

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
25 N BROADWAY  
PERU, IN 46970  
March 7, 2022

Commissioner Hunt called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order. All Commissioners were present.

**SOLAR PROJECT**

Jim Tidd, MCEDA Director presented the following agreement for consideration related to the proposed solar project. Director Tidd presented the agreements at the last board meeting, but tabled to allow more time for review.

1. Barnes & Thornburg agreement, which would be an agreement to represent Miami County directly and negotiate with solar companies on projects. The cost is not to exceed \$45,000.
2. Baker Tily agreement, which would provide a review of financial analysis regarding financial impact, incentives, etc. related to a solar project. The cost is not to exceed \$20,000.

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to enter into the agreements with Barnes & Thornburg and Baker Tily, subject to final legal review. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner Hunt noted he received word regarding a similar project in White County and the solar company worked 24/7 leveling the land. Commissioner Hunt feels the agreements should outline work hours and requiring the company to allow the ground to be returned to farmland if the solar panels are removed.

**MCEDA**

Jim Tidd, MCEDA Director stated the county received a grant for demolition of the old control tower, with a local match from MCEDA for \$37,000. Director Tidd explained the county applied for the grant based on guidelines from the grant. MCEDA advertised for bids for the demolition project and received 2 responded, with the recommendation of the MCEDA Board to use BCA Environmental. BCA Environmental will compile the bid specs, manage the demolition project, engineering, etc. for \$50,000. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to award the bid to BCA Environmental for \$50,000 and authorize Chairman Hunt to sign the agreement. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

**HIGHWAY**

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent noted the work on Bridge #63 would start this week.

Superintendent Worl presented the proposed detour for work on SR 16. INDOT will be doing asphalt resurfacing from US 31 to SR 19, along with a bridge replacement along

the stretch of road. Superintendent Worl explained bridge replacement would start 3/9/2022, with full closure of the entire road from 4/1/22 until 11/15/22. Superintendent Worl further noted the detour would use 1000 N and INDOT would repair any damages incurred from the detour. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the proposed detour. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Superintendent Worl stated several calls have come in regarding the roads and need for repair. Superintendent Worl explained there are 700 miles of roads to maintain and this time of the year always presents issue from the freezing and thawing. Superintendent Worl asked for everyone's patience as the Highway Department is working as hard as they can to repair the roads.

Commissioner Hunt stated the reserved signs at the old Health Department could be removed from 5<sup>th</sup> and Court Streets. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the Highway to remove the reserved signs for the Health Department at 5<sup>th</sup> and Court Streets. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **SHERIFF**

Sheriff Hunter presented quotes for carpet/flooring replacement at the Jail. The quotes were as follows:

1. Peru Vacuum, Carpet & Flooring-\$32,554.
2. Hochstedler Floors-\$41,441.32
3. Dawalt's Flooring-\$37,795

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the quote from Peru Vacuum, Carpet & Flooring for \$32,554. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Auditor Brown presented the 2022 Sheriff Contract for Tim Hunter. Total wages for 2022 would be \$90,000. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve the 2022 contract for Sheriff Hunter as presented. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **MINUTES**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the 2/22/2022 minutes. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **CLAIMS**

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **PAYROLL**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **PUBLIC DEFENDER ANNUAL REPORT**

The board received the annual Public Defender report for review.

**IT CONTRACT**

Commissioner Hunt noted the IT Contract with ABM would expire 6/30/2022. The board would like to move away from ABM, which requires a 120-day cancelation notice. At the advice of Attorney Steve Downs, the county provided a termination letter to ABM.

Commissioner Hunt stated there were 3 different companies who submitted bids for services and the county chose to work with the current IT Director and would move to his company based on experience with the county and lower cost of the contract.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Connie Gerber presented a news article to the board regarding solar company’s hidden agendas. Ms. Gerber encouraged the board to read the short article, which discusses the research conducted on reduction of property values of surrounding properties.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

**Adjourned**

**MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_, **Chairman**  
**Alan Hunt**

\_\_\_\_\_, **Vice Chairman**  
**Keith Musselman**

\_\_\_\_\_, **Member**  
**Brenda Weaver**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_, **Auditor**  
**Mary Brown**