

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

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

DATE 05-23-2019

Commissioner Robert Little called the meeting to order, and led The Pledge of Allegiance along with Ron Lee and David Bramer. Commissioner David Bramer 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- Faith Weir announced a new program, VA Connect, that will allow veterans to connect with their medical providers at the VA using an iPad and headphones. The VA will provide all necessary equipment for the program. Faith stated she will put together a community outreach program to advertise the new VA Video Connect for area veterans. Faith also explained the need for a permanent partition in the VSO office for privacy concerns of the veterans. Faith also explained the need for exit doors in her office for safety concerns for herself and staff. The ideal situation would be to have two doors installed directly behind the desks, where in an emergency, staff could quickly exit the office. The Commissioners advised Faith to contact contractors and receive several bids for remodeling her office.

Troy Morgan, EMA- Troy Morgan presented a purchase agreement for 620 Green Road for the new EMA location, Central Dispatch and storage. Morgan previously attended a Council meeting to request funding for the building and council approved the appropriation. The purchase agreement will be contingent upon passing HVAC, termite and standard building inspections. Commissioner David Bramer made a motion to approve the purchase of 620 Green Road for EMA, 911, and storage; contingent upon passing inspections. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

David Johnson, Road Concerns- On March 7th, Mr. Johnson and area residents attended a commissioner meeting with a petition and request to chip and seal Vernon Ridge, which is 1.2 miles. Johnson and area residents attended the meeting today to find out the status of repairing the road. Johnson stated that he is requesting only 2% of the funds received from the Community Crossings grant. Later in the meeting, Commissioner Bramer explained that the Community Crossings grant funds had already been identified for specific road projects and by law, we cannot use grant money for different road projects other than those stipulated in the grant application. Mr. Johnson and the attending residents believe that the cost of chip and sealing the road is much cheaper than hauling gravel and grading. Discussion followed with other members of the audience regarding the various requests made to the commissioners to chip and seal or pave gravel roads in their areas. Questions from the audience were asked about the new gravel road conversion program, which is still under review before releasing to the public. Highway Superintendent Robert Phillips stated he hopes to have the program begin sometime next year.

Handbook Updates- At a previous meeting, Human Resources Kelli Hoffman presented several updates for the County employee handbook. Commissioner David Bramer requested to review the changes until today's meeting. No changes are needed at this time. Commissioner David Bramer made a motion to approve the County Employee Handbook as submitted. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Highway Department- Robert Phillips provided updates on current work in the department. Phillips also submitted two bids for guardrail to be installed on Brushy Fork Road. One bid from KLB for \$22,500 and the other from James Drew for \$23,215. Phillips recommended that KLB be awarded for the guardrail installation. Phillips also stated that a study by USI will need to be completed before budget time to find out the costs associated with repairing the bridge near Manville store. Commissioner Bramer asked to look over the agreement from USI before signing. Phillips submitted a letter from INDOT explaining the detours when a section of State

Road 62 will be repaired. Commissioner Robert Little signed the letter of acknowledgement from INDOT.

In other business, Commissioner David Bramer updated the Commissioners about the public safety tax for the jail. Discussions between the County attorney and the attorney for the City of Madison will begin soon to establish an interlocal agreement.

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

ATTEST: _____
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

Robert Little, President

David Bramer, Member

Ron Lee, Member