

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Monday September 9, 2020 6:00PM at the Pulaski County Highway Department training room. Commissioners present were Jerry Locke and Mike McClure with Kenny Becker present by telephone. Auditor Laura Wheeler and County Attorney Kevin Tankersley were also present.

Others present were Mia Salyers, Maurice Loehmer, JoLynn Behny, Judge Mary Welker, Terri Hansen, Connie Ehrlich, Don Ehrlich, Kathi Thompson, Carmin Ruff, Doug Hoover, Patty Sullivan, Jon Frain, Holden Frain, Linda Woloshansky, Mackenzie Ledley, Rick Mynark, Denise Hettinger, Karla Redweik, Jeff Richwine.

Vice-President Jerry Locke opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: EMS

EMS has an ambulance with a transmission leak that needs to be repaired. The repair cost is estimated between \$700.00-\$3000.00. There is money in the EMS budget to cover this but the purchase needs to be approved by the Commissioners. Mike McClure made a motion to approve the ambulance repair, Ken Becker seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: CIRCUIT COURT

Judge Mary Welker reported on the renewal of 13 Adobe licenses. Circuit Court, EMA and Probation were able to reduce the number of licenses needed and saved \$1,100.10 for County.

Judge Welker then presented a letter in support of a Coronavirus grant for Superior and Circuit Courts from Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. The grant money will be used to purchased COVID related supplies and technology, including two televisions for outside of the courtrooms for court activity. Mike McClure made a motion to approve and sign the letter as presented, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: SHERIFF

Sheriff Richwine requested permission to transfer a jail van to the Coroner and suggested transferring the Durango currently being used by the Coroner to the Building Inspector.

Mike McClure made a motion to approve the transfer of the jail van to the Coroners Department and the transfer of the Coroner's Durango to the Building Department, if acceptable to both departments. All agreed so Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: ELECTION BOARD

JoLynn Behny asked permission to close the Courthouse to the public on General Election Day, November 3, 2020. Mike McClure made a motion to close the Court House on Election Day except for poll workers, election staff and media, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Early in-person voting will run from Tuesday October 6th through Monday November 2nd from 8:00am - 4:00pm Monday through Friday and Saturdays 8:00am to noon at the Justice Center and will include two Saturdays (October 24 and 31, 2020) from 8:00am to noon at the Francesville Fire Station.

IN RE: MAINTENANCE

Mia Salyers reported that the boiler room door and air conditioning are repaired at the Annex building, and the security light installed at the West Annex building. The 2nd boiler has been brought up to specifications, ice machine/dishwasher/garbage disposal repaired, trees trimmed to clear camera obstruction, and exterior lighting replaced at the Justice Center. Light fixtures, jail door signals, Icon water system, and lavatory still need work. Elevators have passed inspection and the Court House roof has been repaired.

Purchase of a replacement lift with an estimated cost of \$4,000.00 for the Justice Center discussed briefly. The commissioners tabled this request to investigate rental options.

A regular maintenance checklist for each building was presented for review. Approximately \$31,000.00 has been spent on Justice Center repairs. From a list of 42 repair items requested by the Jail Commander, 25 were completed the same day and 14 on the following day.

IN RE: CENTER FOR WORKFORCE INNOVATIONS

Linda Woloshansky representing the Center for Workforce Innovations has been working in Pulaski County since 2000 and supports the work of the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board, of which Pulaski County has three members; Adam Collins of Galfab, Brenda Walters of Wastequip, and Travis McDowell of MetalFab Engineering. The Work One Center, located on Market Street, provides free job seeking services and help with local schools and businesses.

The Seven-County agreement was presented for the Commissioners review. Mike Tiede has represented Pulaski County on this board. Mike McClure made a motion to reappoint Michael T. Tiede to serve on this board, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: CARES FUNDING

Joint session gave approval to form a committee to get the word out on the availability of the CARES fund, establish a process for the request to be returned, have meetings to prioritize the request and report this to the Commissioners. Kathi Thompson, Committee Chair, estimates \$187,000.00 available. Items being requested are:

- Countywide Telephone System
- Sound System for County
- Bulk Sanitizer for County
- Cleaners for County
- Autopsy Suite Renovation for Coroner
- Part-time Site Aide for Pulaski County Human Services
- Items to Minimize Spread of COVID19 for Pulaski County Public Library
- Bulk Masks
- Gallons of Sanitizer
- Cot for Morgue Vehicle
- Items to Minimize Spread for Pulaski County Public Library
- Telework for Library
- Removal Van of Jon Frain

Mike McClure made a motion to table this until the next meeting to allow for other requests. Kenny Becker seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Terri Hansen of the Health Department has \$69,113.50 to spend from a separate CARES Act grant and presented the following list of items totaling \$69,107.16: Laptops, desktop computers, printers, data storage, 50" television, shredder, whiteboards, refrigerators, freezer, and filing cabinets.

Mike McClure made a motion to approve the CARES grant application and purchases, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

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

Mike McClure made a motion to approve and sign August 3, 2020 and August 17, 2020 regular session minutes and August 20, 2020 Special Session minutes as presented, Kenny Becker seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Kenny Becker made a motion to reappoint Valerie Lehman to the Pulaski Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Donation request from Friends of the Veterans Memorial Parkway and where money could come from discussed. Due to County finances, Mike McClure made a motion to make no donation, Kenny Becker seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Auditor Wheeler explained the payroll tax deferral program ordered by President Trump. Due to the fact that the County has not laid off anyone and employees have continued to receive regular pay, Wheeler suggested that the County opt out of this program. Mike McClure made a motion to not participate in the Payroll Deferral Program, Kenny Becker seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Mike McClure made a motion to appoint Dan Murphy to the Pulaski County Public Library Board, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, Kenny Becker made a motion to adjourn at 7:12pm, Jerry Locke seconded and motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AND SIGNED THIS 5th DAY OF OCTOBER 2020.

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

KENNY BECKER

JERRY LOCKE

MIKE MCCLURE

ATTEST: _____
LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN