

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
April 3, 2023

The Cass County Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room. Present for the meeting were Ruth Baker, Michael Stajduhar, Mike Deitrich, Attorney Jeff Stanton, and Auditor Cheryl Alcorn.

Ruth Baker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a moment of silence.

MINUTES – Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Regular Meeting and Executive Session minutes as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL- Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NIPSCO PROJECT UPDATE – Public Affairs and Economic Development Manager Karen McLean and Project Manager Greg Harper presented power point presentation of Project Fusion installing services to StarPlus Energy in Kokomo. Project began this past February with estimated completion this November. Approximately 18.5 miles of steel pipeline will be installed from Cass County to new facility. Approximately 25% of the project has been completed. A list of road closures was provided with weekly work schedule.

CORONER – George Franklin was not available to present monthly report. The following monthly report for March was submitted for review.

CAUSE OF DEATH

NATURAL	6
COVID	2
VEHICLE	1
SUICIDES	0
HOMICIDES	0
DRUG OVERDOSE	1
SUSPICIOUS	0
JOB SITE	0
OTHER ACCIDENT	0
INFANT	0
TRANSPORTS	2
AUTOPIES	1

DISPATCH E-911 – Tara Grigsby appeared before the Commissioners with the monthly report for March. Report does not reflex calls received during last Friday’s storm, those numbers will be included in next month’s presentation.

911 Calls	1293
Admin Calls	5005
CAD Screens	2972
Overtime	59 shifts

Tara reported five new employees currently in training, department is fully staffed.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Serenity Alter was unavailable to present monthly report. The following monthly report for March was submitted for review. The Health Department held eleven routine immunization clinics. During this report period 202 patients were seen with 484 vaccines given. Nineteen (19) latent TB patients and thirty-two (32) lead cases received care and medications if needed. TB medication is provided free of charge through Purdue Pharmacy. Seven lead cases with lab results below level of concern were closed.

Vital Records department received \$3,595 in document fees. The department printed 190 birth certificates, 204 certified death certificates, 5 paternity affidavits, and one genealogy search.

Mike Collins completed 46 restaurant inspections, issued 12 food permits, one follow-up, one complaint, and three pre-operational inspections. One follow-up environmental and one unsanitary living inspections. Two lead inspections with five lead follow-up inspections. Dan Musselman completed 6 environmental calls, 3 soil reports, 40 residential inspections, 4 residential searches and 2 residential repair, one new construction permit, and 3 OSS permits. Department received several environmental issues on Open Burn and Open Dumping violations.

Serenity attended Leadership Symposium in Indianapolis on March 22nd along with Nurse Tonya Smith and Dr. Ditty. Serenity and Health Department Nurses attended World TB Day on March 23rd in Indianapolis.

Open House for the newly renovated Health Department at 1616 Smith Street will be held on Thursday, April 13th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – Jeff Smith appeared before the Commissioners with the Highway Department monthly report for March. Crews were busy with storm cleanup last Friday evening into Saturday resulting in 45 hours of overtime. County and INDOT projects have kept road crews busy with closures and lane restrictions. INDOT is scheduled to begin another closure within the city limits on Third Street from Broadway to Northern Avenue starting on April 10th for road resurfacing.

Crews continue road maintenance, brush work, drainage and ditch projects. Two snow storms resulted in 141 overtime hours. Two culvert replacements were installed within four days.

Jeff presented for approval Annual Operational Report to be submitted to the state. Report shows 3 to 4 percent increase in revenue for 2022 with increase of 10 percent for material and supplies in 2023.

Jeff requested approval to fill vacant full-time driver position.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request to fill position as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PARK DEPARTMENT – Dana Hildebrand was unavailable to present monthly. The following monthly report for March was submitted for review. Crews are preparing for opening season on May 1st. Opening and cleaning of shower house and bathrooms, concession stand and store, water lines and wells are being treated. Section A Modern Camping electrical and water has been updated. Estimated revenue received for the month is \$230,487.

PROSECUTOR – Noah Schafer requested approval to fill vacant full time Paralegal position.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request to fill full time position as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

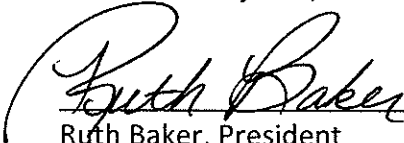
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT & RECOGNITION – Commissioner Baker announced County Government Offices will be closed Friday, April 7th in observance of Good Friday. Recorder’s office will be closing at noon on Thursday, April 6th to prepare for office renovations.

Commissioner Baker commended EMA Director Rocky Buffum for his services during the storm last weekend.

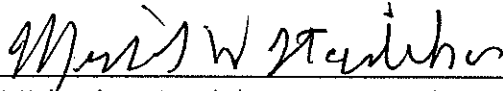
Commissioner Baker recognized Economic Development Director Christy Householder for her endeavors in bringing the Red Line Project to the Agribusiness Park.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None


ADJOURNMENT – Michael Stajduhar made a motion to adjourn, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



Ruth Baker, President



Michael W. Stajduhar, Vice President



Mike Deitrich

ATTEST: 

Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor