MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD January 10, 2022

Comes now the hour of 8:30am. on the 10th day of January,2022 in the Commissioners Room in the Noble County Courthouse, Albion, Indiana, being the time, date and place set for a regular session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County, Indiana.

Present were: Gary Leatherman, President Anita Hess, Vice President

Dave Dolezal, Member

Also present were:
Jacqueline L Knafel, County Coordinator
Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney
Matt Getts, KPC Media

Gary Leatherman, Commissioner President, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30am.

CLOSING 2021

Jackie Knafel, County Coordinator, closed the 2021 calendar year of the Noble County Commissioners after determination was made that there was no unfinished business before the commissioners.

OPENING 2022

Jackie Knafel, County Coordinator, opened the 2022 calendar year with Dave Dolezal nominating Gary Leatherman to serve as President for another year. Anita Hess seconded the motion and motion carried 3-0.

Dave Dolezal then nominated Anita Hess to serve as vice president for 2022, Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS

Anita Hess moved to appoint Dennis Graft to serve as counsel for 2022. Dave Dolezal seconded and motion carries 3-0.

Anita Hess also moved to appoint Jackie Knafel as County Coordinator for 2022. With a second coming from Dave Dolezal, the motion carried 3-0.

Dave Dolezal moved to appoint the following positions:

- Norm Lortie Building Inspector
- Justin Stump EMA Director
- Rick Wysong Weights & Measures
- Shelley Coney- 911 Director
- Tim Lock Maintenance Supervisor
- Richard Rogers Highway Superintendent
- Zack Smith Highway Engineer
- Mike Clouse VSO
- Randy Jordan Shop Supervisor
- Steve Hook GIS Coordinator
- Dave Baum IT Director

Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Dave Dolezal also moved to retain the same committee/ board appointments for the commissioners:

• Gary Leatherman

EMS Advisory Board Noble County EDC Trust Advisory Northeast Indiana Solid Waste

Work Force One

EMA

Anita Hess

Plan Commission

EDC Board

Council on Aging

We Care Board St Joe River Basin

• Dave Dolezal

Drug Free Noble County

LEPC

Maumee River Basin

Region III-A RDC Board

Anita Hess seconded this motion and it carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- DNR Gypsy Moth spray in the area of Chain O Lakes State Park
- Tower Lamination IDEM Air permit
- Allen County Drainage Board increased assessment for Swan Township Krumlauf Drain
- Noble County Sheriff Commissary Report
- Noble County Treasurer December Report
- Whitley County Board of Commissioners concerning a regional jail
- Allen County Board of Commissioners Regional Jail info.

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected with a motion from Daye Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Dave Dolezal made a motion to approve the 13-page report in the amount of \$1,123,121.96 for claims dated 01/10/2022. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL

Dave Dolezal moved to approve payroll dated 12/30/2021 with a second coming from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0. The 4-page report totaled \$442,871.90.

NEW BUSINESS

The Plan Supervisor Agreement for Noble County for Health Insurance was signed with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0. Scanned copy sent to Cheryl Lee and Julie Imel on 01/11/2022

HIGHWAY

Bids for the HMA -02 overlay project were opened per advertisement. Zack explained that these were for the 2nd round in 2021 and award was just received. The engineering estimate for this project was \$720,066.67. Bids were as follows:

 API Construction Cop 	\$922,618.00
 Brooks Construction Co. Inc 	\$955,514.00
 Niblock Excavating 	\$847,200.00
Phend & Brown Inc	\$1,022,725.00
 Pulver Asphalt Paving 	\$765,100.00

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, recommended that the commissioners accept the low bid pending review of all documentation. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the bid provided by Pulver Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$765,100.00 pending review of all documents. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carries 3-0/

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent, had the following construction update to share with the commissioners:

- Utility permit CenturyLink
- Utility permit Frontier Communications
- Utility permit Precision Utility Group
- Plowing snow when needed but have not had much in that area
- Richard also reported that Tony Kirkpatrick was promoted to Sign Tech and Rob Hull will assume the assistant superintendent responsibilities beginning 1/14/2022.
- The department would also like to permission to some updates to the sign office. This would include new flooring and will be done in house. The cost is estimated to be

- \$9,053.75. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the upgrades. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
- The department is also wanting to purchase a mini excavator. The quote was received in the amount of \$112,485.00 and will be purchased out of the 2022 equipment budget. Dave Dolezal moved to approve this purchase as well. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, has the following engineering business to bring before the commissioners:

