

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Jefferson Co. Courthouse, Room 103, 300 E. Main St. Madison, IN 47250,

DATE 01-04-2018

Commissioner Robert Little called the meeting to order, and led The Pledge of Allegiance along with David Bramer and Norbert Schafer. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to approve the previous meetings minutes, all accounts payable, and payroll claim dockets. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Reorganization- Commissioner Robert Little nominated Commissioner David Bramer to be the 2018 President of the Commissioners. Commissioner Bramer accepted the nomination and a motion for Commissioner Bramer to become the President of the County Commissioners was made by Robert Little. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jefferson County Veteran Service Office- Faith Weir, County Veteran Service Officer, came before the commissioners to give details of the 2017 annual report of the Veteran Service Office. A total of 573 claims and applications were filed in the office. Those claims and applications include service connected disability, Veterans pension, widows pension, County burial, property tax abatements, VA Healthcare/CHAMPVA, records requests, IDVA dependent education, as well as other appeals and reconsiderations. The Veterans Service Office has also been focusing more on community outreach by hosting discussions at various facilities in the County. Faith Weir has also stated a Veteran outreach program has been established through sympathy, Veteran's Day and Christmas cards. The financial report was also submitted in Faith Weir's annual report. A tax-free total of \$835,001.26 benefited Jefferson County Veterans & dependents in 2017. Faith Weir will continue to work on expanding all services in 2018.

Jefferson County Board Appointments- The Commissioners appointed the following people to certain boards within the County:

Stephanie Hellman- Southeastern Indiana Solid Waste District Board- 1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint Stephanie Hellman to the board. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0

Leigh Koehler- Ohio Valley Opportunities Board- 4-year term to expire on December 31, 2021. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint Leigh Koehler to the board. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

David Bramer- 911 Central Dispatch Board- 1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to appoint David Bramer to the board. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with Commissioner Bramer abstaining from the vote.

Norbert Schafer- Emergency Management Advisory Board- 1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint Norbert Schafer to the board. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with Commissioner Schafer abstaining from the vote.

Robert Little- Jefferson County Animal Shelter Advisory Board- 1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to appoint Robert Little to the board. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with Commissioner Little abstaining from the vote.

Renie Stevens- Jefferson County Tourism Board-1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint Renie Stevens to the board. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Norbert Schafer- Jefferson County Tourism Board-1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint Norbert Schafer to the board. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with Commissioner Schafer abstaining from the vote.

David Bramer- Southeastern Indiana Solid Waste District Board- 1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint David Bramer to the board. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with Commissioner Bramer abstaining from the vote.

Rebecca Law- Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals- 1-year term to expire on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint Rebecca Law to the board. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Regional Development Authority Ordinance- At a previous meeting, it was discussed to establish a committee to aid and advise Kevin Kellems, Jefferson County representative to the Regional Development Authority. An ordinance was created to establish the committee. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to execute the ordinance for the Jefferson County Regional Development Authority Advisory Committee. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. In other business, Commissioner Norbert Schafer stated that the RDA meetings are held out of town and currently, the RDA does not have a travel policy in place. Commissioner Schafer recommended the County provide mileage reimbursement and a per diem based on the County policy to the RDA representative for meetings until the RDA develops their own policy. The funds are to be taken from the economic development fund. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to allow mileage reimbursement and a per diem to be paid for RDA meetings. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. Later in the meeting, Kevin Kellems stated that the first meeting was held on January 2nd as a preliminary meeting to discuss the organization of the authority. Dana Huber was selected as chairwoman. Kevin Kellems was selected as vice-chairman. Ken Rush was selected as the secretary/treasurer.

Jefferson County Sheriff, John Wallace- John Wallace brought it to the attention of the Commissioners that it was time for the contract to be renewed for the Madison Consolidated resource officer. He stated that the terms of the contract have not changed and he felt the program was working very well. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to renew the resource officer contract at Madison Consolidated. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Stephen Wakefield- A resident of 9535 N Taylor Ridge Road, came before the Commissioners to discuss the issues with Taylor Ridge Road. He stated that there has been zero maintenance on the road and the road is unsafe to travelers. He stated there are two entrances to Taylor Ridge and one of the entrances is un-useable due to potholes and bumps in the road and requires vehicles to be put in 4-wheel drive to even drive on the road. Mr. Wakefield stated several times how dangerous the road is to travelers and would like an answer on when the road would be fixed. Highway Superintendent, Robert Phillips stated that his department has plans to extend the culvert on Taylor Ridge and is aware of the other issues on the road.

In other business, Commissioner David Bramer stated that he has received 4 bid responses for the jail assessment study to address what options the County may or may not have with the jail issues.

Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

ATTEST: _____
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

David Bramer, President

Norbert Schafer, Member

Robert Little, Member