

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

March 21, 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 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) FUNDING PROPOSAL

Commissioner Hartman opened the meeting with letting the public know that they would not be taking any public comment at this time, this will only be an informational meeting at this time, and then tabled for 2 weeks, and then a public meeting will be held in for comment and vote. Commissioner Hartman would like to go through the list line by line and have a discussion on each line presented. Hartman explained that originally, the ARP dollars were restricted on what the County could spend them on, and the Highway Department was an allowable expense, so the Commissioners had put \$900,000 of Highway Operations in ARP dollars for 2022 rather than coming from the Commissioners LITED Fund as is the usual funding. Discussion took place on all of the projects listed below:

PROPOSED PROJECTS FROM COMMITTEE

Highway Operating Budget: \$900,000
Broadband Investment: \$2,000,000
Drain/Ditch Engineering: \$600,000
Sheriff Dept. Handheld Radio Upgrades: \$170,000
Spillman Server Upgrade: \$88,000
Watchguard Cloud Conversion: \$63,106 (1st year only)
Volunteer Fire Depts: \$280,000
Sunny Meadows Facilities Evaluation & New Building Construction: \$1,000,000
Solar Installation at Community Corrections: \$500,000
Cisco phone completion & Network switch replacement (#5): \$78,000
Infrastructure to New Jail Site: \$1,000,000
DeKalb County Housing Study: \$26,000
Health Dept. COVID pay for Exempt staff: \$15,000
Courthouse Generator: \$250,000
Waterloo Sewer Project Grant: \$200,000
Replace 50% of 212 FD Radios: \$530,000
Trail Project Extension Waterloo to Steuben Co.: \$31,127

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROJECTS

Ashley/Steuben/DeKalb Sewer & Water Feasibility Study: \$21,667
Conditional Trails Grant Match & Engineering Study: \$177,500
AV equipment for Commissioners Courtroom: \$39,600
Health Dept. Flu Vaccine for 2022: \$10,000

RESERVE FOR UPCOMING KNOWN EXPENSES

State Board of Accounts Audits: \$400,000

Baker Tilley Fees: \$50,000

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$8,430,000

The ARP Committee consisted of: Kevin Bowman (Bowman & Bowman Farms), Tyler Cleverly (United Way of DeKalb County), Todd Fiantt (Garrett Mayor), Wayne Funk (Funk Family Farms), Mike Hartman (Butler Mayor), Mike Hassleman (Ashley Town Council), Pam Howard (Waterloo Town Manager), Bob Krafft (DeKalb County Council), Mike Ley (Auburn Mayor), Amy Prosser (DeKalb County Council), Mary Simcox (St. Joe Town Council), Dennis Treesh (Corunna Fire Department), Brent Shull (Hamilton Town Manager), Susan Sleeper/Jan Bauman (DeKalb County Auditor), Mike Watson (DeKalb County Commissioners), Jim McCanna (Commissioners Attorney), and Jason Semler (Baker Tilly Consultant).

MATTER OF STEVEN JUSTUS-ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE TODD ROKITA'S OFFICE

Steven Justus from the Attorney General Todd Rokita's office outreach program came to explain a few things about what their office does. The Attorney General's office defends the laws; they do not make them, promotes Indiana UnClaimed, Medicaid patrol units of fraud, data privacy/breaches, consumer protection, and the Parents Bill of Rights.

MATTER OF DRUG FREE DEKALB COMPREHENSIVE PLAN APRIL 2022- MARCH 2023

Rebecca Calhoun presented the Comprehensive Community Plan for Drug Free DeKalb for 2022-2023. The scoring system from ICJI of the LCC program has a possible 27 points, and DeKalb County received a score of 25. Rebecca went over some goals the coalition has and changes they hope to see going forward.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the submitted Comprehensive Community Plan. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TREASURER POSITION

