

**PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Pulaski County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am EST on Tuesday February 19, 2019 at the Courthouse Commissioners' Conference room, 112 E Main St., Winamac, Indiana. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Kenny Becker, Jerry Locke, Mike McClure, Auditor Laura Wheeler and Colleen Denham from Attorney Kevin Tankersley office.

Also, present, were Michael Gallenberger of WKVI, Amber Tomlinson, Brad Bonnell, Brad Zellers, David Schambers, Mia Salyers, JoLynn Behny, Terry Ruff, Teresa Bryant, Natalie Federer, Brandon DeLorenzo, Judge Kocher, Judge Welker, Dan Murphy, Brian Young, Pete Lombardi, Matt Voltz, and Jeff Richwine.

Commissioner President Kenny Becker opened with a Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN RE: FINANCE BOARD**

Teresa Bryant opened the Board of Finance meeting and discussed bids from First National Bank of Monterey, Alliance Bank, First Source Bank and Lake City Bank. Teresa stressed that security is a very important issue along with interest rates, and customer service. First National Bank of Monterey and First Source Bank offer better interest rates with the most security.

Kenny Becker motioned to approve the January 22, 2019 Board of Finance minutes as presented and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The next Board of Finance meeting scheduled for March 18, 2019 at 8:30am during the next regularly scheduled commissioners meeting. Mike McClure motioned to table the cash management award until March 18 for further review and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike McClure motioned to close the Board of Finance meeting and Jerry Locke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: MAINTENANCE**

Mia Salyers acting director of the maintenance department brought forth the snow removal contract with an amendment to add the West Annex building. A request to advertise bids for removal of ash tree requested. Kenny Becker motioned to open the bids to remove the ash tree and Mike McClure seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: ASSESSOR**

Holly VanDerAa requested approve to contract Form 11 mailing with mid-west presort. The cost increased due to postage increase. Mike McClure motioned to approve the contract as presented and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: CONFERENCE REQUEST**

The following conference requests presented for approval:

**JoLynn Behny and Lynn Wilder - Clerks' Northern District 2019 Spring meeting, Plymouth, IN 03/05-06, 2019**  
**Terry Ruff and Gary Kruger - Purdue Road School, Lafayette, IN 03/05-06, 2019**

Kenny Becker motioned to approve Terry Ruff and Gary Kruger attending Road School and Mike McClure seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike McClure motioned to approve the Clerk and first deputy attending Clerk's conference and Jerry Locke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: SOLID WASTE**

Town of Winamac Manager Brad Zellers explained the need to work with Pulaski County Recycling. He proposes using Recycling’s part-time employees and trailer to pick up the town’s recycling. Approximately 830 hours needed per year and the town would reimburse the cost of those hours. Liability insurance could be an issue. All were in favor of thinking green and expanding on the possibilities and needs of surrounding towns. No decision made at this time.

**IN RE: GRANTS**

Natalie Federer requested to apply for the \$2,300.00 REMC roundup grant, which supports policing the teen brain efforts. This money will be used to host training on June 26 and 27, 2019 and opened to probation offices and schools and police departments. The training is given by an Indiana University faculty member.

**IN RE: PROSECUTOR**

Dan Murphy ask for an additional full-time employee. Commissioners really have no say but Council wants to know if the Commissioners support this request. The prosecutor currently staffs a VOCA administrator, a IVD administrator, a superior court secretary and a circuit court secretary. What are the staffing numbers for the prosecutor’s office in surrounding Counties? Some have many more and some not so many. Murphy claims to have an increase in caseload necessitating more staffing. The workload discussed briefly. Mike McClure says he would rather work good people overtime and hope that the work decreases in the future.

**IN RE: IT**

Matt Voltz discussed emails and the transition to a new host. All departments are on board with the change. The cost is \$2,400.00 for setup and \$15,000.00 per year, which is in the IT 2019 budget. Mike McClure motioned to table a decision until Kevin Tankersley reviews contract and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: EMS**

Brandon reported on EMS activity for month of January and sealed bids for the purchase of a new ambulance opened for review.

