

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
August 7, 2023

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

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Lisa Ford, Environmental Health Specialist came before the board to follow-up on the requested change in fees request for the following. Food, On-Site Sewage System, Swimming Pools and Tattoo Body & Piercing Inspections. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request to increase fees on the ordinances for Food, On-Site Sewage System, Swimming Pools and Tattoo Body & Piercing Inspections. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

INSURANCE RENEWAL BID REQUEST

The board received the list of insurance companies from Michael Bowditch, Consolidated Union and Terry Smith, Smith, Sawyer, Smith Agency they would both like to use to quote the county renewal. Mr. Bowditch appreciates serving the county for the last 9 years. When he first took on the insurance, the county had 16 policies covered under 5 different companies and 6 different agents. Mr. Bowditch understands the county must perform due diligence in allowing another company to quote. Mr. Bowditch went on to explain both agents cannot quote the same company and there is only 1 company between the 2 agents the he would not quote because he does not have a relationship with that carrier. Commissioner Musselman is happy with the coverage and service provided from Consolidated Union. Mr. Bowditch stated it is becoming hard to cover a public entity because of social justice issues. Mr. Smith offered to quote from the 1 company Mr. Bowditch does not have a relationship with in an effort to eliminate the board from determining how to split the carriers and allow him an opportunity to bid. Commissioner Weaver feels competition is health and it is the board's responsibility to ensure they are being responsible with county funds. Mr. Bowditch will quote with Liberty National, Burnham & Flowers, Travelers and IPEP. Mr. Smith will quote with Astra. Chairman Hunt thanked both agents for being agreeable and appreciate the effort and work from both agents.

NALOXBOXES

Mandy Mavrck, Chief Probation Officer came before the board to request permission to enter into an agreement with Overdose Lifeline. The company would provide the boxes and equipment for Narcan, which helps to prevent death from a drug overdose by reversing the effects of opioids. Narcan, although not advertised for the purpose, also is used for elderly when they overdose on their medications. Chief Probation Officer Mavrck also provided a copy of a heatmap that shows all areas within Miami County from 2021-current where Narcan has been administered. Chief Probation Officer Mavrck explained under the program, the county can decide where to install the boxes, but must be checked every-other-day to ensure there are Narcan kits available. Chief Probation Officer noted there are plenty of places to install the boxes

around the county, but suggested the county start small and add one to the side of the Annex. Attorney Downs questioned the indemnity and would like to clarify before the board approves.

YMCA RURAL TRANSIT

Stacy McBride, YMCA Rural Transit came before the board to present the quarterly reimbursement for \$122,903 for review and approval. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the quarterly reimbursement for \$122,903. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

FLOOD PLAIN ORDINANCE UPDATE

Corey Roser, Plan Administrator presented the updated flood plain ordinance for review and approval. Administrator Roser explained FEMA approved a new flood plain model. Administrator Roser and Attorney Steve Downs have worked closely to update the required verbiage and has since been approved by the state. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the updated flood plain ordinance as presented. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Kerry Worl presented Ordinance 08/7/2023 Governing Installation of Driveway Entrances onto Private Property from County Highways for review and approval.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI COUNTY, INDIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 8072023

AN ORDINANCE GOVERNING INSTALLATION OF DRIVEWAY ENTRANCES ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY FROM COUNTY HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that it would be in the best interests of the citizens of Miami County, Indiana, if an ordinance were adopted governing the installation of driveway entrances onto private property from county highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. No person or entity may construct a driveway entrance onto private property from a county highway without first obtaining a permit from the County Highway Department.
2. All permits issued for driveway entrances shall specify the minimum size of any pipe to be installed under such entrance. Installation of pipe in a size that is less than such minimum is prohibited.
3. No application nor permit fee shall be charged.
4. Any person who violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a Class "C" infraction.
5. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption and publication of notice of its adoption as required by Indiana law.

