

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

September 19, 2022

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

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
 First Deputy Carla Winebrenner
 Attorney James P McCanna, absent

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty began by going over recruitment around the County. Dotty went over what she found out from her meeting with Anthem last week; there was an uptick in some of the high claims. We have 193 subscribers that result in 314 belly buttons on the plan. Dotty talked with Anthem on ways to educate our employees and on ways to become self-funded with a healthy workforce. The safety committee met for the first time since COVID last Friday and discussed the first-aid kits around the County and the effectiveness, cost to the County with current vendor, the AEDs and the requirement on having them or not having them in our buildings. The employee safety manual that was created in 2015 was discussed and there are some areas that need to be updated. Workman's comp was briefly discussed as Dotty received notice that one of our claims will be falling off and another claim that has been on since 2020 where the previous employee has been offered a settlement. Commissioner Sanderson explained that Jason and Gabe are working on the emergency procedures and they plan to make flash card type instructions that can be pulled versus a 120-page manual. Commissioner Sanderson also feels that someone like Larry should be named to check the defibrillator checked yearly along with first aid kits and the buildings in general. Commissioner Hartman suggested that a Commissioner accompany Larry as the yearly checks are performed and all agree. Dotty let the Commissioners know that Jason may be coming to talk with them about someone else, possibly Dotty to take over the lead for the Safety Committee as his plate has become full. Don Pierson has announced his retirement in December and Dotty explained to the Commissioners that she always suggests deciding if the position needs to be filled. Commissioner Watson has a meeting with a qualified professional to evaluate all the residents of Sunny Meadows as there will be a major decision that needs to be made.

MATTER OF COUNTY FARM AND TRUCK TRAFFIC ON CR 44: TOM KELLER

Tom Keller, 4461 County Rd 59, Butler also our County Home Farmer; began discussing the drain tiles of the County Farm; he handed out a map showing the problem areas. Tom has discussed with the Surveyors office the North field tile issue already and they will take care of the issue. Tom also explained that there are two private tiles on the South fields that need addressed and inquired on who can fix those. Commissioner Hartman is aware and has a contractor that can fix them once the corn is off. County Road 44 is a dirt road and the truck traffic from SDI, along with car traffic has created an abundance of dust, his property is ruined and he wants to know what can be done to fix the problem. Tom Keller explained that during the SDI meetings, there was never to be semis on the country gravel road and that is not the case as many trucks and cars turn around at the blocked train tracks and fly down the dirt road. Commissioner Sanderson suggested having signage listed at the exits of the businesses, they are leaving and if needed create an ordinance and start imposing fines for those that do not adhere.

Tom Keller suggested to Ben to put up truck barricades and Ben told Mr. Keller that he could not barricade a County Road. Commissioner Hartman explained that we could not do that because we do not have an ordinance. Tom Keller feels that SDI should help monitor and enforce the issue as they have a guard shack facing the road. Commissioner Watson will give SDI a call to get the conversation started. Tom Keller also wanted to know why CR 44 could not be upgraded to a chip and seal road, he stated that it is in a TIF district and the County receives TIF revenues for these types of expenditures. The Commissioners explain that the Redevelopment Commission determines what the TIF revenues are used for and the Commissioners do not have a say in those funds. Further discussion took place on cost, different types of dust control, potholes, etc. between Tom Keller and the Commissioners.

MATTER OF CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

Brian Humbarger attended to address the Fire Control System at Central Communications. Priority 1 Fire Safety Systems submitted a quote a non-proprietary addressable fire alarm system; the system will provide point identification of each device with an eighty-character custom label. Priority 1 will wire and program the control panel, test the system and train the owners. The owners will provide all patching and painting around the old panel and annunciators. All existing wire and notification devices will be used and Priority 1 is not responsible for the existing condition of all reused devices and wiring. Priority 1 will be providing and installing the equipment listed on their proposal. Priority 1 will program the control panel and provide all system testing. This proposal came in at \$7,620.00.

Indiana requires a State Permit and Design Release for a fire alarm system installation or modification that is not included in the above price and will be an additional \$500.00.

