

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

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

DATE 04-18-2019

Commissioner Robert Little called the meeting to order, and led The Pledge of Allegiance along with David Bramer and Ron Lee. Commissioner Ron Lee 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.

Hanover Saluda Road- Norma Sutherland and Sandy Smith came back to the Commissioners a second time to address the drainage issues near their properties. Sutherland stated that the Highway Department did come out last year to ditch, but the ditching did not help the situation. Sutherland is requesting a larger culvert across the road. Highway Superintendent Robert Phillips stated that a larger culvert will not help with the issues because of the run off from the fields. Phillips and the Commissioners recommended getting written permission from area resident, Terry Barker to remove a failed culvert on his property, which might help with drainage further down the road. Once written permission is obtained, the Highway Department will look into correcting the drainage concerns.

Bishop Hill Paving Request- Barbara and Randy Romans requested Bishop Hill to be paved due to the road not being maintained well. Barbara asked the Commissioners what the process is to get a road paved. Commissioner Bramer explained the new gravel road conversion program that the County is working on and explained what criteria will need to be met before paving is done. Once the conversion program is ready to be released, someone will let Barbara know to begin filling out the forms.

Highway Department- Robert Phillips stated that Brushy Fork is now open after several weeks of being closed. Phillips also stated that there has been a lot of dumping on the county roads and advised residents to let the Sheriff's Department know if they see someone littering.

Sheriff's Department- Sheriff Dave Thomas announced the hiring of two new deputies for the department, Curtis Shelpman and Jordan Perry.

In other business, Commissioner David Bramer stated that the negotiations have begun for a potential jail property to begin soil studies and environmental studies to research if the County can build in that location.

Commissioner Robert Little stated that he has received several calls regarding the appearance of political signs in front of the courthouse. The Indiana State Election Board was contacted and it was stated that unless there was an ordinance in place, the courthouse would need to be treated like a precinct polling location to allow for signage. Commissioner Little stated that he would like to see an ordinance in place to not allow political signage on courthouse property. An ordinance was prepared but would need to be reviewed by the county attorney. The ordinance read as follows, (a) Political signs of any kind shall not be posted on Courthouse property. (b) Electioneering shall not be performed on Courthouse property and must follow the fifty-foot chute rule, which applies to all other polling locations. This includes, but not limited to, distributing campaign material. Commissioner Little stated the County Attorney would need to review. Commissioner Little made a motion to approve the ordinance contingent upon the County Attorney review, with a second reading at the next meeting. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Commissioner David Bramer made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

ATTEST: _____
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

Robert Little, President

David Bramer, Member

Ron Lee, Member