

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
JULY 6, 2020

Commissioner Hunt called regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order. Commissioner West participated after the meeting started via electronic communication.

HIGHWAY

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent reviewed the bids for paving of 1500 N. They were as follows:

1. Phend and Brown \$181,475.00
2. E & B Paving \$255,088.00
3. Gaunt & Sons \$267,040.00

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to take the bid under advisement. Commissioner Hunt 2nd the motion and it passed 2-0.

Superintendent Worl provided pricing on the cost of truckloads of dirt for the board to consider. Superintendent Worl suggested the following prices once the Highway Department has completed the work around the building.

1. Single axle \$40.00
2. Tandem \$60.00
3. Tri-Axle \$80.00

The board will take the suggestion under advisement and discuss at the next meeting.

Superintendent Worl explained the county currently charges \$250.00 for a permit to perform a road cut. After review, Superintendent Worl would like to increase the cost to \$350.00 due to the cost to the county. The board asked Attorney Downs to put draft an ordinance to change the cost of the permits for road cuts.

ORDINANCE FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

The board received Ordinance 7/6/2020 to allow participation at meeting of the Board of Commissioners by electronic communication. Commissioner Hunt explained this Ordinance would allow Commissioner West to participate in the meeting electronically. Commissioner West made a motion to approve Ordinance 7/6/2020, but then withdrew his motion. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Ordinance 7/6/2020 allowing participation at meetings of the Board of Commissioners by electronic communication at 1st reading. Commissioner Hunt 2nd the motion and it passed 2-0-1 (West abstained).

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to suspend the rules to adopt Ordinance 7/6/2020 and adopt upon 2nd reading. Commissioner Hunt 2nd the motion and it passed 2-0-1 (West abstained).

YMCA RURAL TRANSIT

Kathy Brehmer presented the contract for Rural Transit effective for 7/1/20 that will run for 1.5 years for \$705,000.00. Ms. Brehmer stated the funding from the grant for the transportation program will nearly fund the entire program. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the grant application for Rural Transit for \$705,000.00. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner West noted that he utilized the YMCA Rural Transit and expressed that he appreciated such a great program.

PLAN COMMISSION

Mary Kay McKinney, Plan Commission came to request the board pay for shredding of her old files. Ms. McKinney noted that the Record Commission approved the destruction, but do to a miscommunication, she was not aware that the shredding had already been picked up and billed. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to pay for the shredding for the Plan Commission. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Kim Frazier, Extension Educator came before the board to request closure of the Extension Office during the large events scheduled in July at the Fairgrounds. Ms. Frazier stated that patrons will come to the office for assistance and is concerned about the county employees being exposed to illness. Ms. Frazier noted that the activities at the Fairgrounds are not sponsored by 4H and the employees should not be required to provide assistance, unless it is scheduled. Ms. Frazier recommended restricted access to the office and being available by appointment only during the month of July. Attorney Downs feels the request is under the jurisdiction of Purdue and does not require action by the board.

Ms. Frazier inquired to the policy on employees returning to work if sick. Dr. Redmon explained employers should follow guidelines of the CDC and ask employees what kind of symptoms they are presenting when calling off work. Dr. Redmon stated that testing is free and there is no reason an employee could not be tested, but did not feel that employees who are not presenting symptoms should be required to have a doctor's note to return to work. Auditor Brown asked the board to create a policy as she has already fielded questions regarding those returning to work after being sick that is specific to COVID-19. Dr. Redmon suggested the board consider adopting a policy that includes Department Heads screening the symptoms of those who report sick for work. Department Heads should ask if employees present symptoms based on those listed on the CDC website, which include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. Dr. Redmon feels that if an if an employee has more than 1 of these specific symptoms, they should be required to have one of the following to return to work:

1. A negative test result for COVID-19 from their doctor or clinic
2. A doctors note that the symptoms are not related to COVID-19

3. Or, if an employee does not want to be tested or have a doctor's note, the employee will self-quarantine for 10 days and must be 72 hours fever free before returning to work

The board felt comfortable with policy suggested by Dr. Redmon. Auditor Brown will send the update to all employees.

