

MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD March 14, 2022

Comes now the hour of 8:30 a.m. on the 14th day of March, 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 Knafel, County Coordinator

Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney

Zach Smith, Highway Engineer

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- Clerk's Monthly reports – October, November, December
- Treasurers monthly report - February
- IDEM – Northern Indiana Components – revocation
- IDEM – Clifford Aggregate – permit
- IDEM – Parker Hannifin Corp – Air permit
- IDEM – Town of Cromwell - Water Quality
- Thrive – Request for ARP funds

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as written with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Regular claims were reviewed by the commissioners and approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. The 15-page report totaled \$833,029.67. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

MISC. CLAIMS

The commissioners also reviewed misc. claims totaling \$798,941.28 on a 4-page report. This was also approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL

The 4-page report for payroll was reviewed. Payroll for the period of 02/10/2022 – 02/24/2022 for payment 3/10/22 totaled \$460,100.91. Dave Dolezal moved to approve payroll. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

The commissioners had been contacted by William County Ohio for the commissioners to come visit our courthouse. Jackie had received a call back from them and they will be visiting 4/18/2022. Gary suggested that possibly we could tour the new annex as well.

Jackie also confirmed that the commissioners had received their information for Road School which will begins tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chain O Lakes Festival - a letter was received from the festival committee regarding usage of the courthouse restrooms. Dave Dolezal moved to approved the usage with the provision set forth in the letter. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
- There was a request from the Prosecutor's office to us a county car for an out of state conference. With the price of gas being high, Jackie brought this before the commissioners for

their decision. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the usage of the county vehicle for this travel. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.

- AGRIFLITE – Agriflite has been contracted by the DNR to fly in the area of Chain O Lakes State Park for gypsy moths. They are requiring permission from the commissioners as well. Letter from Agriflite is herein and Jackie sent a signed copy to Agriflite. Motion to sign the permission letter came from Dave Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent, was present to update the commissioners on the construction business:

- Copies of utility permits from Frontier and Baseline NXC received – duly entered
- Driveway Variance – Lambrights on 600 W and 900 N have requested a second drive on their property and due to the fact that the drive is close to an intersection and a 2nd drive on the same parcel – there is a variance required. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the variance. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- The department is doing patching every day and culvert work has begun.

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

- The buggy plate public hearing is set for 9:00am. Zack reviewed the ordinance again with the commissioners and there being no public opposition the ordinance was signed with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0. Copies of the ordinance was sent to Zack Smith, Barbara Donley Perry Twp Trustee and Donna Swartz Elkhart Twp Trustee.
- Annual Operational Report – Zack presented the Annual Operational Report for LRS to the commissioners for review. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the report for Gary's signature. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0
- New LPA projects – Zack has not heard back about the 3 new LPA projects that the county has applied for.
- HMA 2022 - this was awarded to Pulvers but Zack has not yet received the notice to proceed from the state.
- HMA projects for 2022 have been submitted but no work at this time.
- 400 N – Zack has an LPA voucher for this project. This is for right of way services in the amount of \$2,760.00 and was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge Inspection – All the paperwork is done on this project just awaiting a DES number to proceed.
- Bridge 136 - There is a problem with one of the property owners for this project and after numerous attempts – condemnation package has been completed. Dave Dolezal moves to proceed with the condemnation paperwork on the Hague property. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
- Ball Road – Zack is presenting a contract with Lawson Fisher for this project. Dave Dolezal moved to sign the contract – not to exceed \$50,000.00. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 69 – LPA Voucher. This voucher is for preliminary engineering in the amount of \$10,525.60 and is approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carries 3-0.
- Little Long/Round Lake- Zack is going to have the bid package redone. He has also talked with some local contractors concerning this project since no bids were received the first time it was put out to bid.
- Buena Vista – Zack has met with the owners of the parcel concerning this issue and the owner does not seem receptive to the issue of deeding the roadway to the county. Zack is working on alternative solutions to this issue.
- Zack is submitting a "local" detour to INDOT for their Northport Rd / State Road 9 project. Motion to approve the "local" detour route as presented came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

NEW ANNEX

Zack Smith, Project Manager, has the following information concerning the building project

- PR 14 – This is a change request in the amount of \$12,687.53 for casework, power and window mods. Motion to approve the change came from Dave Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- PCO 41 – cost related to RFI-13 response there was additional work that needed to be done in the amount of \$413.07. Dave Dolezal moved to approve this as well. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carries 3-0.
- FFE - all of the furniture and equipment has been ordered. There will be a slight delay as there has been a modification requested by the prosecutor's office.
- Zack indicated that he had received a request from Judge Kramer concerning furniture currently in the Auditor's office. He will be notified once the auditor's office makes their move.
- Zack also presented the layout for the storage area in the basement of the new facility. Zack indicated that this layout had been sent to office holders for their review as well.
- Zack has indicated that the vast majority of the work is now complete at the new building. Working on punch lists at this point and preparing for the May 11 transfer date. He would like to schedule the "ribbon cutting" for the 13th of May. Insurance coverage has been discussed with our insurance agent and that can take place whenever it needs to.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

American StructurePoint has had their final walk-through in preparing a scope of work to be done.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Anne Lowe, Health Nurse, was present to discuss a number of things with the commissioners:

