

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
25 N BROADWAY  
PERU, IN 46970  
March 21, 2022

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

**MIAMI COUNTY UNITED WAY**

Debi Wallick, Miami County United Way introduced Antonia Sawyer with Ship Happens, Shelley Shineman Citizen Liaison and Samantha St. John with Miami County Solid Waste to report on the sharps initiative in Miami County. Ms. Wallick provided a list of outcomes from 2021 with the sharps kiosks installed in the City of Peru. Ms. Wallick noted the Prevent Pricks Program reduced the number of needle pricks by the City of Peru Street Department, reduced waste and communicable diseases. Ms. Sawyer explained Ship Happens Program, which offers a zero-barrier naloxone program in Miami County. Ms. Shineman stated the 1<sup>st</sup> kiosk was installed on East Canal and also shared a story regarding a citizen who used the sharp kiosk not only for herself in disposal of her diabetic syringes, but also those she uses for her pet who also has diabetes. Ms. Shineman feels examples of these stories helps to destigmatize the program. Ms. Wallick stated the 2<sup>nd</sup> kiosk was placed beside Walgreens behind Auto Zone, offering increased access to disposing of sharps. The 3<sup>rd</sup> kiosk is at Solid Waste. Ms. Wallick noted the change in county policy to allow the kiosk at the Solid Waste location and eliminating the need to collect personal information has proven to be successful and recognized at the state level United Way. Samantha St. John gave data on the total pounds collected in syringes last year. Ms. St. John stated a total of 1,124.9 pounds of syringes were collected, with 620 pounds coming from 2 kiosks alone. The program is running well and Ms. St. John appreciates the partnership. Ms. Sawyer explained the City of Peru has seen a reduction in needle pricks to -0- for OSHA with the addition of the kiosks and change to procedures of employees. In addition, the City of Peru has seen a 29.4% reduction in police calls for improper disposal of syringes.

Ms. Wallick also noted the City of Peru recently approved Safe Exchange Zones at City Hall for internet purchases and exchange of children.

**PLAN COMMISSION**

Corey Roser, Plan Commission Administrator presented Ordinance 3/21/22 for Rezoning of the Area Commonly Known as The Town of Gilead, Indiana. Administrators Roser noted the Plan Commission held a public hearing on March 9, which did not produce any remonstrators. The Plan Commission voted to pass the changes to the zoning of Gilead as follows.

1. Change in 19 parcels from unknown to residential 1.
2. Change in 3 parcels from business 1 to residential 1.
3. Change in 4 parcels from unknown to business 1.
4. Change in 3 parcels from unknown to business 2.
5. Change in 3 parcels from unknown to industrial 1.

6. Change in 6 parcels from unknown to agricultural 3.

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Ordinance 3/21/22 for Rezoning of the Area Commonly Known as The Town of Gilead, Indiana. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Administrator Roser noted the Plan Commission is working on rezoning of Converse and Stockdale. The rezoning of Stockdale should come to the board next month for approval.

Administrator Roser also noted the Plan Commission is working to update the unsafe building plan. It should also come to the board next month for approval.

### **HIGHWAY**

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent presented the supplemental agreement for consulting engineering services with Butler, Fairman and Seufurt for \$39,800. Butler, Fairman and Seufert would manage the services for the Community Crossings Grant project at Eagles Pointe. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the consulting engineering services agreement with Butler, Fairman and Seufurt for \$39,800 and approve Commissioner Hunt to sign the agreement. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Superintendent Worl presented a contract from Butler, Fairman and Seufurt for \$32,970 for a 2-year contract for the PASER project. Superintendent Worl stated the Highway received another bid from SJCA Engineers for \$41,000. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve the 2-year contract with Butler, Fairman and Seufurt for \$32,970 for the PASER project. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Janice Hughes, Office Manager presented an additional appropriation request for approval to go to the Council for \$85,000 for annual bridge inspection. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the Highway Department to go to the Council for approval of the additional appropriation for annual bridge inspection. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Ms. Hughes noted the Highway Department received notification of grant award from INDOT for Bridge #165 at 300 W over Rife Creek and Bridge #144 at 1050 E over Big Pipe Creek. Ms. Hughes noted the total grant award for both bridge projects is \$1,920,367.71.

Superintendent Worl noted the Highway Clerk, Brenda Boyll resigned a few weeks ago and the position has been offered to Brianna Rogers.

Office Manager Hughes stated the Wayne Street Bridge project is on schedule for completion by May 31.

Superintendent Worl explained the department planned to start the illegal dumping this past weekend, but the trailer to haul the skid loader had a cracked rim. Superintendent Worl hopes to start this weekend.

Superintendent Worl talked with the board regarding the status of Glen Cove and requested road improvements. Attorney Steve Downs noted the county is responsible for maintaining the roads in the condition they were accepted at minimum. Superintendent Worl will work with Attorney Downs to review the matter.

