

## DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

February 10, 2020

Commissioners Present:           President William L. Hartman  
  Vice President Donald D. Grogg  
  Vice President Jacqueline R. Rowan

Others Present:                   Auditor Jan Bauman  
  Attorney James P McCanna

### **MATTER OF MINUTES**

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve minutes dated February 3, 2020. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to approve Special Claims for the week of February 10, 2020. Donald Grogg seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF PAYROLL**

Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to approve payroll for the period January 21-February 3, 2020. Donald Grogg seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS**

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the travel requests with the exception of Ryan Hull's requests for Veterans' Court, which will be considered later in the meeting.

- 1) Bailee Grayless and Michelle Ford (Probation) to travel to Indianapolis March 10-12 for Adult Risk Assessment training. Estimated cost of \$654.83 to be paid from department travel.
- 2) Bailee Grayless and Michelle Ford (Probation) to travel to Indianapolis on March 5 for the Probation Officer Exam. Estimated cost of \$151.26 to be paid from department travel.
- 3) Bernie Sukala, Cathy Manuel and Jessica Stanczak (Health) to travel to Elkhart on February 20 for the IEHA meeting. No expenses will be claimed.
- 4) Kevin Wallace (Superior II) to travel to Indianapolis March 31-April 2 for the 2020 Spring Judicial College. Estimated cost of \$460.40 to be paid from Commissioners' travel.
- 5) Holly Albright and Karen Bishop (Clerk) to travel to Fort Wayne on February 14 for the Regional Incident Response Workshop. Estimated cost of \$27.64 to be paid from department travel.
- 6) Stephanie Hamilton and Joe Carlin (Public Defender) to travel to Indianapolis on February 21 for the TPR/CHINS Annual Seminar. Estimated cost of \$311.12 to be paid from Commissioners' travel.
- 7) Elysia Rodgers (Extension) to travel to Shipshewana on February 24 for the Michiana Irrigated Crops Conference. Estimated cost of \$34.40 to be paid from department travel.
- 8) Elysia Rodgers (Extension) to travel to Danville for the Indiana Small Farm Conference (speaker) March 5-7. Estimated cost of \$141.90 to be paid from department travel.
- 9) Elysia Rodgers (Extension) to travel to West Lafayette on February 27 for the Indiana Forage Council Annual Meeting. Estimated cost of \$118.68 to be paid from department travel.
- 10) Elysia Rodgers (Extension) to travel to the 2020 Women in Ag Conference February 18-20. Estimated cost of \$397.71 to be paid from department travel.
- 11) Angela Sorg (Extension) to travel to the Women in Ag Conference on February 19. Estimated cost of \$84.71 to be paid from department travel.

12) Bret Parker (Sheriff) to travel to Plainfield for a Leadership-Supervision seminar February 17-20. Estimated cost of \$958 to be paid from Commissioners' travel. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

Later in the meeting the Commissioners heard Ryan Hull's request for the Veterans Court Team to travel to California for the NADCP – RISE 20 – Conference. That was approved. See "Matter of Travel Request for Veterans Court Team to California."

#### **MATTER OF CELL PHONE FOR CANDIDATES**

Kevin Webb told the Commissioners that not being able to have his cell phone in Commissioners Court for meetings is a hardship because he runs a business and needs to be available. He asked if he could have permission to have his cell phone during the meetings. Mr. Webb is running for Commissioner is attending Monday meetings. President Hartman said if Mr. Webb is allowed to have his phone, all of the candidates would need to be allowed to. This would be for candidates running for County Commissioner or Council positions. The Commissioners would like to talk with Sheriff Cserep about this.

#### **MATTER OF 2020 GAL CONTRACT WITH CORY R. SWAGGER**

Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the Contract for Services between the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County and Cory R. Swagger for the Circuit and Superior Courts, effective January 1, 2020 through the close of business on December 31, 2020, in the amount of \$3,075 per month, and for all three to sign. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved. The monthly amount remains unchanged from last year.