Sandi Wilcox is requesting to add a position to her staff for the 2023 budget that would entail a Project Manager & Technical Trainer. The position would be responsible for performing and managing task associated with tactical, operational and strategic projects for the treasurer's office, will work cross-departments to drive activities related to projects and will coordinate all needed technical skills training for successful implementation including development of all training logistics and tools. Sandi feels this position could be end up working for Auditor and Assessor's office as well. Sandi feels this position could also take the part-time position currently in her office during tax billing season.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the Project Manager & Technical Trainer Justification position pending Council approval within the Treasurer's Office beginning in her 2023 budget. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Ben is still working with USI on Bridge #9. Ben called Nipsco and has left 3 voicemails and is not receiving any return calls, he is inquiring on whether to have Jim send a letter or to set on it. The consensus of the Commissioners and Attorney is to set on it and await for Nipsco to get in contact with us. Commissioner Sanderson had talked with Ben and wanted to remind everyone that the Highway Funding will begin to decrease per Jeff Peters around 2025, but to keep in mind with inflation that could be sooner. The Commissioners will wait for the updated fiscal plan and keep that in mind as highway expenditures occur.

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty went over the open positions around the County. Mark Olivero is asking for his part time Administrative Assistant to become full time. Commissioner Hartman relayed the possibility of a part time engineer in the fall for the Surveyor's office. Dotty did have a short discussion on the Treasurers' proposal of an addition to her staff, and if the position would be better suited under the IT department. The Auditor stated that she is still very adamant that the Council have a work quantity study done across the WIS categories. Dotty is working on trying to get some quotes to have a study done. Dotty reminded everyone that the Health Risk Assessments are on March 28th. Dotty also reported that we still have 9 open work compensation claims.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Michael Watson made a motion to approve payroll for the period February 27 – March 13, 2022 Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Todd Sanderson made the motion to approve the minutes dated March 14, 2022 with the date change. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the travel requests below that were submitted ahead of the actual meeting date and to table those requests that were submitted after travel had already taken place:

- 1) Angela Sorg to attend Area XI Staff Meeting in LaGrange held on February 21, 2022. Estimated cost of \$31.68 paid by Department Travel. **(TABLED)**
- 2) Elysia Rodgers to attend Area XI Staff Meeting in LaGrange held on February 21, 2022. Estimated cost of \$25.52 paid by Department Travel. **(TABLED)**
- 3) Elysia Rodgers to attend Indiana Forage Council Annual Meeting in Indianapolis held on March 3, 2022. Estimated cost of \$137.28 paid by Department Travel. **(TABLED)**
- 4) Effie Campbell to attend New Educator Day on Campus in West Lafayette held on March 16, 2022. Estimated cost of \$119.68 paid by Department Travel. **(TABLED)**
- 5) Elysia Rodgers to attend Farm Stress Planning Meeting in Muncie held on March 22, 2022. Estimated cost of \$88.88 paid by Department Travel.
- 6) Elysia Rodgers to attend Animal Welfare Meeting in Indianapolis held on April 20, 2022. Estimated cost of \$136.00 paid by Department Travel.
- 7) Susan Sleeper, Carla Winebrenner & Jody Wiedenhoef to attend 2022 State Called Auditor's Spring Conference in Indianapolis held on April 26-28, 2022. Estimated cost of \$1,342.00 to be paid by State Called unappropriated account, Elected Officials Training Fund and Department Travel.

- 8) Sandi Wilcox & Joni Humbarger to attend the Annual State Called Conference in French Lick held on August 3-4, 2022. Estimated cost of \$1,338.00 paid by State Called unappropriated account.
- 9) Cheryl Lynch, Debra Krafft & Carma Johnson to attend Indiana Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Symposium in Carmel held on September 8-9, 2022. Estimated cost of \$1,704.00 paid by Department Travel.


Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF COUNTY HOME REPORT

Todd Sanderson made a motion that the Commissioners acknowledge receipt of the February 2022 County Home Report. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Topics included:



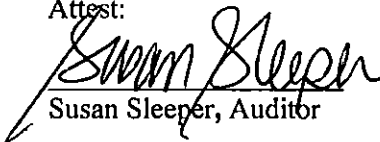
William L. Hartman – President



Michael Watson – Vice President

Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:



Susan Sleeper, Auditor