Priority 1 also quoted to replace the existing Simplex Annunciator and would not be responsible for any of the existing equipment, wiring, or annunciator drive card for \$4,008.00.

Commissioner Sanderson is in favor of getting rid of the Johnson control proprietary system for future repairs/upgrades as needed, as well as getting the 10 year fire alarms replaced as well.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to move forward with Priority 1's proposal of replacing the fire alarm system in the amount of \$7,620.00 plus the required \$500.00 Indiana State Permit Fee paid from LITED #62 contingent on Commissioners Sanderson's review. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Discussion took place on the dust control on CR 44; Ben explained that SDI does the dust control on that road. Ben explained that SDI has been very accommodating whenever Ben has requested assistance. Additional discussion took place on different situations that have happened over the years. Ben was approached by Eastside Schools to be a part of Career Building Days, and bring a truck or machinery over to the event. The commissioners all agree that Ben can take a truck or something over for the event. Commissioner Hartman requested Ben to ask SDI to apply another round of dust control to CR 44.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY BIDS FOR BRIDGE #9 ON COUNTY ROAD 60

Bids for Bridge #9 were due in the Auditor's office by 9:00 a.m. today and opened in the Public Meeting at 11:00 a.m. Ben Parker opened bids shortly after 11:00 a.m. for Bridge 9 replacement on County Road 60 over Cedar Creek.

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|--------------------------|----------------|
| RL McCoy INC. | \$1,414,565.50 |
| Milestone Contractors LP | \$1,483,352.67 |
| RG Zachrich | \$1,389,264.02 |
| Miller Bros. Const. INC. | \$1,404,981.51 |

The engineers' updated estimate came in at 1,442,650.13.

Michael Watson made a motion to accept, table the decision and refer the bids to Ben Parker for his review and for him to come back on October 3, 2022, with his recommendation. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF AWARDING THE BOT PROJECT PROPOSAL DECISION

Commissioner Sanderson does not feel that we can go wrong with either company, he leans toward FCI with their current work with GM and a BOT project, he likes the 100% contingency return, and it is a local business. Commissioner Watson leans toward Envoy as they have been involved in many local projects and he talked with others that are happy with the work of Envoy; he does not feel that the GM work with the BOT over shadows Envoy's ability. Commissioner Sanderson discussed with Ambassador on the if the decision would affect the possible funding opportunity. Commissioner Hartman does not have any further comment. Ben feels both firms would do well, he does feel the 100% contingency return was a selling point and leans toward FCI, but the ultimate decision is up to the Commissioners and he would be able to work with either of them.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to award FCI Construction of the BOT Highway Project. William Hartman seconded and all approved. Commissioner Watson voted in agreement, as he does not feel that the County could go wrong with either company but was leaning toward Envoy.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve payroll for the period of March 28- 9, 2022. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Todd Sanderson made the motion to approve the corrected minutes dated September 12, 2022. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS

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

- 1) Michelle Fosnaugh to attend Indiana Office of Court Services Mental Health Summit held at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis on October 21, 2022. Estimated cost of \$0.00 paid by department travel.
- 2) Alyssa Smith, Ashli Knepper & Savannah Willhelm to attend IACCAC Fall Training held at the Sheraton Indianapolis Keystone Crossing on November 15-17, 2022. Estimated cost of \$1,791.00 paid by department travel.