1. Currently the Health department is contracting with two agencies for scheduling and the medical records. Anne has a contract with a company that will do both for \$400.00 a month. We are currently paying \$350.00 a month for the medical part and \$1200.00 a year for scheduling so this would be a bit cheaper. Anne indicated that Allen County has this company and Steuben has recently contracted with them. Motion to sign the contract came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
2. Anne has informed the commissioners that she recently purchased a new table for the department in the amount of \$1,799.00 out of the immunization grant. Dave moved to approve the purchase. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
3. Anne has a grant for a part time nurse who will assist school nurses with on side vaccine, hearing tests etc..... Anne has spoken with all of the school nurses in Noble County and all are receptive to the additional and guidance this will provide. This is a 2-year grant receiving \$220,000.00 each year of the grant. Anne has indicated that once this money is received it is the counties to keep and any unused dollars will stay here and not go back to the grant provider, therefore and unused dollars can remain in the fund to help pay for the part time nurse beyond the 2-year grant cycle. She is questioning the part time pay for nurses which currently stands at \$25.00. This is a discussion for the salary committee to discuss.
4. Anne is also informing the commissioners that state legislation has now lowered the lead poisoning level from 10 to 5. This will mean more cases for the department to monitor and she is asking that a now part time nurse would become a full-time position. There is also a grant that will assist with the cost of this through the state. This could bring in up to \$17,000.00 a year to help defer costs. Dave Dolezal moved to proceed with this grant as well. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.
5. The agreement to purchase the new trailer was before the commissioners for signature. This was signed as prior approved and given to Anne to take back to the department.

STATEWIDEE 911

Terry from ERS Communications, Dave Baum, IT and Shellie Coney from 911 dispatch were present to discuss the increased cost of moving the equipment from the sheriff's department to the new annex. The new figures had come in at almost \$10,000.00 more than the original amount to move the newly acquired equipment. Terry went over the pricing and the equipment that was going to need to be purchased. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the moving of the equipment by ERS with costs not to exceed \$41,260.56. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Another issue that came up was the grounding of the units at the new location. This is R-56 grounding and is estimated to cost \$6870.00. Shellie indicated that this can be paid from Statewide 911 funding. Motion to proceed came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0. After a recent issue with a fiber cut between here and the Sheriff's department that took a great deal of the day to fix, the possibility came up of leaving a couple of units up and running at the Sheriff's

department so that if this happened again – dispatchers could move to the Sheriff’s department to continue service. Shellie indicated to the commissioners that there a few options here and she was looking into those options.

YMCA

Kasey Weimer, YMCA, is present to discuss all of the services that the local YMCA provides from Health and Wellness, Cancer survivor programs, partnering with Parkview to help with rehab for clients, Healthy eating, early childhood education through pre-school to child care programs ranging from child care to after school programs. The also sponsor many athletic programs and one of the most important programs in a large lake populated county is their swim lessons and safety. This brought them to the need of a dehumidification system for both of the pool areas at the Y in Kendallville. They have been aware that this would be coming up and have tried to save and prepare for the cost. They had planned on a cost of \$200,000 to \$300,000 but the units’ costs are coming in at \$450,000.00 for each unit. They are asking that possibly some of the county’s ARP money could be spent on something like this. At this time, we are gathering costs for what improvements the county needs to make to their own buildings and indicated that if there is any money left – their request will be considered. There were in attendance several YMCA supporters who attested to the many services that the Y provides and indicated that service a great number of people from all over the county – not just the Kendallville area - as well as some out of county residents.

PLAN COMMISSION

Teresa Tackett, Plan Director, is present to answer any questions concerning the ordinance increasing fees at the plan commission office. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the ordinance to take effect April 1, 2022 as presented. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0. Teresa also introduced her new employee who will be doing Code enforcement duties, Sara Campbell.

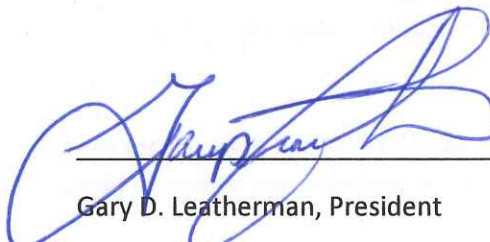
REQUEST FOR CONTRACTES PART TIME JANITORIAL

Tim Lock has an individual who is interested in the part time janitorial position but would be contracted rather than through payroll. Wayne Gulley will no longer be working this part time position so this is a replacement not a new position. They would responsible for paying their own taxes on the income as well as turning in a claim for hours worked during the claim cycle. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the contracted position. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

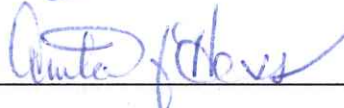
ADJOURNMENT:

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was adjourned at approximately 11:10 a.m. recessed from day to day until March 28, 2022.

Dated this 28TH day of March, 2022



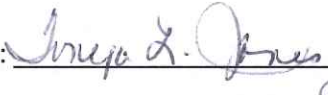
Gary D. Leatherman, President



Anita Hess, Vice President



Dave Dolezal, Member

ATTESTED: 

Tonya L. Jones, Auditor