

## DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

January 10, 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**

Lauren Deutch has pinpointed March 28, 2022 from 6-11 a.m., and then will take a poll of employees and see what times the employees would like to see for the upcoming years.

**Todd Sanderson made a motion for Lauren Deutch to sign the Wellness Screening electronically on their behalf. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.**

Lauren Deutch passed out a summary sheet of the Worker's Compensation recordable claims. We are required to post the notice from February 1, 2022 to April 30, 2022.

**Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve and for the president to sign the Form 300A listing the Worker's Compensation claims. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.**

Other discussion: opening throughout the county, W2s and ACA documents are available on doculivery, deferred compensation plan Hoosier START is transitioning from Empower Retirement to Nationwide, still awaiting the Supreme Court decision on the vaccine mandate, notary public's in the courthouse, possible WIS update on compensation/classifications.

### **MATTER OF RULE 5 FEE**

Nellie Peffley returned this week to continue the discussion on the proposed Rule 5 fee schedule.

*IDEM administers Rule 5 in cooperation with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). The SWCDs play a significant role in implementation of 327 IAC 15-5. In addition, IDEM has also designated several communities (municipalities and/or counties) that are required to develop a local storm water program. These entities are referred to as Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems or MS4s. If a project lays within one of these MS4 jurisdictions, plan content and submittal processes may vary based on the local ordinance of the MS4. The local MS4 ordinance is required to be as strict as 327 IAC 15-5, therefore compliance with an MS4 ordinance and local requirements should also meet the requirements of 327 IAC 15-5.*

Currently DeKalb County SWCD reviews all Construction/Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans throughout the entire County, but there are no fees collected for anything outside of the City of Auburn. Nellie provided the Commissioners with information on fee schedules from other counties along with the City of Auburn Ordinance.

The Commissioners asked questions of Nellie and Cameron on the logistics. Commissioner Hartman feels the fee schedule may be a bit of a sticker shock from going from \$0 charge to the recommended fee schedule. Cameron explained the charges are only on 'disturbed acreage', not total acreage. Commissioner Sanderson would like to see a simpler fee schedule with a capped amount. Cameron also explained they based the fee schedule to account for the length of time and how many visits she may have to do depending on the size of the project. The Commissioners feel a flat rate would be a better option.

**Michael Watson Made a motion to approve the implementation of the DeKalb County SWCD Rule 5 Fee Schedule as presented. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.**

*Prior meeting:*

Nellie Peffley came to request to set a fee schedule for Rule 5 for the review of all Construction/Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans throughout the County. Currently there are no fees collected for anything outside the City of Auburn. The Soil & Water Board is ok with the fee schedule and Soil & Water is requesting the acceptance from the Commissioners as well. Surrounding Counties are implementing fees for this type of work. Discussion took place and the Commissioners would like to review this for a week and decide next week.

**MATTER OF RECORDER'S OFFICE MAINTENANCE**

Leta Hullinger was in to let the Commissioners know that she is in contact with Larry and they are getting ready to start scheduling the vendors for the office upgrades. Roth Floorcoverings will do flooring and Eric Weimer will do painting. Leta is hoping to start sometime in April.

**MATTER OF CR 55 PROJECT AND HOWARDS**

Attorney Jim McCanna sent a letter to Charles G. & Karen L. Howard on November 10, 2021 to settle charges for a project that cost \$41,481.64 (not including personnel labor) due to Mr. Howard filling in the ditch swale on the west side of County Road 55, along with placing a steel plate on the west end of an existing 36-inch pipe under the roadway and stubbed in a 12-inch pipe with a T and then ran a 12-inch stand pipe to the top of the ground to take all of the ground water on that side of the road. The proposal was for Howards to pay \$9,652.00 which consisted of the charges from the following expenses:

\$5,450 Midwest Tile & Concrete Products, Inc. (catch basin)

\$3,160 Knott Drainage & Excavating, Inc. (labor & trucking)

\$1,042 Knott Drainage & Excavating, Inc. (rip-rap)

The County would pay \$31,829.64, plus labor of the County Highway Employees. Charles W. Howard, resident of 4815 E 500 S, Hamilton and Dawn Mullins, resident of 5688 County Rd 00 N, Hamilton, came in to discuss the letter sent by McCanna on December 13, 2021 where it was decided that this would be discussed in January when Commissioner Hartman would be in attendance along with Highway Superintendent Ben Parker. Ben Parker supplied aerial photos to the Commissioners prior to the meeting for review.

Discussion took place and Commissioner Hartman informed Howard's that unless they can pinpoint who changed the pipe then the responsibility would be on the Howards. Commissioner Sanderson asked if a permit would have been needed to do this project, and yes it was needed, but there was not one pulled. Charles W. Howard said his dad talked with the County and that as long as the material was not higher than the road no permit was needed. Charles W. Howard's dad hired Mr. Crowl to do the work on the

project and therefore is responsible for the work done on his property. Charles W. Howard feels the noticing was not properly done as to the highway project to correct the damage that was done. Commissioner Hartman asked Mr. Howard if there is an amount that he would be willing to agree to pay. Mr. Howard agreed to pay \$5,450 and if the drain becomes a regulated drain then he re-coup this payment. The Commissioner's agree to the Howards paying \$5,750 for the catch basin and the shipping of the basin and the Howards agree.

