

April 15, 2019

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Board of Commissioners met at 08:30am EDT on April 15, 2019 at the Pulaski County Commissioners' Room at the Courthouse in Winamac, IN 46996. Commissioners present were Kenny Becker, Jerry Locke and Mike McClure along with Laura Wheeler, Auditor and Colleen Denham from Tankersley's Law Firm.

Others present were Fred Kasten, Mia Salyers, Jeff Larrison, Jim Lesh, Terry Ruff, Gary Kruger, Joe Moyer, Gene Timm, Kathi Thompson, Nathan Origer, Jeff Richwine, Amber Thomlinson, and Michael Gallenberger of WKVI.

Commissioners Kenny Becker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: COUNTY GARAGE

Terry Ruff, Gary Kruger, Jim Lesh and Jeff Larrison presented Phase I Bridge Inspection reports. Every 2 years, all bridges are inspected but Counties may have some bridges that require more frequent inspections. The big book has details on all 72 bridges in Pulaski County. Currently, there are five bridges as candidates for replacement. Bridge #154 was replaced last year, and Bridge #257 (CR400E over Mill Creek) is scheduled for next year. The design work will be completed later this year with construction beginning early 2020. While Pulaski County has 72 bridges, the State average per County is 144. Average daily traffic for Pulaski County is 154 vehicles per day as compared to 1029 in all counties. Pulaski County's older bridges are in good shape and there is a good plan in place with the top five bridges set for replacement under a long-term plan.

An extended approach and more width for farm equipment possible for Bridge #257.

Recycling water lines discussed briefly. The County Highway pays for the work because the county owns the property.

The Highway department Head mechanic position also discussed briefly.

IN RE: MAINTENANCE

Mia Salyer reported on lawn care. The zero-turn mower is not running and the smaller mower given to the airport last year. The County spent \$11,265.25 on lawn care last year. Mike McClure motioned to approve lawn care for bids by the hour and per property, Jerry Locke seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Cooling units in Justice Center electronics room discussed briefly. Although two quotes presented the commissioners asked for another opinion. The issue tabled for further review.

Gravel needed for EMA parking lot at the West Annex Building. The Highway department agreed to supply the gravel and the commissioners concurred.

Although the Justice Center roof has a 20-year warranty, the skylights are not covered because last fall they were cut open and resealed. Other issues with the roof are being investigated as well.

The commissioners asked the Leroy's Tree Service return to clean up the ash tree debris per the bid proposal.

IN RE: CDC

The revolving loan fund process changed to eliminate any Ad Hoc committees. Loan applications are presented and reviewed by the Regional Development Committee (RDC) or Community Development Commission (CDC), then reviewed by the County Attorney, then presented to the County Commissioners. Instead of tiered fees, flat fees are

charged and appraisal language added to the requirements. If we have first lien position, we will always require some sort of appraisal on personal property but will tier real property. No appraisal is required if applicant borrowing no more than 50% of assessed value, if 50 – 75% a real estate agent needs to do a market value appraisal and 75% or more requires a full appraisal. We want to do enough to protect the county and yet not so stringent that we do not get any applicants.

IBC Thermoplastics located on 200 W discussed briefly.

Mike McClure motioned to approve the Revolving Loan Fund changes, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: JUSTICE CENTER

Jeff Richwine requested permission to pursue USDA grants for body scanner equipment and broadband development for rural communities. Commissioners gave their consent.

IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred Kasten representing the Panhandle Pathway asked what happened to his request for a letter of support that was tabled at the April 1, 2019 Commissioners' meeting? The Panhandle Pathway needs a signed resolution from the Pulaski County Commissioners in support of the pathway. The trail is important but homeowners' rights are important as well. After much discussion, Mike McClure motioned to support the Panhandle Pathway and approve the following resolution of support as long as harmony kept with the homeowners. Kenny Becker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 4-1-2019

A resolution of the Pulaski County Commissioners Supporting Exploration of designing and building a multi-use non-motorized Trail connecting Panhandle Pathway with Tippecanoe River State Park and The Erie Trail in Starke County and with the Logansport/Cass County and Carroll County through France park on the south end.

Since our area of the state has been a leader in trail-building, including regional trails such as Panhandle Pathway, Erie Trail, Nickel Plate Trail, and local trails such as Little Turtle Waterway, River Bluff, Hervey, Husten Trails, Delphi Trails, and

Since former Governor Mitch Daniels dedicated \$19 Million toward developing a statewide trail system, and

Since the proposed Trail connecting Logansport, France Park, Panhandle Pathway, Tippecanoe River State Park, and Erie Trail is designated as a Visionary Trail on the State Trails Plan, and

Since our current Governor Eric Holcomb has dedicated \$90 million for a statewide Trail system, and

Since Cass County, Pulaski County, and Starke County through a joint effort would enjoy local and regional benefits by these trail connections, and

Since Cass County/Logansport and Friends of Panhandle Pathway have formed an alliance to make these connections,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana:

SECTION 1. The Pulaski County Commissioners support encouraging the designing and building a multi-use trail connecting Logansport, France Park, Panhandle Pathway, Tippecanoe River State Park and Erie Trail of approximately 18.25 miles of new trail.

SECTION 2. This resolution becomes effective on the date of passage.

Passed and resolved by THE COMMISSIONERS OF PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA THIS 15TH DAY OF April 2019, by a voice vote of 3 in favor and 0 opposed.

Pulaski County Commissioners, Indiana
Signed By Kenny Becker, President

Mark Lambert stated he has recently read a couple of articles on wkvi.com and wanted to commend the Sheriff on addressing the drug epidemic. I do not know anything about appropriations but this problem will only get worse. Thank God we get grants.

IN RE: CONFERENCE REQUESTS

Jason Woodruff – Missing & Unidentified Workshop, Highland, IN June 28, 2019
JoLynn Behny and 1st Deputy – 2019 Annual Clerks Conference, Indy, June 10, 11 & 12, 2019
Deb DeSchepper – Assessor level 3 classes, Valparaiso May 20-24 and July 29-August 2, 2019
Kathleen Thompson – AIC Budget & Finance I Class, Plymouth, IN May 1, 2019
Laura Wheeler – Auditors’ District Meeting, Rochester, IN April 22, 2019
Laura Wheeler – AIC Budget & Finance I Class, Auditor’s Regional meeting, Plymouth, May 1, 2019
Laura Wheeler – 2019 Annual Auditor’s Conference, French Lick, IN, May 21-24, 2019

Mike McClure made a motion to approve the conference requests, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Kenny Becker made a motion to approve payroll and claims, Jerry Locke seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mike McClure made a motion to approve the March 18, 2019 Board of Finance minutes, Jerry Locke seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Becker announced that Pulaski County Human Services will have their 44th Annual Meeting Thursday April 25, 2019 starting at noon. There will be a special joint session April 29 at 7:00pm regarding finances.

Jerry Locke motioned to adjourned at 9:44am and Kenny Becker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved and Signed May 6, 2019
PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kenneth Becker, President

Jerome Locke, Vice-President

J Michael McClure

ATTEST: _____

Laura Wheeler, Pulaski County Auditor