

## **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

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

DATE 08-20-2021

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

**VSO 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report-** County VSO, Faith Weir presented the second quarter report from the Veteran Service Office. During the second quarter, the office has assisted with 543 claims and awarded \$247,531.56 in Veteran benefits to County Veterans and their families. According to the GDY report, approximately \$8,467,000 has been paid out in compensation and pension to area veterans. Due to staffing and the COVID situation, Weir has cancelled the 2021 stand down. Faith will continue to update the commissioners quarterly.

**County Handbook Update-** County HR, Heather White presented 2 recommendations from the Handbook Committee for additions to the employee handbook. The first addition would be adding the word "Paternity" to the maternity leave policy. This is just to include both fathers and mothers to the 2-week paid leave time. The second addition to the handbook is to detail how to handle elected officials that may be stepping down to full time employee status. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to agree with the handbook committee for the two additions. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

**Highway Department-** Highway Superintendent, Robert Phillips, updated the commissioners on the 4-year cycle for bridge inspections. Phillips has an RFP on the INDOT website for 2 year cycles, which will be due on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**2021 Gravel Road Conversion Program-** Phillips announced the road selected for the program based upon an internal scoring system used. The top scoring road is a portion of Poplar Ridge Road, from Hwy 62 to the Switzerland County line. Brooksbury Manville Road, which was the highest scoring road last year, is on schedule to be completed this year. Phillips thanked everyone that applied to the program and requested that each application only have 1 road or section on the application. Gary Angela, a resident on 410 N, asked how his road could be moved up the list. Phillips provided a few recommendations but said it might be easier if the applicants would schedule a time to meet with him to go over their particular road and scoring.

**Jail Facility Change Orders-** Auditor Heather Huff stated the County has received 4 change orders, which were all credits. Those change orders include: 1) C & T Design and Equipment Co. \$(7,078.00); 2) EH Construction LLC \$(113,864.00); 3) Hussung Mechanical \$(93,835.00); 4) Link Electric Co, LLC \$(130,496.00). Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to accept the 4 change order credits. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

**Nuisance Complaints-** Surveyor, Mike Pittman updated the commissioners on the property of Jeffrey Gilstrap on Hwy 7. Pittman said the homeowner is attempting to clean up the property but the County will step in and help with car and tire removal. Pittman stated the County Attorney is working on a waiver of liability for the work to be done on the property. Pittman also stated there has not been any progress made on the property on HWY 56 coming into Madison, which is owned by Mr. Hurley. He will review the next steps and update the commissioners at a later date.

**ADA Update-** Zoning Enforcement Officer, Josh Cline received an ADA complaint regarding signage around the courthouse for handicap parking. Cline reviewed every county building and parking area for ADA concerns and has estimated that it may take \$7500 to get the county updated with parking lot striping and the addition of a ramp for the probation office. Commissioners asked Cline to get striping quotes and quotes for a ramp at the annex and present to them at the next meeting.

**Richard Carter-** County resident, Richard Carter provided documents to the commissioners regarding some topics that he is passionate about. Carter summarized each of the documents in the meeting and requested a public hearing to discuss the second amendment sanctuary.

In other business, Commissioner Little provided a county health insurance update. The plan is running at 82% of expected claims. July was a low claim month and August is expected to also be a low claim month due to switching the prescription plan. Commissioner Lee announced the next meeting for the Residential Treatment Subcommittee, which will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Huff, Auditor

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David Bramer, President

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Robert Little, Member

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Ron Lee, Member