- Zack is asking the commissioners to sign a letter of financial support for Bridge 73. Dave Dolezal moved to sign the letter. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carried 3-0.
- A letter of support is also needed for the HMA 2022 -01 overlay projects. Dave Dolezal moved to sign this letter as well with a second coming from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- 400 N the department is still having issue with one property owner on 400 N. Dennis Graft reported that there was private service to the Clarks made and that a hearing is scheduled for February 25 at 9:00AM. Zack also has 2 LPA vouchers for this project. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the preliminary Engineering voucher in the amount of \$1807.56. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0. The other LPA voucher was for right of way services in the amount of \$2222.82 and was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carries 3-0.
- Bridge 136 An LPA voucher for engineering in the amount of \$640.00 was received for this project. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the voucher. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
- Baseline Road/600 E an LPA voucher for construction engineering was received. This amount was \$14539.82 and it was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- Ball Road LPA Safety Project the project is moving somewhat ahead of schedule.
- Bridge 69 Zack has an LPA voucher in the amount of \$20,290.09 for this project. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the voucher. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
- Old State Road 3 progress is being made and surveying work has begun.
- Bridge 73 work is to begin this summer.
- Little Long/Round Lake final review is complete and Zack is wanting to begin advertising for bids. Dave Dolezal moved to allow the department to advertise for bids. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Zack provided a copy of the crash report at 900 W and 200 N the report indicated that conditions were good that day dry payment, clear weather and daylight. Report indicated Failure to Yield as cause of accident. Zack noted that the department has put up additional signage and reflective spinners to aid in advising motorists of intersection.

ANNEX

Zack Smith, Project Manager, provided the following update for the new annex:

- FFE orders have been submitted and are expected to be delivered on time.
- Appliances this should be complete soon.
- Construction there is still some finish outside work to be completed but the main focus is inside the building at this point.
- Zack has a PR -10 for door hardware updates in the amount of \$3,412.39. Motion to approve this came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- The commissioners will do a walk through on Monday January 24, 2022.
- The commissioners will also discuss the plans for moving offices into the building at their next meeting. Zack's plan would be to move the prosecutor and possibly the public defender in the first phase. This will free up the rental space of the prosecutor to enable probation to occupy that space during the courthouse renovation.
- With the move planned to begin within the next few months, Sheriff Max Weber asked when the commissioners would like him to begin the process for an additional security guard and was also asking about a scanner for the new location. Zack indicated that the scanner could be ordered at any time (to be paid for out of bond proceeds) and the commissioners thought that he could start the hiring process in April.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

Once the new annex is complete and the moves have been made, it is the hope that renovation to this building can begin. We are still awaiting prices for the cost of this renovation as well as a determination from Ice Miller as to what if any costs could be paid from the ARP money.

SHERIFF

Max Weber, Noble County Sheriff, talked to the commissioners about the letters received concerning regional jails. He indicated that here in Noble County we have not had issues with overcrowding and he personally was not interested. The Commissioners agreed completely and asked Max to respond to the letters accordingly.

Recess

LAND

Anita Hess brought up the issue of the 70 acres that the county owns to the east of the landfill and asked if the commissioners were still interested in selling some or all of this ground. Currently the Highway department uses part of this for storage when berming or brush removal compost site. Gary Leatherman indicated that his thought that part of this location needs to be kept for this type of usage and also land if we would need it for leachate disposal. After some thought a consideration, the consensus was to sell 40 and keep 30 acres. Dennis Graft advised of ways to sell the acreage and thought possibly an auction would bring the best results. First on the list of things to do would be getting a second appraisal of the ground. Anita will contact an appraiser to get this complete. Dave Dolezal moved to proceed with the 2nd appraisal. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

COVID DAYS

With new guidelines in place for COVID restrictions, Jackie is asking the commissioners their thoughts on sick bank usage for COVID positive employees. The Federal Government required all employers to allow 10 days paid leave in 2020 when an employee tested positive for COVID. This was before vaccines were available. This requirement expired on 12/31/2020 and then the commissioners (because of a number of active cases still happening in Noble County) allowed employees to use 5 days from the sick bank when testing positive. Now that guideline for quarantine has been reduced the commissioners have decided to lower the days available from the sick bank to 2 days for positivity. Dave Dolezal moved to approve this change. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 11:00 am recessed from day to day until January 24, 2022.

Dated this day of

, 2022

Anita Hess, Vice President

D. Leatherman, President

Dave Dolezal, Member

ATTESTED:

Γonya L. Jonés, Auditor