REQUEST TO USE COURTHOUSE

Pat Piper came before the board to request permission to film in the Courthouse for a murder mystery dinner she is putting together on the Women's Suffrage. Ms. Piper explained in conjunction with the celebration of the 100th year anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed Women's Voting Rights, she has written a mystery party set in 1920 revolving around the battle for the final state's ratification - Tennessee. Ms. Piper is filming small segments, to show during the event as part of the mystery. Ms. Piper requested permission to use the Rotunda of the Courthouse with 4 people; 2 actors, a director and a videographer, and it would take about an hour. Ms. Piper noted that Dave Birnell, Clerk's Office offered to let them in the building in remain until the filming was over to ensure they remained within the rotunda as long as the board approved the request. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request to film provided Dave Birnell is in the building. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT

Angie Bever, Community Corrections Director presented a grant for Community Corrections and Drug Court grants to the board for approval. Director Bever stated that the grant covers about 50% of their total budget. The proposed budgets are not different from the current, but she does anticipate cuts due to COVID-19. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the Community Corrections and Drug Court grants. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

HIGHWAY BID AWARDS

Superintendent Worl recommended awarding the bid for paving of 1500 N to Phend & Brown for \$181,475.00. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to award the bid for paving of 1500 N to Phend & Brown for \$181,475.00. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the 6/15/20 minutes. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve claims Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PAYROLL

Commissioner West made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

VPN ACCESS

The board received a request for VPN access from Annette Phillippo, Treasurer. Auditor Brown explained Treasurer Phillippo recently purchased a laptop to be able to work remotely and needs access. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the VPN request for Treasurer Annette Phillippo. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

The board received a request for VPN access for Sherry Payne, part-time Recorder to work remotely. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the VPN request for Sherry Payne. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

WABASH RIVER HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION

The board received the minutes from the March 4, 2020 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission.

CIRCUS CITY FESTIVAL

The board received a letter from Circus City Festival that they have decided to cancel all circus activities for 2020 due to COVID-19 and therefore there will not be a festival or parade.

TIMEKEEPING SYSTEM

Auditor Brown stated her office has requested quotes for a new timekeeping system. They have received 1 quote back, but waiting on the 2nd. The systems would interface with the payroll system, which would be beneficial to the county.

COVID-19 CARES GRANT

Auditor Brown met with Steven Ray last week and discussed items they could claim for reimbursement under the CARES grant. Auditor Brown submitted the information to notify the state the county would be applying, but has not requested any reimbursement at this time. Auditor Brown went on to note that part of the remodeling to expand the 3rd court or potential purchase of new office space for Health Department could be included as it covers the cost to mitigate the exposure to the patrons and employees to the COVID-19 virus. Auditor Brown has requested additional clarification as to whether or not construction has to be completed by the end of the year or if it can be in progress.

2021 GROWTH QUOTIENT

Auditor Brown stated that the state provided the 2021 growth quotient of 4.2%, which will more than likely be much less next year.

APPROVAL OF JOINT RESOLUTION

Jim Tidd, MCEA came before the board to present Joint Resolution 2020, opposing the installation of J-turns by INDOT on US 31. Mr. Tidd explained the resolution would

inform INDOT that the county is opposed to the plan to construct J-Turns, Median U-Turns, etc. at certain intersections along US 31 within Miami County and other Counties along the Highway's Corridor. Mr. Tidd stated that over 70% of residents/constituents in the counties along US 31 Corridor opposed the use of J-Turns, Median U-Turns, etc. There is great concern over the potential increase in accidents with the amount of traffic using the highway. Commissioner West made a motion to approve Joint Resolution 2020, opposing the installation of J-turns by INDOT on US 31. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Mr. Tidd stated that MCEDA is working with the US 31 Coalition to hold public meetings with special invitation extended to INDOT and Governor Holcomb. More details would be forthcoming.