ADOPTED this 7th day of August, 2023.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF MIAMI COUNTY, INDIANA**



Alan Hunt, Chairman



Fred Musselman



Brenda Weaver

ATTEST:



Mary Brown, Miami County Auditor

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve the Ordinance 08/7/2023 Governing Installation of Driveway Entrances onto Private Property from County Highways. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Highway Superintendent Kerry Worl presented a bore request from BSM, but covers too large of an area and includes installation of an excessive number of pedestals. Superintendent Worl would like the board to approve the request pending corrections Superintendent Worl will recommend to BSM. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the BSM bore request, pending recommended changes by Superintendent Worl. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Superintendent Worl received a complaint from a citizen in the Town of Miami regarding trees in the Highway right-of-way. A recent storm caused a limb to fall and knock off an eave from her home. The citizen requested the Highway cut the trees down in the right-of-way out of concern for her kids potentially being hurt by the tree or limbs falling. Attorney Downs noted the county is only responsible for maintaining areas of the right-of-way if it interferes with the operations of the road. Commissioner Musselman is concerned if the county cuts the trees down, other residents in the county will expect the same and the county is not required to maintain and could become costly. Superintendent Worl will contact a tree company to obtain a quote to cut down or top the trees and decide how to proceed.

Janice Hughes, Highway Office Manager advised the board of receipt of invitation to attend Career Day at Peru High School. Currently, CDL classes are offered at the local vocation school and the Highway Department feels it would be a good marketing tool to potentially attract students who might be interested in obtaining a CDL.

Superintendent Worl noted Bridge #122 is ready to reopen today. There is still some finishing work to complete, but otherwise will be open.

Office Manager Hughes spoke about bridge call 2029 coming in December and requested approval to purse the grant. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve the request to apply for bridge call 2029. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

BID AWARD

Office Manager Hughes noted the board received 1 bid for Bridge #47, but requested an update to the design due to cost. The original bid received from Millstone was \$696,866.35 and the revised bid is \$578,866. Highway Superintendent Kerry Worl recommends accepting and awarding the bid to Millstone for \$578,866. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to accept and award the bid for Bridge #47 to Millstone for \$578,866. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0. Office Manager Hughes noted the work is scheduled to start in the fall, weather permitting.

SOIL AND WATER

The board received a quote for \$1,430 for a new laptop for Mary Lou Watson at Soil & Water. The board tabled until they could obtain more information on why the request was made if she currently uses one issued by Soil & Water.

MINUTES

Commissioner Weaver made the motion to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PAYROLL

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

CLAIMS

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

MAINTENANCE SHED

Chairman Hunt noted the Maintenance shed was delivered last week. There were a couple of minor issues that Homestead Barns agreed to repair. The ramp had a knot, which since fell out and the nails were not driven into the braces correctly. In addition, there is paint peeling paint on the door.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elaine Anderson noted she recently attended the Miami County Republican Party meeting where Brooke Robertson, MCEA spoke about ongoing and upcoming projects around the county. Ms. Anderson questioned the use of READI funds for engineering work at the Silo Event Center. Attorney Downs explained Russ Bellar, owner of the Silo Event Center will still use the READI grant funds, but will be using his own funds for the matching portion of the project.

Ms. Anderson spoke about a new company potentially coming to Peru that rejuvenates batteries for Tesla's and other lithium batteries. Ms. Anderson questioned fires that could result and was told there was no reason for concern. After researching, the Peru Fire Chief was not aware of the company expressed his own concerns about possible fires.

Ms. Anderson stated Wabash Road was one of the project Ms. Robertson spoke about under READI II, which is moving along and would include widening of the road. Ms. Anderson contacted Office Manager Hughes at the Highway Department who was unaware of the project falling under the READI II grant. Superintendent Worl explained the project was removed from READI II and will be under the Community Crossings grant.

Ms. Robertson spoke about the Huckleberry Solar project, however did not acknowledge any other potential solar projects. Ms. Anderson stated the Rochester Sentinel recently reported the Fulton County Board of Commissioners planned to place a 1-year moratorium on solar projects. In addition, Ms. Anderson stated the solar company putting the project in at Starke County is in financial ruin and could leave the county holding the bag. Chairman Hunt noted there are more things with the solar projects that he finds are elusive.

ANIMAL CONTROL

The board received a draft copy of an agreement for Animal Control with Vohne Liche Kennels for \$2,000 a month to house the dogs, including utilities, dog food and if needed will help feed dogs if the Animal Control Officer needs time off. Auditor Brown explained there was an item within the agreement regarding insurance liability Attorney Mark Frantz is working to revise. Once that is completed, the agreement will be ready for signatures. Commissioner Musselman stated Vohne Liche has been gracious enough to house the dogs as needed without charging, but makes the most sense for the county to enter into the agreement. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the contract, subject to Attorney Mark Frantz final approval. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Weaver 2nd 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