

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
October 17, 2022

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

ENTERPRISE FLEET PROGRAM

Feteh Mulugeta came before the board to present information on the fleet program with Enterprise. Mr. Mulugeta stated he worked with 150 municipality clients and manages everything from acquisitions to financing vehicles. Mr. Mulugeta explained the fleet program provides a large savings over time and Enterprise will help with the rotation of a fleet. Enterprise can manage fleet from dump trucks, trucks, cars, etc. and the program determines the life cycle of fleet, find new equipment, and help manage maintenance and operating expenses. Commissioner Hunt explained Enterprise came to the county about 5 years ago and at the time. Commissioner Hunt is not opposed to seeing an updated proposal, but cannot guarantee the county would agree to move forward.

PLAN COMMISSION

Corey Roser, Plan Commission Administrator came before the board with 2 rezoning requests.

The 1st rezoning request was from Donita Conner, rezoning part of her property located at 4147 N. Kennedy Lane, which is a business she owned adjacent to her primary residence at 1736 W. 400 N. The request noted the business has been split and is now separate and Ms. Conner has requested the remainder of her property changed from B-1 (Business-1) to A-1 (Agricultural-1). The Plan Commission approved Resolution 10/12/22 A, approving the request and asked the board to review Resolution 10/17/22 and approve. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Resolution 10/17/22, changing the zoning from B-1 to A-1. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

The 2nd rezoning request was for the Town of Denver, where it was determined 14 parcels were zoned, “unknown.” Administrator Roser requested to change 9 parcels from “unknown” to R-1 (Residential-1), 2 parcels from “unknown” to A-2 (Agriculture-2), 2 parcels from “unknown” to A-3 (Agriculture-3) and 1 parcel from “unknown” to B-2 (Business-3). The Plan Commission approved Resolution 10/12/22 B, approving the request and asked the board to review Resolution 10/17/22 B and approve. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Resolution 10/17/22 B, changing the zoning on 9 parcels from “unknown” to R-1 (Residential-1), 2 parcels from “unknown” to A-2 (Agriculture-2), 2 parcels from “unknown” to A-3 (Agriculture-3) and 1 parcel from “unknown” to B-2 (Business-3). Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Administrator Roser also spoke to the board about the tires on the new Plan Commission truck. Administrator Roser was out Friday doing an inspection and had a low tire pressure light. After stopping at a local shop to have the tire aired, it was determined all 4

tires need replaced due to dry rot. Administrator Roser questioned whether the board should go back to Paul Richards since the truck was purchased a few weeks ago or if the county would need to purchase new. The board asked Administrator Roser to contact Paul Richard, but the truck was purchased “as is” and not sure they will do anything.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dr. Rudolph came before the board to provide an update on the department. The Health Department is currently down 2 employees due to an unexpected death and a serious health condition. Dr. Rudolph thanked the board for their understanding and support as the department needed to shut down after the recent passing of Carla Bourne. Dr. Rudolph noted Carla was an employee and friend and will be deeply missed. The Health Department initially met the Monday following Carla’s passing and had decided they could offer limited services until they had the position filled. However, Dr. Rudolph was pleasantly surprised at the response not only from former employees, but the community and surrounding counties who graciously stepped-up and helped fill-in at the department to help continue services. Dr. Rudolph appreciated how everyone pulled together during the time of adversity and extremely proud of everyone for their support.

The board received a request to reappoint Dr. Rudolph as the Health Officer. Dr. Rudolph noted Dr. Mull accepted the position, but does not have the time to devote to doing the job effectively. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve the reappointment of Dr. Rudolph as the Miami County Health Officer. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent presented a request from Broadway Broadband for permission to bore and place 1-1 ¼” ducts at a minimum depth of 48” and fiber optic cable at 1379 W 200 N. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request from Broadway Broadband for permission to bore and place 1-1 ¼” ducts at a minimum depth of 48” and fiber optic cable at 1379 W 200 N. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Highway Superintendent Worl presented a request from Zayo for permission to bore and install 2-1 ¼” SDR 13.5 ducts on the west side of CR N 700 E crossing CR E 200 N on the northwest corner of this intersection, a 24 x 36 hand hole will be placed where the existing duct is stubbed up adjacent to the Miami -CASS REMC utility pole. The bore path will begin at the hand hole location and continue south approximately 49 ft to the Miami-CASS REMC utility pole location on the southwest corner of the intersection. This work is facilitating the repair of the long-haul fiber optic cable damaged earlier this summer. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request from Zayo for permission to bore and install 2-1 ¼” SDR 13.5 ducts on the west side of CR N 700 E crossing CR E 200 N on the northwest corner of this intersection, a 24 x 36 hand hole will be placed where the existing duct is stubbed up adjacent to the Miami -CASS REMC utility pole. The bore path will begin at the hand hole location and continue south approximately 49 ft to the Miami-CASS REMC utility pole location on the southwest corner of the intersection. This work is facilitating the repair of the long-haul fiber optic

cable damaged earlier this summer. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Highway Superintendent Worl presented a request from Broadway Broadband for permission to bore and install conduit and fiber optic cable at N Eel Cemetery Road. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request from Broadway Broadband for permission to bore and install conduit and fiber optic cable at N Eel Cemetery Road. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT

Connie Gerber came before the board presenting a request to have the solar ordinance updated to include the following provisions.

