

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

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

DATE 02-05-2021

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

Faith Weir- VSO Year End Report- Veteran Service Officer, Faith Weir presented her annual report to the Commissioners. JSVSO filed 1780 claims/applications, 4662 total phone calls, 1460 total appointments (in office and home visits). Weir updated the commissioners on other various office duties, programs and the monetary benefits to Jefferson County Veterans and Dependents. The following financial numbers are underestimated due to the amounts coming from reward letters that are brought into the office. Annual Compensation \$1,050,079.60; Retroactive \$986,427; Total Compensation \$2,036,506.60; Burial Allowance \$36,400; Total Tax Free to Veterans and Dependents \$2,072,906.60. The Commissioners thanked Faith for her continued efforts in not only helping Jefferson County Veterans, but also veterans from other counties and Kentucky. Faith will continue to update the commissioners monthly, via email.

Moore's Lane- Levi Gammons requested to vacate Moore's Lane to be able to use a portion of the area to construct a barn. Gammons was unable to get a variance due to the County owning the road. Commissioner Bramer stated that Moore's Lane is an active parcel owned by the County and that other negotiations are possible, but vacating the road like the commissioners have done in the past, is not an option. Commissioner Bramer will look into what can be done about issuing the variance and negotiate further with Gammons.

Annual Board of Finance Meeting- Commissioner David Bramer opened the Annual Board of Finance Meeting. Treasurer Deputy, Meghan Hoskins read last years' minutes from the meeting that took place on January 23, 2020. Commissioner Robert Little nominated Commissioner David Bramer as the president of the Board of Finance. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with David Bramer abstaining. Commissioner Bramer made a motion to nominate Melinda Klopp as the Treasurer of the Board of Finance. Commissioner Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to approve January 23, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded. Motion passed 3/0. Meghan Hoskins presented the Board with the 2021 interests and statement balances. Interest rates have decreased due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following amounts are interest gained over 2020: German American \$61,720.35; First Financial \$27,487.62; Farmer's Bank of Milton \$15,693.82; PERF \$5,930.97; Credit Card \$7,516.13; German American EFT \$6,201.07; German American FSA \$259.93. Overall the interest gained was \$124,809.89. Hoskins also presented tax sale statistics and stated that the Treasurer's office will not be participating in the TRECS program this year. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

Resolution to Approve the Lease of the Jail Facility- Commissioner David Bramer explained the need for the resolution, which would save the County money on capitalized interest. The commissioners had petitions signed but needed those signatures verified by the Auditor. Rick Hall with Barnes & Thornburg stated that the Resolution could not be adopted until all petitioners were verified. The commissioners stated that they would have a special called meeting within the next week to get the resolution signed.

EMA Update- Troy Morgan updated the Commissioners on the County PPE stock. Morgan said that we currently have 23 pallets, which will fluctuate week to week. We are also holding 7 pallets for other counties to pick up.

Highway Department- 1) Robert Phillips provided a quote to purchase a New Holland Tractor with a boom mower from Zimmer Tractor for \$90,500. The tractor is a leased tractor with only

500 hrs. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to approve the purchase. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. **2)** Annual FPBH “On-Call” Contract- Phillips provided a contract with fees from FPBH for on-call services. Phillips stated that we did not utilize FPBH last year for on-call services. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to accept and sign the contract with FPBH. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. **3)** FPBH Community Crossing 2020-2 Paving Proposal for Coordination, Design, & Construction Administration and Inspection of Bid Documents- Phillips presented another contract from FPBH to prepare and advertise all necessary bid documents for the Community Crossings project. Their fee will not exceed \$33,600. Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to approve the Paving Proposal from FPBH. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. **4)** Phillips stated he opened 7 bids for the Community Crossings paving project today and read aloud those bids. Commissioners will take the bids under advisement and vote at their next meeting.

Sheriff’s Department- Sheriff Thomas updated the commissioners on several purchases that were needed over the past week to maintain the jail facility. Thomas stated they purchased a water booster, replaced some busted water lines and replaced several cameras.

Revolving Loan for Small Businesses- County Grant Writer, Erica Cline stated that businesses are beginning to make monthly payments to the County for their loans. Cline also announced the following recipients of the Phase II Revolving Loan: Red Pepper, Cozy Acres, Darrell’s Tire, Clifty Garden Center, Kristen Quick Cosmetology, Lee’s Locksmith, Keepsake Consignments, Shropshire Photography, Sugar on Main, Made with Fire, Bickis Art & Sign and Midwest Gym. A public hearing will take place at the next meeting. Cline stated we should hear from the State on April 15th if we are accepted to begin the proposal for Phase III.

Public Comment- Kay Gross from Brooksbury had several questions regarding the deeded properties to the Milton Township Fire Department. Due to the timing of the recording the deeds for the two parcel, one parcel was sold at tax sale and was unable to be given to the fire department. Gross asked further questions about the property sold at tax sale regarding adding additional liens to the taxes. Commissioner Robert Little stated he would consult with the County Attorney and get her answers.

Jail Project- Commissioner David Bramer stated the Commissioners would be meeting in executive session today to interview construction managers for the jail build.

Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Robert Little seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

ATTEST: _____
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

David Bramer, President

Robert Little, Member

Ron Lee, Member