#### **MATTER OF BUILDING MAINTENANCE ISSUES & PROPOSED OFFICE MOVES**

The Commissioners discussed the Prosecutor and Surveyor's Office moves. Square feet for the various offices are as follows:

1594 square feet in current Title IV-D Office

890 square feet in the old Title IV-D Office

1140 square feet in the Surveyor's office, and without the waiting area it is 975 square feet.

Security-wise it would make sense to bring the Title IV-D Office back to the courthouse. There is a room divided by a wall in the Prosecutor's Office that could be taken down to allow more space for the Title IV-D Office staff. It is not a load bearing wall.

Larry Lane had an idea as to how to address the leak in the south wall of the courthouse. There is a drain that runs from the roof through the wall to the basement. The pipe itself could be checked for a leak. Also, there is a toilet above the "old" IV-D area adjacent to the Prosecutor's Office. A camera could be run through both pipes to see if there is a leak. Mr. Lane will coordinate this check. The Commissioners believe the best solution is to allow the Title IV-D Office to come back to the "old" IV-D Office area adjacent to the Prosecutor's Office.

All of the doors to the courthouse require different keys. Mr. Lane would like to have the east, south, and west doors all keyed alike. The Commissioners are fine with this.

Later in the meeting the Prosecutor said the old IV-D Office is used now as a conference room for 10-12 people every day. The other conference room she has can only seat 5 people. She uses that room for an office as well. Her office is growing and will be adding more deputy prosecutors. Prosecutor Winebrenner also talked about privacy, security, accommodating patrons, and IV-D funding. The Commissioners need time to think about this more and will discuss it further on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **MATTER OF MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

The Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by FEMA. The County needs to now adopt the plan. The last plan was in 2014. This plan says 2020. Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, Resolution 2020-R-4. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF COUNTY HOME REPORT**

The Commissioners acknowledge receipt of the County Home Report for December 2019.

### **MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUEST FOR VETERANS COURT TEAM TO CALIFORNIA**

Ryan Hull requested that the four Veterans Court Team members be allowed to travel to Anaheim, California, for the NADCP – RISE 20 – Conference. This would be from May 26-30, 2020. The total estimated cost for the four team members would be \$10,292.32. The costs would be split between the Veterans Court grant budget and Alcohol and Drug User Fees. The meal cost request of \$66/day is outside the normal allowable \$32/day. Mr. Hull explained that the costs are much higher in California. If the Commissioners only wanted to provide lunch and dinner would cost, that would be \$45/day. There is money in the Family Restoration Court grant fund that may be able to be utilized so two members of Department of Child Services could also attend.

Donald Grogg made the motion for this special circumstance to allow \$45 per day for food. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

Donald Grogg motioned to approve this travel request. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

Donald Grogg made a motion to allow a credit card for DeKalb County Circuit Court, Kurt Grimm, with a credit limit of \$5,000. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

Things are going better at Community Corrections. The high electric usage that occurred on December 16<sup>th</sup> was the basis for the demand charge for the next billing cycle. Money available for soft costs is dwindling. The Commissioners would like to have firmer numbers so they can account for all the costs being paid from the Project Fund.

### **MATTER OF COURTHOUSE SECURITY**

Sheriff Cserep would like to know who on the Board of Commissioners is Sheriff Cserep's point of contact for security issues. It will be President Hartman. The Commissioners asked Sheriff Cserep about whether candidates for County Commissioners or Council could have temporary permission to bring their cell phone to Commissioners Court for while they are in meetings; this is fine per Sheriff Cserep.

### **MATTER OF HIGHWAY**

Ben Parker presented the contract with API Construction for the 2020 Community Crossings Grant. A payment bond and performance bond were also submitted. Donald Grogg made a motion to approve the Contract between API Contractors Inc. and DeKalb County for the 2020 Community Crossings road project. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved. The amount of the contract is \$947,866.12.

Mr. Parker provided a traffic study for County Road 59 which includes the County Road 56 intersection.