Fire Service, Inc. - St. John IN	New 2019 Ford E450 6.8L Gas engine Gen2	\$146,201.00
Arrow - Rock Rapids, IA	New 2019 Ford E450 Type 3 w/6.8L V-10 Gas engine	\$129,900.00
Arrow - Rock Rapids, IA	2019 Chevy G4500 Type 3 w/6.0L V-8 Gas engine	\$129,900.00
Crossroad Ambulance Sales and Service of Middlebury IN	Remounted	\$119,492.00
North Central Emergency Vehicles	New 2019 Ford E450 6.8L Gas engine Gen2	\$148,975.00

With such a disparity in pricing, attending audience wished to know if the offerings were new or refurbished.

Mike McClure motioned to table a decision until further review and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: JUSTICE CENTER**

Jeff Richwine explained a wellness program for sheriff deputies that is currently used in Boone County.

Richwine also requested permission to apply for another 10-06 grant.

Neighborhood watch program are being developed and wanting to change yield signs to stop signs. Six signs purchased through commissary money but need two more.

Richwine discussed the 9-1-1 grant and the possibility of another 10-06 grant depending on what happens to the justice center basement.

The sheriff explained an unexpected inmate medical bill for \$12,600.44. He thinks an additional appropriation will be needed to pay for the medicine and hopes this is a one-time situation.

**IN RE: MAINTENACE DIRECTOR**

Mia Salyers serving as the maintenance director is communicating and getting work done. Therefore, Jerry Locke motioned to appoint Mia Salyers as the official maintenance director and Mike McClure seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS**

Mary Welker discussed Circuit Court staff and mentioned that nearly a hundred orders cleared.

Jerry Locke motioned to approve February 19, 2019 minutes as presented and Mike McClure seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Kenny Becker motioned to approve payroll and claims as presented and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Locke discussed the purchase of a drone for Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC). The drone requires the operator to have a 107 pilot's license and the LEPC voted unanimously to make the \$3,500.00 purchase.

**IN RE: PRESS RELEASE**

Board of Commissioners President Kenny Becker read the following press release concerning the courthouse.

**Press Release**

The members of the Board of Commissioners desire to collectively make a statement concerning the social media posts, articles, and other public comments that have been made about the considerations for the Pulaski County Courthouse. The current Board of Commissioners was presented the issue of how to best deal with the current courthouse given a number of issues. Those issues include: Americans with Disabilities Act compliance; the ability to secure a single point of entry and provide adequate security to satisfy the Indiana Supreme Court order of September 13, 2013; the structural defects including excess moisture permeating the structure; the failing structure at the elevated staircase entryways; the substandard wiring; excessive cost of heating and cooling a very large open air space with aging systems; the substandard fire alarm and fire suppression system; and a variety of smaller issues that are too numerous to list. In an effort to consider all viable options, the Board of Commissioners hired Rowland Designs, Inc. to draft plans to replace the old courthouse structure with an addition to the Pulaski County Justice Center. Three years ago, the Commissioners had acquired a blueprint for a plan to renovate the old courthouse structure to address all of the stated concerns. This plan had been passed by the Commissioners, at the time, but was not well received by the public or the members of the Council at the time, and therefore was not pursued. The problems that existed then continue to increase in severity, which prompted the Commissioners to consider other options, which includes the addition to the Pulaski County Justice Center.

No decision has been made regarding which plan if any, will be chosen by the Commissioners. Any discussion about potential construction or de-construction projects involving the Courthouse will be had at public meetings where the issues is clearly stated on the agenda. To be clear, no project of any kind has been decided upon and no steps have been taken towards any project involving the current courthouse other than standard maintenance projects.

Mike McClure motioned to adjourn at 9:52am and Jerry Locke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approved and Signed March 4, 2019  
PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Kenny Becker, President

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Jerry Locke, Vice President

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Mike McClure

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Wheeler, Pulaski County Auditor