- 3) Mike Watson to attend Indiana Association of County Commissioners Conference held at Keystone Crossing in Indianapolis on November 28- December 1, 2022. Estimated cost of \$735.00 paid by Commissioners travel.
 - 4) Greg McClure to be a guest firearms instructor at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in Plainfield on October 10-14, 2022. Estimated cost of \$475.00 paid by department travel.
 - 5) Dotty Miller to attend NIHRA-Snow Globe Leadership: Shaking up your Leadership Training held at the Allen County Memorial Coliseum on November 7, 2022. Estimated cost of \$18.90 paid by department travel.
 - 6) Dotty Miller to attend NIRA-Workplace Violence Prevention Workshop held at the Allen County Memorial Coliseum on October 3, 2022. Estimated cost of \$18.90 paid by department travel.
 - 7) Sgt. Matt Tamez to attend ICJI SFST Instructor Class held at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in Plainfield on November 28-30, 2022. Estimated cost of \$96.00 paid by department travel.
 - 8) Deputy Joshua Stein to attend Taser Instructor Training held at the Speedway Police Department in Speedway on October 26, 2022. Estimated cost of \$375.00 paid by department training.
 - 9) David Cserep and Deputy Matthew Haber to attend We are all Border States Symposium held at the Indiana Government Center in Indianapolis on October 15-16, 2022. Estimated cost of \$206.00 paid by department travel.
 - 10) Holly Albright, Karen Bishop, Tara Lilly & Suzanne Drerup-Davis to attend the 2023 Election Administrator's Conference held at The Westin Indianapolis on December 12-14, 2022. Estimated cost of \$3,074.50 paid for from the State Called unappropriated account within the General Fund pursuant to IC 3-6-4.2-14(f).
 - 11) Adding 3 days of parking for Michael Watson for AIC conference on September 20-22, 2022. Estimated at \$45.00 paid by department travel.
- Michael Watson seconded and motion passed (2,1) with Commissioner Hartman voting against.

MATTER OF EVAPAR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR DCCC

Todd Sanderson made a motion for the president to sign the Preventative Maintenance Agreement for \$1,347.00 for a term of one year. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF KEYSER TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES FOR 2022

Michael Watson made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Keyser Township Assistance Guidelines for 2022. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

Commissioner Sanderson and Commissioner Hartman would like to remain at \$0.50 at this time and then

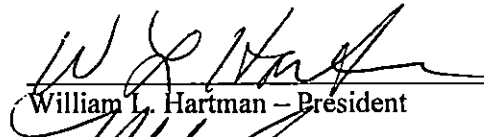
MATTER OF LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM MARY SMALTZ: BUGGY ORDINANCE

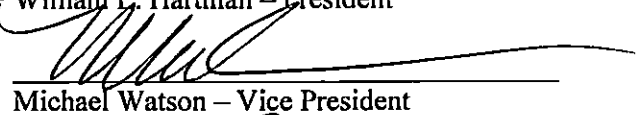
Commissioner Sanderson made a public statement that he does not feel that any of the Commissioners are prejudice. He also feels the facts of her letter were not completely accurate, as her numbers did not take into consideration administrative cost, fuel costs that makes the price not even close to her statement. Commissioner Sanderson gave a current example of a new vehicle priced at \$48,000 that averages \$8,820 over ten years to drive in Indiana, not including the Federal taxes. The proposed \$250 fee over 10 years the buggy owners would be paying \$2,500. The argument that Lagrange County has more buggies is true however, this is a linear equation and the \$100 fee in Lagrange is not covering the expenses to fix their roads. Commissioner Hartman wanted to comment that the gas tax that is paid by the Amish as it is spread across the several different individuals. Todd Sanderson made a motion to rescind the DeKalb

County Ordinance 83-5 of a County License fee for Horse Drawn and abandon the entire proposed Ordinance 2022-R-13: DCC 9-2-2 An Ordinance Amending DeKalb County Ordinance 83-5 Dealing with License Fees for Horse Drawn Vehicles and Horse Drawn Trailers and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof and move on as this is costing too much time to hash out and will not even cover the damage that will happen. William Hartman seconded and motion passed (2,1) with Commissioner Watson voting against.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

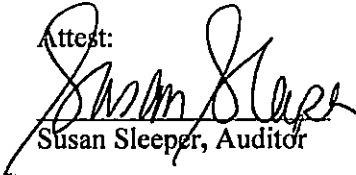
Topics include: performance reviews for the department heads under Commissioners, bids/advertisement/RFPQ for 2023 Commissioners attorney and Covered Bridge Roof, and the roof on the Sunny Meadows building.


William L. Hartman – President


Michael Watson – Vice President


Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:


Susan Sleeper, Auditor