

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
September 18, 2023

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

COURTHOUSE BOILER BID OPENING

Chairman Hunt opened the bids submitted for the Courthouse boiler replacement. The board received bids from the following.

- Midwest Refrigeration \$462,880
- MC Contracting \$304,000
- Ideal Consolidated \$342,996
- D.A. Dodd \$378,300
- Core Mechanical \$350,700

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to take the bids under advisement to allow time for DLZ to review the documents. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0. The board will award at their next meeting on October 2, 2023.

PROPEL US 31

Cassidy Hunter, Dan Miller & Alex Lee with Propel US 31 and Kevin Sears, Jonathon Wallace with INDOT all came to present information on the plan for US 31 and the current north and south study going on. Ms. Hunter explained the Study Team has been actively communicating with the public to obtain feedback on the upgrades to US 31. The study looks at alternatives and to construction options. Ms. Hunter noted 6 public meetings with schools, EMS, law enforcement, etc. to obtain information and meet residents. The main focus is access, public safety & travel along the corridor. Ms. Hunter went on to explain the study is in the process of screening the alternatives. The public is encouraged to submit comments either in writing or online. All information is online for review, including comments that have been submitted. Chairman Hunt and Commissioner Musselman both expressed their frustration and concern over having J-Turns on US 31, as the corridor is far too busy. Commissioner Musselman was under the impression J-Turns on 31 was off the table and would not be considered, however, Mr. Miller noted all options are still being considered, including J-Turns. Commissioner Musselman also spoke about the feedback offered regarding the J-Turn at 24 and 19 and all feedback from the community was not in favor, but INDOT went ahead and put it in and has created frustration because no one listened to the concerns. Ms. Kennedy understands the frustration and why INDOT is looking for more feedback/alternatives that can be considered. Mr. Sears noted mobility and safety are the 2 largest concerns of the entire project and once the alternatives have been paired down, INDOT will be back out to the community to provide updates. Mr. Sears stated INDOT recognizes they need to better communicate with communities and why they are taking a different approach with the US 31 project. Mr. Miller stated he and Ms. Kennedy have

been attending several festivals over the summer and hold 2 meetings per month within the community to provide updates and be available for questions and comments.

GUARDIANSHIP ADVOCATES

Linda Johnson, Guardians Advocates came before the board to provide an update on the program. Ms. Johnson noted the program has been around for 7 years and currently serves 5 counties, which provides guardianship for seniors and incapacitated adults who are indigent or without the support of suitable family members. Ms. Johnson thanked the board for their continued financial support of \$5,000 and asked for continued support for 2024. Ms. Johnson explained with the increase in costs and clients, the request could go to \$6,500 or \$7,500. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the financial support of \$5,000 for 2024. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent explained several broadband permits were presented for approval from Broadway Broadband. Superintendent Worl expressed concerns over the number of pedestals/boxes and requested a meeting with Broadway Broadband to discuss. Commissioner Musselman noted he met recently with Comcast and recommended that no pedestals were used, especially in the right-of-way.

Superintendent Worl asked the board about making Moys Lane a 1-way entrance off Business 31. The board previously took the request under consideration. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to make Moys Lane a 1-way entrance off Business 31. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0. Attorney Downs will prepare an ordinance to note the change.

Superintendent Worl gave the following updates to the board.

- Riverside Drive work is complete and striped.
- Work is still being done on 500.
- Logansport Road work was to start today, but has been delayed.
- Gaunt & Sons will start work at Eagles Pointe on October 4.
- Highway is still working on illegal dumping. Superintendent Worl stated it gets caught up and then more trash is reported.

Janice Hughes, Highway Office Manager provided the following updates to the board.

- Superintendent Worl, Commissioner Musselman and Office Manager Hughes scored the county-wide bridge inspection for 2025-2028, with top scorer being Butler, Fairman & Seufert Civil Engineers. The Highway Department is working on contract negotiations.
- Bridge #168 on 100 W will need complete replacement. Estimated cost is \$900,000 and planned for 2029 bridge call.
- Bridge #46 over the Eel River on Meridian Road will need concrete overlay and new beams. Estimated cost is \$1,100,000 and could possibly fall under Community Crossings Grant in 2025 or 2026, depending on the work that is completed on Wabash Road. The other funding option might be a 2029 Preventative Maintenance call, but the Highway Department is not sure the bridge can wait that long for the repairs.

ANNEX-GUTTERING

The board received 2 quotes for guttering for the Annex. Auditor Brown noted the bids were from early 2023 and would need to be verified.

- Southwood Construction \$13,400
- Kingdom Roofing \$16,625 7” box gutter and downspouts and \$15,950 for 6” box gutter and downspouts

The board would like to work on getting more quotes.

MINUTES

Commissioner Musselman made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2023 meeting. 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

PAYROLL

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

DAUGHTERS OF AMERICIAN REVOLUTION

Commissioner Weaver stated the Daughters of American Revolution requested to place a sign on the Courthouse lawn commemorating voting. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to allow Daughters of American Revolution to place a sign on the Courthouse law commemorating voting. 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