OCRA GRANT

Mr. Tidd presented a revised sub-recipient agreement for the OCRA COVID-19 grant. The initial sub-recipient agreement was approved and executed, but it was later determined it was the wrong form for OCRA. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to authorize Commissioner Hunt to sign the updated agreement. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

BROADBAND SURVEY

Mr. Tidd provided the proposal for the assessment of broadband needs in the county to Miami-Cass REMC for review. Based on the scope of work and agreement, Miami-Cass REMC felt Pyramid's service could benefit both the county and Miami-Cass REMC. Mr. Tidd will check with Miami Cass-REMC and if they are willing to help with the cost and bring a recommendation back to the next meeting. Commissioner West made a motion to table the matter. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

ORDINANCE FOR EDUCATOR ON PLAN COMMISSION

The board received ordinance 7/3/2020B, regulating the County Extension Educator's Plan Commission membership as a non-resident. Currently, Corey Roser serves on the Plan Commission, but lives in Wabash County. The law recently changed and now states an Extension Educator must live within the county to be a voting member of the Plan Commission. The board can pass the ordinance to extend the date to October 1, 2020. After that time, Mr. Roser could continue to serve as an advisory member, but not have voting rights. The Plan Commission could leave Mr. Roser in the position or require the other Extension Educator residing in Miami County to serve. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Ordinance 7/6/2020B. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

INDOT AGREEMENT

Ken Einselen, Highway Engineer presented the INDOT agreement for the superstructure replacement of Miami County Bridge #501. The agreement establishes the 80% funding for Wayne Street Bridge and will be used to replace the beams and decking. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the INDOT agreement for the

superstructure replacement of Miami County Bridge #501. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

CAFO ORDINANCE

The board received Ordinance 7/6/20220C, amending the provisions of the Miami County Zoning Ordinance related to Confined Feeding Operations. Commissioner West made a motion to adopt Ordinance 7/6/2020C and Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion. Commissioner Hunt opened the floor for discussion on the proposed ordinance. Bonnie Arrick questioned the procedure of adopting the ordinance and allowing the public time to voice concerns the CFO's. Ms. Arrick did not see the meeting advertised in the paper and felt that a public hearing should be held. Attorney Downs explained the ordinance is based on the recommendation of the Plan Commission. The board does not have a legal obligation to hold a public hearing as the Plan Commission previously held one. The meeting agenda was posted on the county website and Facebook pages, but because it did not allow for the required 48-hour notice due to the July 4th holiday, Mr. Downs recommended tabling until the next meeting. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to table the ordinance until their next meeting. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

SECURITY POSITION

Auditor Brown explained that 9-1-1 receives \$60,000.00 per year from County General to help offset the budget. This started many years ago, prior to the City of Peru reimbursing the county based on actual expenses. Auditor Brown met with Sheriff Hunter and Head Dispatcher Molly Grant and they feel that eliminating the \$60,000.00 reimbursement to 9-1-1 could open those funds up to hire the 2nd Security Officer without placing an undue burden on the department. Commissioner West suggested the board review and discuss during budget hearings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elaine Anderson inquired about the recent visit of the BMV buildings. Commissioner Musselman stated that there is more to review, but the building could possibly work to move the business offices to and be a more economical way of doing things. Commissioner Musselman stated the consensus is to not make this a temporary fix, but a permanent one, but there is a lot to do before a final decision is reached.

Dr. Redmon requested the needs of the Health Department be considered when applying for the COVID-19 grant. Commissioner Hunt thanked Dr. Redmon and Nurse Marie Nichols for all their work in keeping the community safe.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Adjourned

MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

_____, **Chairman**
Alan Hunt

_____, **Vice Chairman**
Larry West

_____, **Member**
Keith Musselman

Attest: _____, **Auditor**
Mary Brown