### **BURMING MACHINE DEMO**

Commissioner Musselman spoke to the board and Superintendent Worl regarding a piece of burming equipment he saw at a trade show. Commissioner Musselman noted the company would come to the county for a 2-hour demo for \$1500. Superintendent Worl feels that 2-hours is not enough time to look at a machine. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the demo of the machine if they can get a least a half-day up to \$1500. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **TOWN OF CONVERSE-TAX SALE ASSIGNMENT**

Tony Spahr came before the board on behalf of the Town of Converse to request assignment of the parcel located at 204 E. Railroad Street Converse. Mr. Spahr explained the parcel did not sell at the recent Commissioner Certificate Sale and the Town of Converse would like the assignment. Mr. Spahr explained the Town of Converse currently has a business located to the north of the parcel. Town of Converse would like to offer the parcel to the existing business because if sold to someone else, it could potentially land lock the business. Town of Converse voted on 3/10/22 to request the assignment by the board. Commissioner Musselman approved Resolution 3/21/2022 B a Resolution Assigning 1 Delinquent Tax Sale Parcel Owned by Ada M. Myers to the Town of Converse. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **PERU VISUAL ARTS FESTIVAL**

Patrick Redmon and Marlene Mickelson came before the board to request permission to request the following.

Marlene Mickelson, Patrick Redmon  
Miami County Artisan Gallery  
Peru Visual Arts Festival  
May 14, 2022  
7am - Midnight

We are requesting use of the North, West, and South-facing courthouse lawns, for the Peru Visual Arts Festival, set to take place May 14, 2022, from 7am - midnight.

We are requesting use of the lawn for four primary activities:

1. Art vendor tables (West and South lawns/sidewalks) - If we have enough artists to fill both sides of the first block of West 5th St., we would like to place overflow artists either on the courthouse lawn or on the courthouse sidewalk. We are currently undecided on the better option but are requesting permission to use the lawn for vendor space, if needed.
2. Art display (North, West, South lawns) - We are requesting permission to display collections of art on easels, on the courthouse lawn. One example is the art from the plein air competition, which we would like to display on the courthouse lawn for judging and award reception.
3. Musical and art performance (North lawn/sidewalk) - In conjunction with 2nd Saturday, we are providing musical entertainment from 4pm - midnight. 2nd Saturday has a standing permission to use the courthouse lawn for musical performance, and we are asking to extend the hours of that performance. In addition, during the 10pm-midnight time slot, we would like to invite artists to paint on large sheets during the musical performance, either on the lawn or on the sidewalk. Tarps will be placed beneath all Festival-sponsored painting activities, so as to maintain the cleanliness of the sidewalks and lawn.
4. Display of sponsor signs (North lawn) - We are requesting permission to display Festival Sponsor signs, printed on small yard signs, with the names of local businesses and individuals, who have helped sponsor the Festival, to the sides of the stage area, where musical entertainment will take place. Signs will be removed at the end of activities.

Thank you for your consideration and generosity in allowing the use of the courthouse lawn. We respect the property as a public entity, and we agree to take responsibility for maintaining a safe and clean environment during festival-sponsored activities, on the lawn.

Thank you,  
Marlene Mickelson, Patrick Redmon

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

#### **4 COUNTY BLOCK GRANT DISTRIBUTION REQUEST**

The board received a request from North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council to request a distribution of \$13,800 from the grant funding for mental health services in the county schools. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request and authorize Commissioner Hunt to sign the request. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

## **MINUTES**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the 3/7/2022 minutes.  
Commissioner Weaver 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.

## **CLAIMS**

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

## **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

County Attorney, Steve Downs noted he received a letter from IDEM requesting a meeting with the county regarding the Tolley-Hunt Landfill. Attorney Downs stated he advised IDEM that there is little information regarding the landfill, but will schedule a meeting and let the board know in the event they can attend.

## **FIXED ASSETS ORDINANCE**

Auditor Brown presented Ordinance 3/21/22 C an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 12/7/2020, which Established a Fixed Asset Capitalization Policy. The ordinance outlines the depreciation schedule and the responsibilities of the departments and Auditor. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve Ordinance 3/21/22 C an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 12/7/2020, which Established a Fixed Asset Capitalization Policy. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Elaine Anderson discussed with the board about limiting the hours of work on a solar project. Ms. Anderson also asked if there had been follow-up with White County on their policy. Commissioner Hunt stated the limiting of work hours could be addressed in the economic development agreement and he had not followed-up with White County.

Ms. Anderson also asked about the request of \$200,000 for a private company to build housing on the old CSX property. Ms. Anderson stated the newspaper printed an article over the weekend discussing why the funding is needed and it was different from what Mr. Tidd presented to the City Council. Ms. Anderson explained the article noted the need for additional funding was to beef up the foundations of the larger buildings. However, Mr. Tidd stated the money was for removal of old concrete. It seems unclear as to intention of the funds. Ms. Anderson feels the county should think long and hard before giving funds to a private investor and let the City of Peru deal with the matter.

## **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**