

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

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

DATE 03-01-2018

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

Andrew Lanam, George K. Baum & Company- Andrew Lanam, investment banker, presented the Commissioners with information regarding finance opportunities. Andrew Lanam explained that several other Counties in our area have utilized his expertise for jail renovation and new construction projects. Discussion followed about what he can offer our County regarding our upcoming jail projects. Commissioners agreed to look over the information packets that were presented and will be in touch with Andrew at a later time.

Veteran's Council- At a previous meeting, Commissioner Schafer requested an itemized list of future projects and their descriptions to better explain the need for funding that was requested by the Veteran's Council for the Samuel Woodfill projects. By providing this detailed list, the Commissioners would possibly be able to provide funding from the Historic Preservation fund. Robin Henderson described each project for the Commissioners and answered any further questions they had. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to approve the Veteran's Council projects totaling \$10,000 to be taken from the Historic Preservation fund. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Norma Sutherland & Sandy Smith- Residents from Hanover Saluda Road presented several photos that had been taken to show the drainage issues on their properties. Both explained their concerns with the standing water and would like the County to change how they maintain the ditches and clean the culverts more often. Commissioner Bramer stated that they would have the County Highway Department clean the ditches to help with the water drainage issues but also explained that the area is very flat and will still have some standing water regardless. Commissioner Robert Little also advised the residents that the culverts down the road may also be the culprit for the issues as well and will have the department take a look at the bridge area on Ten Cent Road.

Troy Morgan, EMA- Troy Morgan advised the Commissioners that the Courthouse does not have an emergency plan in place at this time and has created a plan for fire and security measures. Troy has based the plan on what he recommends for the Courthouse but suggests that each office create a plan of their own as well. The emergency plan will be updated on an as needed basis. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to approve the courthouse emergency plan. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. In other business, Troy Morgan provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the recent flood. He estimated 100-125 properties are affected by flood damage. A Damage Assessment Team has been established to assess the properties and will begin the assessments next week. The County has 30 days to assess the damages for FEMA.

Sherry Eblen, Auditor- Sherry Eblen stated that she is scheduled to attend a Council meeting to request funding for a new software system to be installed in the Auditors Office. Jefferson County is 1 out of 9 Indiana counties that are not utilizing this software. The software will aid the Auditors office with the new changes that the BMV implemented in August 2017. The software, Data Pit Stop, will be a one-time fee of \$6000. Sherry advised the Commissioners that she has already spoken to one of the Council members who feel this software will benefit the County.

Tabatha Eblen, Clerk- On behalf of the Election Board and Clerk’s office, Tabatha Eblen came before the Commissioners to request the relocation of the Anderson Elementary School polling location. Anderson School is undergoing renovation and the County will be unable to use the school for approximately 3 elections. The Election Board voted on using the VFW located at 3100 Michigan Road to replace Anderson Elementary. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to allow the relocation of the Anderson Elementary polling location to the VFW on Michigan Road. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Melinda Klopp, Treasurer- Melinda Klopp received a quote for a new countertop for the Treasurer’s office in the amount of \$2500. Commissioner Little stated that he thought the quote seemed high in price and requested that an additional quote for the counter. Melinda Klopp agreed and would contact another company.

John Wallace, Sheriff- At a previous meeting, Sheriff John Wallace stated that the transfer switch on the generator needs replaced and had received a quote for \$39,000. Since then, John Wallace received a secondary quote from a different company and was pleased that the quote was significantly lower, \$13,945. In other business, Sheriff Wallace also stated that several of the inmates have been helping with clean-up after the flood and the inmates will continue to help if needed. The Sheriff’s Department will be hosting an Active Shooter Training Session on March 22nd at 6pm at Ivy Tech. The training session is to target the church audience to help train pastors and church leaders.

Highway Department- Superintendent Robert Phillips stated that the Highway Department is working on assessing the roads after the flood damage and will need to inspect 7 bridges that were submerged. Robert Phillips stated he has been looking into options for new equipment to repair roads. He will continue to do research and possibly get a quote for an asphalt zipper.

Jail Exploratory Committee- David Bramer provided an update from the Jail Exploratory Committee. The Committee will be sending a letter to Sheriff Whipker regarding the plans for addressing the noncompliance issues at the jail. ROAW will be scheduling a jail assessment kick off meeting to discuss the upcoming projects.

In other business, Commissioner Robert Little stated that after the 1997 flood, the County provided dumpsters in the Brooksborg and Hanover areas to help dispose of flood damaged furniture. The Southeastern Recycling District in the proving ground has offered to accept material to be recycled free of charge.

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

ATTEST: _____
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

David Bramer, President

Norbert Schafer, Member

Robert Little, Member