

## **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

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

DATE 07-09-2020

Commissioner David Bramer called the meeting to order, 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.

**Court Services Grants-** Court Services Director, Amber Finnegan submitted 4 separate grant applications for the Commissioners to review and approve. The grants include: Jail Treatment Grant for \$30,000; Prosecutor's Diversion Grant for \$59,409; Court Recidivism Reduction Program Grant for \$51,013; and Community Corrections Grant for \$710,354. Finnegan explained that all grants were approved by the advisory board. Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to accept the grant application proposals to be submitted. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

**Assessor's Office Bids-** Assessor, Karen Mannix currently uses Tyler Technologies for the Assessor's data collection for cyclical reassessment. Mannix spoke with the county attorney about posting bids for data collection, even though the current contract has not been fulfilled. The attorney reviewed the current contract and agreed that Mannix is able to post bids and terminate the current contract with 30 days' notice to Tyler Technologies. Mannix posted request for bids in the Madison Courier on three separate days and posted bid specs outside of the office. Mannix received 1 bid from Lexur, which would save the County a total of \$27,000 for the remainder of the contract, which would end in 2021. Tyler Technologies representative, Troy Fryman explained that Tyler was unaware of the bid posting and did not have the opportunity to discuss the contract with the Assessor. Discussion followed regarding the bid process and Tyler's professional history with the County. Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to approve Lexur's contract for data collection. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. Assessor Mannix stated she would prepare the 30-day termination notice for Tyler Technologies.

**OCRA COVID 19 Grant-** Holly Gibson from Visit Madison announced that the \$250,000 OCRA Grant proposal that Visit Madison has applied for has been approved for the revolving loan program. Gibson stated that she can now move forward with the application process. The program is to be used as a relief grant, revolving loan fund for small businesses within the County. The loans will be focused on women owned businesses, veteran owned businesses, or minority based businesses. The Commissioner's meeting also served as a public hearing for the grant process.

**Visit Madison-**In other business, Tawana Thomas stated that Visit Madison is requesting \$200,000 for their operational budget from the CARES Act funding to help with marketing and provide a supplement to their operational budget due to lack of funds from Inn Keepers Taxes. Thomas also spoke about the Wonderland Fest, that is a free festival in the winter for all Jefferson County residents. Jefferson County Board of Tourism member, Tammy Hagemier, stated that Visit Madison is requesting \$10,000 to be used specifically for Wonderland. Commissioners will take the requests under advisement at this time.

**Madison TV15-** Channel 15 board member, Tawana Thomas presented a budget request the commissioners for 50% of the of the \$53,000 franchise fees, which would total \$26,500. Board member Jan Vetrus explained that the fees paid to Madison TV would be used to purchase and upgrade camera equipment and provide an increased salary to camera operators. The commissioners stated they would take the request under advisement.

**Building Corporation for Jail Facility-** Rick Hall, County bond attorney, presented a resolution detailing the terms and conditions regarding the lease of the jail facilities. Hall stated that the financing for the jail would be a lease financing. Due to Indiana law, the County cannot finance

the entire amount of the jail. A nonprofit building corporation is established to finance the lease for the jail. The County Commissioners still have control over what is spent, but the building corporation is who owns the site of the jail. Commissioner David Bramer read aloud Resolution 04-2020. A building corporation board of directors has been appointed, those members are Cliff Carnes, Andy Crozier and Warren Auxier. The board will represent the county and make decisions regarding the lease of the facilities. Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to approved the resolution as submitted. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

**Drug Addiction/Mental Health Treatment Committee for Jefferson County-** The Commissioners would like to appoint a committee to oversee various options for the County for drug addiction and mental health programs with focus to use the old jail facility in the future. The committee members are: Commissioner Ron Lee, Councilwoman Heather Foy, Mayor Bob Courtney, Jim Courter, Cherilyn Miller and Amber Finnegan. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to appoint those members to the board. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed 2/0, with Ron Lee abstaining from the vote due to being on the committee.

**Highway Department-** Highway Superintendent Robert Phillips updated the commissioners on various projects within the department. Phillips will be opening bids for Bridge 109 the first week of August.

**2020 Gravel Road Conversion Program-** Phillips announced the ideal candidates for the program based upon an internal scoring system used. The top two roads will be submitted for consideration contingent upon available funding. The top scoring road is a portion of Brooksborg Manville Road, with Poplar Ridge coming in second.

**Camp Louis Earnst-** Commissioner Robert Little read a letter from Paul Cronen regarding the need for funds to improve the boy scout camp. Commissioner Little stated he would like the commissioners to look into using historical funds to assist Cronen to improve the camp.

**Golf Cart Ordinance-** Commissioner Robert Little stated the golf cart ordinance is ready to be reviewed by Commissioners Bramer and Lee and will be voting to approve the ordinance at the next meeting.

**911 Move-** Commissioner Little announced that central dispatch has officially moved to its new location at the Jefferson County Public Safety Center. Little commended 911 Director Susie Lawrence and 911 staff for their hard work.

In other business, resident Kay Gross asked for an update on the property deeds for the Town of Brooksborg. Commissioner Robert Little read a letter from the Town of Brooksborg stating the Town is no longer interested in the properties.

Commissioner David Bramer stated a draft comprehensive plan will be available on the website to review.

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

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

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David Bramer, President

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Robert Little, Member

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Ron Lee, Member