to determine employment status.

Other discussion: Emergency Contact update, electric scooter ordinance, and weather closure day.

MATTER OF DRUG FREE DEKALB GRANT REQUESTS/APPROVALS

Becky Calhoun presented Drug Free DeKalb County Round 2 Grant Requests for 2021/2022. Drug Free has capped the donations at \$5,000 per program; therefore, one entity may receive more than \$5,000 by either submitting multiple applications or showing different programs on one application. There were not any applications received for Prevention Services for Round 2, which causes concern for Drug Free. Becky Calhoun will be meeting with the State to discuss how to be sure the program is getting out to those entities that could be requesting a grant from the program. Becky let the Commissioners know that if they know of anyone that needs training on the use of Narcan to let her know and she will set up the training.

Michael Watson motioned to approve the grants requested and listed below. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

Auburn Police Department: \$5,000 for Drug Task Force
Serenity House, Inc. \$4,050 for Men's House
 \$2,000 for Women's House

Hope for Her: \$5,000 for Recovery Materials/Drug Testing/Client Services
Inspiration Ministries: \$5,000 for Recovery Materials/Drug Testing/Client Services

MATTER OF NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS

The Regional Elected Official's Agreement Local Area – Region 3 between the Chief Local Elected Officials from counties of Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Grant, Huntington, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wabash, Wells, Whitley and the City of Fort Wayne to set forth the procedures that shall govern the Regional Local Elected Officials and their responsibilities and actions pursuant to the provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and all federal and state statutes, rules, and regulations. The State has changed the renewal timeframe from a 3 to a 5 year span between renewals.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve and the president to sign the Regional Elected Official's Agreement Local Area- Region 3 presented by the Northeast Indiana Works division. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Ben Parker handed out an updated proposal from MartinRiley. Discussion took place and the Commissioners reached out to Elevatus for a clarification on their proposal. Fun Fact for the Snow Storm on February 2-4, 2022: The Highway Crew plowed 10,487 miles of road, used 3,109.5 gallons of fuel and plowed for 744.5 hours. Currently Ben is down 2 trucks at the moment, one in the new Western Star possibly an electrical/computer issue, the other truck just stopped running and is in the shop. Ben handed out the Letter of Interest and Proposals for Countywide Bridge inspections for Bill Hartman and Michael Watson to score and return to Ben, this process happens every 4 years.

MATTER OF RECONSTRUCTION CR 56, DES NO. 1702950 PROJECT

Michael Watson made a motion to approve and move forward with the original deal between the County and Custer Farm in the amount of \$20,125. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Michael Watson made a motion to approve payroll for the period January 16-29, 2022. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve Payroll and Bookkeeper claims for the month of January 2022, Special Claims from February 2, 2022 consisting of warrant #'s 132729 thru 132731 in the amount of \$5,933.62 and wire transfer #'s 20120 thru 20125 in the amount of \$25,574.63 and to approve General Claims from February 7, 2022 consisting of warrant #'s 132734 thru 132823 in the amount of \$118,300.12, and wire transfer #'s 20126 thru 20239 in the amount of \$454,709.79. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Michael Watson made the motion to approve the minutes dated January 31, 2022 with the date change. William Hartman seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

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

- 1) Sandi Wilcox for Local Bank Travel with personal vehicle. Cost not to exceed \$25.00 per month to be paid from Commissioner's Travel.
- 2) Elysia Rodgers to attend Midwest Women in Ag. Conference held in Shipshewana on February 7-9, 2022. Estimated cost of \$226.64 to be paid from Department Travel.

Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF DOSSETT CONSULTING, L.L.C. CONSULTING AGREEMENT

Michael Watson moved to approve and for all three to sign the Agreement to Provide Professional Consulting Services with Dossett Consulting for cost allocation plans for year-end financial data for 2021 for use in 2023, year-end financial data for 2022 for use in 2024, and year-end financial data for 2023 data for use in 2025 in the amount of \$17,400 to be paid \$5,800 per year. Todd seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2021 RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES AND TOTAL COMPENSATION

Auditor Susan Sleeper presented the 2021 County Receipts and Expenditures and 2021 Total Compensation for County Officers, Deputies, and Employees report that was posted on Gateway, on the courthouse bulletin board, as well as at Eckhart Public Library and Waterloo-Grant Public Library. Michael Watson made the motion to approve and for all three to sign. Second by Todd Sanderson, and all approved.

MATTER OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT INSULATION

MKS had removed the spray-in insulation and then installed (sprayed) fire retardant and did not put the insulation back as it was in the beginning. MKS was supposed to apply the spray-in insulation first and then the fire retardant and restore. The County was told there would not be a smell and there was, they also said they would put things back as before and they did not. Commissioners directed Larry to inform them to correct the job and can do it on a weekend and not during office hours.

MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mike Shurherk is recusing himself from matters dealing with the Auburn Sports Complex matters due to conflict that go before the Economic Development Commission.

Todd Sanderson made a motion for Shelley Smaltz to sit in on the Auburn Sports Park matters that go in front of the Economic Development Commission in place of Mike Shurherk. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.


MATTER OF ZUESHOW TAX SALE

Dalen Zuehsow purchased parcel #01-09-19-300-014 owner of record U.S. Railroad Vest Corporation and followed all statutes that go along with Tax Sale parameters. When the Auditor's Transfer team was reviewing the deed for accuracy it was discovered that in 1984 the County missed deeding to the State and therefore this property should have never went to tax sale. Dalen has incurred Title Search Fees in the amount of \$225.00 and Notification Costs in the amount of \$356.95 along with the original purchase price of \$1,179.92. The auditor will reimburse the purchase price from the Tax Sale Fund that it was originally receipted into and the title search/notification costs will be reimburse from LITED #24.

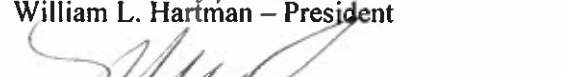
Michael Watson made a motion to approve the reimbursement to Dalen Zuehsow. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Topics included: Parkview – Lien's Property, corn crib removal, and ATV/UTV discussion.



William L. Hartman – President



Michael Watson – Vice President



Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:



Susan Sleeper, Auditor