

## **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

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

DATE 06-21-2018

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

**Amber Finnegan, Community Corrections-** Amber Finnegan, Director of Court Services, came before the Commissioners to request a new position for a Pretrial Diversion Case Manager. Court Services applied for a grant in February to cover the expense of the new position and was recently awarded the grant. The Pretrial Diversion Case Manager will be responsible for participants in the diversion program which will divert criminal offenders to various programs before entering the justice system. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to accept the grant money to establish the new position. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed. 3/0.

**Denise Buxton, Hanover Town Council-** Denise Buxton, President of the Hanover Town Council, submitted a 2019 budget request for \$10,000 to be used for the Hanover Parks Department and \$5,000 to be used for the Hanover Seniors. According to Buxton, the 2019 funds will be used for various projects including new playground equipment, concrete, shelter house and a storage building. The \$5000 requested for the Hanover Seniors will continue to be used for the weekly meals and possibly other programs for seniors. Buxton also reported that the funds from the 2017 & 2018 budget were used for new fencing around the baseball fields and the completion of the tennis court. The Commissioners will take the request under advisement for the 2019 budget.

**Susan Stahl, Girls Inc.-**Executive Director, Susan Stahl came before the Commissioners to request \$9000 to be considered for the 2019 budget. Stahl provided documents explaining the many benefits of Girls Inc. in our County and a list of programs that she would like to see benefit the girls in 2019. Those programs include "Healthy Living", "Academic Enrichment & Support", and "Life Skills Instruction". Stahl was also happy to announce that Girls Inc. began surveying the girls in 2017 on daily issues that can affect their lives. Stahl provided the results of the surveys to the Commissioners and will continue to do so in the coming years. The Commissioners will take the request under advisement for the 2019 budget.

**Public Library Board Appointment-** The Jefferson County Public Library Board recommended that Terry Phillips be reappointed to the Library Board for additional 4-year term. The term would begin July 1, 2018 through July 1, 2022. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Library Board and appoint Terry Phillips for a 4-year term. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

**IT Independent Contractor Agreement-** Andrew James has been providing contracted IT services to the County for approximately 6 weeks. A contract was produced by County Attorney, Joe Colussi to continue the contracted employment. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to approve the agreement for Andrew James' IT services. Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

**Public Comment-** Nel Konkle of Greenbrier Road near Brooksbury, questioned the policies of returning calls to citizens. Commissioner Bramer explained that the County does not have a policy in place for returning calls. Konkle explained that she had placed calls on Monday and Tuesday to Robert Phillips, Highway Superintendent and he had not returned her call as of yet. Later in the meeting, it was discussed that Robert Phillips had been in meetings with FEMA and was unable to return calls due to the priorities of other road issues. Konkle also explained that she is concerned with safety issues involving a County employee driving a road grader to and from work. Commissioner Bramer provided contract information for Konkle to call him to

discuss the issues. Further discussion followed regarding the importance of petitions and if there is a policy on petitions. Commissioner Schafer stated that a petition isn't needed for the Commissioners to review issues within the County and that a petition doesn't guarantee issues to be resolved. Konkle stated she will bring a list of issues to the next Commissioner meeting.

**John Wallace, Sheriff-** Sheriff Wallace announced an update on an emergency situation at King's Daughters Hospital today. Wallace stated that he was proud and thankful of the response time by local law enforcement and KDH employees.

**Troy Morgan, EMA-** Troy Morgan stated that there has been a recent increase of individuals receiving FEMA funding. That number has increased from 49 residents to 53 residents. At this time, a total of \$44,000 has been issued to Jefferson County residents effected by the flood. In other business, Morgan will be submitting the grant for 2018 EMA salaries. Jefferson County EMA has submitted \$149,000 in grant applications this year and will continue to work on additional grant opportunity projects in the future.

**Robert Phillips, Highway Superintendent-**Robert Phillips presented a contract from FPBH for the Upper Dry Fork bidding process. The Upper Dry Fork project is not to exceed \$8,000. Commissioner Norbert Schafer made a motion to approve the agreement for slide repair plans on Upper Dry Fork not to exceed \$8,000. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. An additional contract for core sampling to be completed for a county road candidate was submitted to the Commissioners. The contract from the sampling is not to exceed \$1000. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to accept the core sampling contract for the private road. Commissioners Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. Lastly, the Jefferson County Highway Department will be awarded a \$275,000 grant for the repairs on Bloody Run and Turkey Branch Road. In this stage of the award process, Phillips requested approval from the Commissioners to allow the 25% match to achieve the 75% reimbursement. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to accept the 75% reimbursement grant. Commissioner Norbert Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. In other business, INDOT will be replacing four bridges on State Road 62 in 2022. Phillips has reviewed the plans and does not see that detours will affect County roads. He will coordinate detours with INDOT when the projects begin.

In other business, Commissioner Robert Little stated that the Insurance Committee for the County employees met today with Custom Design Benefits. As of today, the County has saved \$316,747 with the self-funded insurance plan. Commissioner Schafer is continuing efforts with the County attorney to review the buffer zone. Commissioner Schafer has also been speaking with Clerk Tabatha Eblen and Genealogy Clerk, Erica Cline to develop strategies to increase book scanning production. Commissioner Robert Little announced that the County is considering the purchase of the Madison Bank & Trust building on Main Street. The County Council is agreeable to the purchase but would like additional information. The Commissioners will develop a course of action to possibly purchase the building.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

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David Bramer, President

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Norbert Schafer, Member

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Robert Little, Member