

FEBRUARY 19, 2020

SPECIAL MEETING

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Commissioners met for a special meeting Friday, February 19, 2021 at 8:30am at the Pulaski County Highway Department training room. This meeting was in place of the Regular session meeting of February 16, 2021 that was cancelled due to weather. Commissioners present were Charles Mellon, Maurice Loehmer, Mike McClure with County Auditor Laura Wheeler and County Attorney Kevin Tankersley.

Also present were Teresa Bryant, Brandon DeLorenzo, Jeff Richwine, Nathan Origer, Gail Lambert, Jenny Keller, Ron DeSabatine, and Gary Kruger.

President Mellon opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: BOARD OF FINANCE

The Special meeting temporarily recessed for a Board of Finance Meeting, conducted by Board President Maurice Loehmer.

Charles Mellon motioned to approve the January 19, 2021 Board of Finance meeting minutes, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Bids for Cash Management from First Federal Savings, First Source and First National Bank of Monterey were opened. All County accounts are currently with First National. Mike McClure made a motion to table a decision for further review and to make award at March 15, 2021 8:30am meeting, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously. Charles Mellon then motioned to adjourn Board of Finance meeting at 8:39am, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Special meeting reconvened.

IN RE: TREASURER

Treasurer Teresa Bryant raised concerns with Courthouse steps cleaned off, as they are emergency exits, lights not turned off after hours, and asked for cleaning supplies/disinfectants for her office. The commissioners responded that these things would be discussed during department evaluations.

IN RE: EMS

EMS director Brandon DeLorenzo explained staffing problems, which was then discussed at length without conclusive decisions other than to keep all positions open for hiring.

Instructor wage scale also discussed but determined to be a Council issue.

IN RE: CDC

Nathan opened up a public hearing on the COVID business-relief grant along with Emily Albaugh, Grant Administrator from K-IRPC on the phone. The grant application is for \$250,000.00 of which \$243,750.00 will be available for distribution to local businesses with less than 100 employees and capped at \$10,000.00. The remainder of the grant will pay administrative fees. Matching funds are not required. The Application is due by March 11, 2021 with awards made on April 15, 2021. The meeting opened for public comment, which there was none and the following resolution presented for approval.

RESOLUTION OF
THE PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION AND LOCAL MATCH COMMITMENT
PULASKI COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02
RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE COVID-19 PHASE 3 APPLICATION TO THE INDIANA
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND RURAL AFFAIRS AND ADDRESSING RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana recognizes the need to stimulate growth and to maintain a sound economy within its corporate limits; and

- a. *Whereas, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, authorizes the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs to provide grants to local units of government to meet the housing and community development needs of low- and moderate – income persons; and*

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana has conducted or will conduct public hearings prior to the submission of an application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, said public hearings to assess the housing, public facilities and economic needs of its low – and moderate – income residents;

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

1. The Commissioner President is authorized to prepare and submit an application for grant funding to assist local small businesses for working capital leading to job retention during recovery from COVID-19 pandemic, and to execute and administer a resultant grant including requisite general administration and project management, contracts and agreements pursuant to regulations of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
2. The County Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana hereby commits NO (\$0) local funds towards the project.

Maurice Loehmer motioned to approve Resolution 2021-02 as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Public hearing closed.

An Incident Management Team (IMT) report given. Additional cases of COVID-19 over the past 2 weeks bringing the positive cases to 1,046 as of February 17, 2021. The County is currently at yellow status and must remain so for two weeks before restrictions loosened. Free testing at Star City Monday-Friday from 8am-8pm. IMT has moved from weekly to biweekly meetings.

The Courthouse/Justice Center renovation discussed with project issues and concerns explained. Temporary relocation of Auditor’s, Treasurer’s, Clerk’s, Recorder’s and Assessor’s Offices mentioned. Tonn & Blank contracts expected for Commissioners’ approval in March.

A revolving loan fund moratorium on new loan applications requested until May 1, 2021 to allow for fund growth and program guideline revisions. Charles Mellon made a motion to approve a moratorium on new loan applications until further notice, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the February 01, 2021 regular session minutes as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign claims and payroll as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

The following bonds presented for approval:

- Surveyor Jennifer Keller
- Recorder Sue Fox
- Coroner Jon Frain
- Building Doug Hoover

Maurice Loehmer motioned to approve and sign the bonds as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the following Conference Request as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Clerk---JoLynn Behny---Northern District Clerk’s Conference-Noblesville, IN-March 29 & 30, 2021

Charles Mellon motioned for Mike McClure to serve on the Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District Board of Directors for 2021 as the commissioners’ appointment, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer motioned for Charles Mellon to serve on the IT Support Group, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Two cell phones for the CASA Director and her part-time assistant requested for approval. The phones are free but the service is \$37.99 per month per line. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the request, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Flexible Farm Cash Rent Agreement for 2021 with Tim & Sue Alexander presented for approval. The annual base cash rent is \$150.00/acre on 111.3 acres, payable April 1 and November 1. In addition, the County receives 33% of total gross income, payable the first week of February. Mike McClure made a motion to approve the contract as presented, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously. The Commissioners plan to address this contract for possible changes in September.

Councilman Ron DeSabatine reported on County sewer issues. There is an abandoned bathroom that had been torn apart in the basement of Courthouse was creating strong odor, which he fixed temporary but will need further attention. The Transfer Station has busted sewer lines on the east side of the building where the bathroom is and travel underneath the whole building, where trucks back up to remove their garbage, to the septic tank on the west side of the building. There are two viable options: Come out of the east side of building and go north to a small septic system or hook to the Winamac sewer about 400’. Hooking to the Winamac sewer will create a monthly sewer bill from Winamac. A small system would cost about \$3000-3500. County Attorney Kevin Tankersley stated that the amount is small enough that bids are unnecessary. Maurice Loehmer motioned to hire DeSabatine Brothers to install a small septic system at Transfer Station and to waive County fees at the Health Department (there can be State fees), Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Highway Superintendent Gary Kruger asked to purchase diagnostics laptop computer to work on the newer trucks/tractors. The estimated cost is \$8,000-\$10,000 and is in their budget. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve a diagnostic computer purchase, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

A Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant for \$1,726.37 presented for approval. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the grant as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance director Mia Salyers submitted a letter of resignation. Maurice Loehmer motioned to accept Salyers’ resignation, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Maurice Loehmer then motioned to appoint Francis Czech temporarily to the position of Maintenance Director with pay to follow Matrix and years of experience, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried.

The Maintenance Department and the work involved in maintaining the County properties discussed. Outsourcing and community involvement mentioned as some of the options available.

With no other business to discuss, Maurice Loehmer motioned to adjourn at 9:51am, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AND SIGNED THIS 1ST DAY OF MARCH 2021 by the PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

CHARLES MELLON

MAURICE LOEHMER

MIKE MCCLURE

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