Mr. Parker would like a contract extension for Pavement Solutions for crackfill, for 2020. Due to an illness, Pavement Solutions was unable to bid for crackfill during the annual invitation for 2020 Materials and Supplies. Jacqueline Rowan made a motion to extend the contract for crackfill with Pavement Solutions, Inc. for the year 2020 plus such additional years at the same price that Ben Parker can negotiate up to an additional two years (through 2022). Donald Grogg seconded, and all approved. Attorney McCanna said that no one bid this when the annual materials bid for materials was done in December 2019.

#### **MATTER OF FURNITURE FOR PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

Michael Lapham would like to purchase the furniture that Community Corrections did not take with them to the new facility. Ms. Knauer said she could sell the furniture, filing cabinets and security cameras for \$5,000; this is a quoted amount Work Space Solutions would have given to purchase the items from Community Corrections. Most all of the items are less than 2 years old.

Donald Grogg made a motion that the County Commissioners purchase unwanted Community Corrections' furniture from Community Corrections out of LITED #24 and to allow the Probation Department to use it as needed for now and for Mr. Lapham to give any leftover furniture to other departments as needed. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF COPY MACHINES**

Jeff Bassett explained that he needed to clean up a few records regarding copy machines. Donald Grogg made a motion to sign the Equipment Schedule "A" and PrintSmart Cost Per Print Agreement with Business Impressions. Jacqueline Rowan seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF CONVERSATION ON DEVELOPING SEWER DISTRICTS**

Lana Beregszazi, owner of BCS-Management and presenter at the Commissioners' Conference, Chris Gaumer, Cathy Manuel, Allen Haynes, and Dr. Emilio Estevez began a conversation on septic elimination and developing sewer districts. The DeKalb County Steering Committee is the first of its kind in Indiana. It has identified 23 problem areas with 680 total possible connections identified and is now at a point of learning what the next steps are. The first step is to create a new Regional Sewer District. Ms. Beregszazi would encourage a Countywide sewer district with multiple service areas identified. It would be a stand-alone entity. (Another possible option is to form a private-public partnership, but that will not be discussed today.) The second step is to create a Comprehensive Septic Elimination Plan that is Countywide.

A notice by mail would need to be sent to everyone who would possibly be serviced by the District, and a public hearing would need to be held.

Locally funded start-up costs of \$25,000-\$30,000 would encompass several things:

1. Petition IDEM
2. Public Notice and Public Meetings
3. Interlocal Agreements
4. Formation of RSD Board
5. Documentation of Service Areas

The Septic Elimination Project process would include:

- Pursuit of Priority Projects
- Project Development Phase (\$10,000-\$12,000 per project, local loan)
- Design & Financing Phase (Varies; Bond Anticipation Note – BAN)
- Construction Phase (Varies; BAN)
- Construction & Connection Closeout (Varies; BAN)

The County's local attorney can assist at the beginning. There are a lot of steps, a lot of public notices, public meetings, and public hearings to get this started.

Typically no wastewater treatment plants are built.

Failing septic systems is a serious issue. It is seeping into the water table and drinking water. It includes not only waste materials but also discarded medication which makes people sick.

Sewer districts are responsible for taking care of their own lines. The cities would have to be willing to accept and treat the wastewater. Most of the DeKalb County municipalities have the capacity to accept additional wastewater.

Would it be better to have several sewer districts administered by each city? Each district would have administrative and start-up costs, there would not be the economies of scale, and it would be difficult to keep the entities separate.

Garrett will not service anyone outside of its service area now without annexing first. Period. Annexation becomes the primary way to service new areas, and that is getting more difficult due to state laws regarding annexations.

A sewer district would not conflict with ETJ's because their purposes are different.

There is a possibility that if the right grant is found that a grant could help fund the startup costs.

#### **MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION**

Other discussion included the following topics: Solar savings program; donation of County property; Soil & Water paying Cintas first aid kit replenishment invoices; company that does building renovations; and there is a possibility of a new location for the Community Commons building.

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William L. Hartman - President

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Donald D. Grogg – Vice President

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Jacqueline R. Rowan – Vice President

Attest:

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Jan Bauman, Auditor