**Todd Sanderson made a motion to accept \$5,750 as full compensation for payment on the CR 55 drain project. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.**

#### **MATTER OF HIGHWAY 2022 BID RESULTS**

Ben Parker presented the results of the annual materials and supplies bids that were opened on December 27, 2021. The Commissioners in the past have accepted all bids and used the best price available at the time of purchase to save the County money. Also, sometimes a vendor does not have a material available when the County is ready for it. Ben did receive a bid from Pavement Solutions on crack fill and micro seal that no other vendor bid on and they are extending their bid price from 2021. Fritch Construction's bid was rejected due to Form #95 not being completed.

**Todd Sanderson motioned to accept the extension from Pavement solutions, Mr. Parker's 2022 DeKalb County Highway Bid Pricing List/Results as presented, and deny Fritch Construction due to not completing Form 95. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.**

#### **MATTER OF HIGHWAY**

Other discussion: county road 34 guardrail damage, architects for highway department: Elevatus can start immediately, Design Collaborative is interested, Barton Coe Vilamaa is checking on their ability to do the work, Martin Riley is checking to see if they do the work, and Structure Point is also very interested, and Ben is currently running short staffed at the moment.

Commissioners suggest that Ben go ahead and gets at least 3 proposals for those interested in doing the project and then bring them in front of the Commissioners. Ben did talk with Nucor about doing a building and was informed that ordering, shipping, delivery is 30 weeks out. Spring/Summer 2023 move in is the timeframe we are aiming for.

#### **MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT LEASES'**

Jim added a new paragraph to include verbiage of the tenant to be responsible for repairs and maintenance.

**Todd Sanderson motioned to approve and the president to sign at a later date the commercial Lease Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners (landlord) and C&H Decorative Products, LLC, and Simplified Holding, LLC (tenant). Michael Watson seconded and all approved.**

**Michael Watson motioned to approve and the president to sign the commercial Lease Agreement between the Municipal City of Auburn (landlord) and the Board of County Commissioners (tenant). Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.**

### **MATTER OF DAN WATSON – BLN BRIDGE INSPECTION PROPOSAL**

Dan Watson came in to formerly introduce himself and give a history on his company and what they do with bridge inspections.

### **MATTER OF PAYROLL**

Michael Watson made a motion to approve payroll for the period December 19, 2021 TO January 1, 2022. Todd Sanderson seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Michael Watson made a motion to approve Special Claims as presented. William Hartman seconded, and motion passed, with Todd Sanderson abstaining from vote.

### **MATTER OF MINUTES**

Michael Watson made the motion to approve the minutes dated January 3, 2022 as submitted. Todd Sanderson seconded, and approved with William Hartman abstaining.

### **MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS**

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

- 1) Mike Watson to attend the 2022 AIC Legislative Conference in Indianapolis held on January 25-26, 2022. Estimated cost of \$484.80 to be paid for by Department Travel.
- 2) Susan Sleeper to attend the AIC Institute for Excellence Human Resources Core Class that will be ONLINE after January 25<sup>th</sup>. Registration fee of \$60.00 to be paid for by Department webinar account.

Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF APPOINTMENTS**

Michael Watson made a motion to make the appointments to the following boards:

Drainage Board: Ag. Representative: Sandra Harrison      1/1/22 – 12/31/22 (Deetz not finishing his term)  
Tourism Commission: Anton King                                      1/1/22 – 12/31/23 (Brenda Lockhart needed to step down)

Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

### **MATTER OF CINTAS FACILITY RENTAL SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Larry Lane was able to negotiate the fee from \$110.00 down to \$75.00 and also will be receiving 3 additional rugs. Todd Sanderson does not like the 60 month contract on a service and discussion took place. Sanderson wanted all to be aware that the contract auto-renews as well.

**Michael Watson made a motion approve and for the president to sign the Facility Services Rental Service Agreement. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.**

**MATTER OF TRAVELERS CYBER-RISK RENEWAL and the MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION ATTESTATION**

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve and for the president to sign the Cyber-Risk Policy Renewal and the Multi-Factor Authentication Attestation for the County. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

**MATTER OF JAIL UPDATE:**


Commissioner Sanderson would like to spend some time talking about the Jail progress update. There has been discussion that the Commissioners have not done anything on the project, when in fact, the Commissioners have done a lot and are close to having the plan 95% prepared and very close to be able to put out for bid if/when needed. There are many parameters that come together to make a project of this size flow smoothly and correctly. Commissioners would like to see from Elevatus what a reasonable/close to actual cost would be as of today so that planning can happen as we move forward. Commissioners would also like to discuss with the Council on raising of the Public Safety LIT tax to begin putting back for the jail project. Commissioner Sanderson would like it clarified that tremendous work has been done on the jail project.

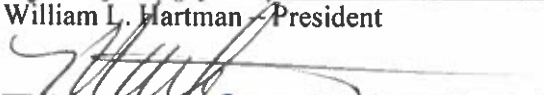
**MATTER OF ARP MONIES:**

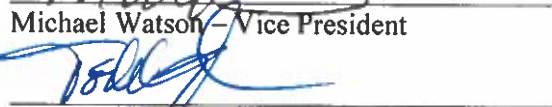
The final ruling passed last week, and will let the County use the full \$8 million on any government purpose as lost revenue without having to figure lost revenue as they originally were requesting. The County is working with Baker Tilly and Peters Financial Consultants advisors throughout the process.

**MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION**

Topics included: tax sale properties, movement on the Krafft property, and solar field on Community Corrections property with Hartman getting quotes.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William L. Hartman - President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Watson - Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Sanderson - Vice President

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Sleeper, Auditor