1. Prohibit using panels and equipment that contain GenX Chemicals and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).
2. Third party annual testing of water and soil for GenX Chemicals and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) per ownership lot.
3. Installation of sound barriers around the inverters and battery storage.

Ms. Gerber provided and reviewed several news articles regarding potential leaching of contaminated water into the soils, because even the smallest amounts of contaminants can be detrimental. Commissioner Musselman agreed the water testing is a good idea. Commissioner Hunt noted the requests would go to the Plan Commission for review.

IV-D REMODEL

Jeff Sinkovics, Prosecutor and Peter Diedrichs, Deputy Prosecutor came before the board to request approval on the quote to remodel the current VOCA office to accommodate the new IV-D Prosecutor that will start in 2023. Prosecutor Sinkovics noted he received a quote from Halls Construction and Remodeling for \$12,668 and a quote from Warder Construction for \$14,860. Prosecutor Sinkovics recommended Warder Construction because they have previously done other work in the Courthouse and could have the construction completed before the end of the year. In addition, Prosecutor Sinkovics provided a quote from 10 Krypto for computer and accessories for \$4,783.47. Both construction and computer expenses would be paid from IV-D Incentive funds. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the quote from Warder Construction for \$14,860 and 10 Krypto for computer and accessories for \$4,783.47. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Angie Bever, Community Corrections Director came before the board to request creating a Case Manager position for 2023. The position would be paid from a combination of grant funds and the Opioid Restricted money the county would receive. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Director Bever to go before the Council to create a new Case Manager position for 2023. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

ANIMAL CONTROL

The board received a report from Animal Control for September. The board will continue to review the current contract and determine what further enhancements they want to make to the reporting requirements.

MINUTES

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the 10/3/2022 minutes. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PAYROLL

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

CLAIMS

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

HELPING HANDS

The board received a request from the Auditor's Office to hold "Jeans Month" from Nov 21st – Dec 16th to help raise funds for Helping Hands. Employees wishing to participate would pay \$5.00 each week to wear jeans. Commissioner Musselman made the motion to allow the "Jeans Month" from Nov 21st – Dec 16th to help raise funds for Helping Hands, but to ensure that employees know the same dress code regarding jeans from the handbook still apply. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0. Auditor Brown will ensure when the email goes out that employees understanding the dress code for jeans still applies.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM-NEW HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The board were notified and received notification the new Health Department does not have a fire alarm system at their previous meeting. The quote they received was from Simplx for \$6,300 for installation and \$55 per month for monitoring. Commissioner Hunt noted he spoke to Molly Grant, 9-1-1 Director who had heard of the company, but did not have any dealings with them. The board felt that if the recommendation came from Jim Deniston, IT Director they felt comfortable moving forward. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the purchase of the fire alarm system from Simplx for \$6,300 and \$55 per month for monitoring, subject to approval from the Fire Marshall. Commissioner Weaver 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elaine Anderson stated she was disappointed all 3 Commissioners did not attend the recent meeting held regarding the proposed solar project. Ms. Anderson felt the speaker, who has only worked with Savion a short amount of time did a poor job and his slides were a mess. Ms. Anderson served on the sub-committee to help write the solar ordinance. Savion told Jim Tidd, MCEDA Director and former Commissioner Larry West how to write the ordinance verbatim. Ms. Anderson feels the solar project will devastate the community. One of the representatives from Savion stated it was easy to get

into Miami County and Ms. Anderson feels that is because Miami County tailored the ordinance exactly to what Savion wanted. Ms. Anderson expressed concerns over damaged tiles in the fields from heavy equipment moving along the fields and the elimination of wildlife from having solar panels. Commissioner Hunt noted he was harvesting and Commissioner Weaver had another commitment and were unable to attend the meeting. Commissioner Musselman noted if the county tile is damaged, Savion would be required to repair. Commissioner Musselman went on to state that the wildlife would more than likely thrive because there would not be large equipment moving in and out of the fields. Commissioner Musselman stated he is not excited to see a solar project, but it comes down to property rights. Commissioner Musselman does agree the concerns regarding the water are legitimate and water needs tested.

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