

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Monday March 15, 2021 at 8:30am at the Pulaski County Highway Department training room. Commissioners present were Charles Mellon, Maurice Loehmer, Mike McClure with County Auditor Laura Wheeler and County Attorney Kevin Tankersley.

Also present were Teresa Bryant, Theresa Calloway, Steve Gregory, Gary Kruger, Dave Olds, Gail Lambert, Jeff Richwine, and Nathan Origer.

President Mellon opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Regular session was recessed to conduct Board of Finance meeting.

IN RE: BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

Maurice Loehmer called the Board of Finance meeting to order and the following minutes presented for approval and signatures:

BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR SESSION FEBRUARY 19, 2021

The Pulaski County Board of Finance met at the County Highway Department in Winamac, Indiana at 8:30 a.m. eastern time, on Tuesday, February 19, 2021 for the purpose of opening proposals for the Pulaski County Cash Management System.

Present for the Board of Finance Were President Maurice Loehmer, Charles Mellon and Mike McClure Members; and Teresa Bryant, County Treasurer/Member and Secretary.

A quorum being present to do business, said meeting was opened.

Charles Mellon made a motion to approve and sign the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting. Mike McClure seconded the motion and motion carried with unanimous approval. Said minutes were duly signed by the Board.

Comes now Teresa Bryant, County Treasurer, said proposals were mailed to the following banks in Pulaski County First National Bank of Monterey, First Federal Savings Bank, and First Source Bank.

Proposals received are now presented to the Board of Finance and are as follows:

- First National Bank of Monterey
- First Source Bank
- First Federal Savings Bank

After opening of proposals, Mike McClure made a motion to take said proposals under advisement so as to investigate the proposals further. Charles Mellon seconded the motion and motion carried with unanimous agreement.

The Board of Finance will next meet to award the bid on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 8:30 am, or as soon as business permits, at the County Highway Department in Winamac.

There being no further business, Charles Mellon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike McClure seconded the motion and motion carried with unanimous agreement.

Mike McClure motioned to approve the minutes from the prior meeting as presented, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously. Cash management bids received from First Source, First National Bank of Monterey, and First Federal Savings Bank discussed, with a recommendation from County Treasurer Teresa Bryant to keep the County's Cash management services with First National Bank of Monterey. First National only charges wire fees while the other two banks charge service fees as well. Mike McClure motioned to keep Cash Management services with First National Bank of Monterey, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

The following Investment Policy presented for approval and signatures:

Pulaski County Investment Policy
For the year of 2021

1. **Scope**
This investment policy, which was adopted by the Pulaski County Board of Finance, supersedes any previous investment policy and applies to all financial assets of the County.
2. **Policy**
It is the policy of Pulaski County to invest public funds in a manner which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the County and conforming to all state and local statutes governing the investment of public funds.
3. **Prudence**
The investments shall be made with the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be deprived.
 - The standard of prudence to be used by the Treasurer shall be the prudent person standard and shall be applied in the context of managing the overall investment.
 - Under no circumstances may the Treasurer invest in a derivative, or other funds prohibited by law. The Treasurer shall also not make investments, which s/he does not reasonably believe can be Held until the maturity date or leverage any investment.
4. **Objectives**
The primary objectives, in priority order, of the County's investment activities shall be as follows:
 - Safety: Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the Investment program. Investments of the County's funds shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of Capital in the overall portfolio.
 - Return on investment: The County's investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining a market rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles taking into account the county's investment risk constraints and the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio
 - Local Institutions: Local institutions maintaining an office in Indiana shall be given preference when, in the judgment of the Treasurer, they are equally competitive with other institutions.
5. **Authorized Investments**
The Treasurer is hereby authorized to invest the portfolio according to the state statutes governing public funds as stated in IC 5-13 as stated now and amended in the future. As Stated in IC 5-13-9-2, allowable securities are:
 - 1) Securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Treasury or fully Guaranteed by the United States and issued by any of the following:
 - a) The United States Treasury.
 - b) A federal agency.
 - c) A federal instrumentality.
 - d) A federal government sponsored enterprise.
 - 2) Securities fully guaranteed and issued by any of the following:
 - a) A federal agency.
 - b) A federal instrumentality.
 - c) A federal government sponsored enterprise.
 - 3) Municipal securities issued by an Indiana local governmental entity, a quasi-governmental entity related to the state, or a unit of government, municipal corporation, or special taxing district in Indiana, if the issuer has not defaulted on any of the issuer's obligations within the twenty (20) years preceding the date of the purchase.
6. **Final Maturity**
In accordance with IC 5-13-9-5.7, the investment of Public Funds in maturities by greater than two (2) years but no more than five (5) years shall be limited to not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total portfolio of public funds invested by the County, including balances in transaction accounts. The remainder of the portfolio shall mature no longer than two (2) years from the investment settlement date.

Charles Mellon made a motion to approve the Investment Policy as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Certificates of Deposit discussed briefly.

With no other business to discuss, Mike McClure motioned to adjourn the Board of Finance meeting, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners' regular meeting session reconvened.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

Superintendent Gary Kruger presented a proposed advertisement for asphalt paving, which is funded through the Community Crossings grant. Mike McClure motioned to approve the advertisement as presented, Maurice Loehmer seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The sealed bids will be opened at the Commissioners' April 5, 2021 meeting.

The purchase of a berm disc for \$8,700.00 used for grading and widening roads discussed. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the purchase, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Richwine introduced the new Animal Control officer as Stephanie Schulze for appointment. Stephanie lives in Starke County and will be part-time. She will not carry a firearm and deputies will accompany her on enforcement calls. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to appoint Stephanie Schulze as Animal Control Officer, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Further discussion about County vehicles taken out of County pursued.

Military vehicles discussed. The County can either take possession or send them back at County expense. Further information requested as to if the vehicles could be scrapped once County takes possession.

IN RE: COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE

Steve Gregory, President of the Employees Benefits Division of Shepherd Insurance appeared to update Commissioners on the County's health insurance. Charles Mellon advised that the County will bid out the coverage for the 2021-2022 policy year. The County plan is Level Funded, which is a combination of Fixed Cost and Self-funded and allows for refunds at the end of the policy year for good loss experience. Steve shared claim comparisons for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Ways for County to save money by changes to plan design, employee contributions, HSA contributions, and vendors for the medical/ancillary coverages discussed.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign March 1, 2021 regular session minutes and February 26, 2021 executive memorandum, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

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

Charles Mellon made a motion to appoint Lacy McCarty to the Francesville-Salem Township Public Library Board as recommended by the Library's director, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mellon read notice of public hearing to discuss special exception requested by Frain Mortuary for building a crematory.

Charles Mellon made a motion to table the health insurance consultant contract, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Winamac Junior Honor Society will conduct a Sidewalk Chalk Kindness Campaign where they will write positive statements on town sidewalks where allowed. Commissioners had no objection.

REGULAR SESSION PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MARCH 15, 2021 (continued)

The following resolution expressing support for local control of land-use decisions presented for approval and signatures:

**Pulaski County Resolution No. 2021-02
By
The Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana
expressing support for local control of land-use decisions**

WHEREAS Indiana comprises diverse communities each with its own needs and opportunities;
WHEREAS, across Indiana, Counties have created and implemented plans for development that provide the type of new investment and additional employment that is desired by the citizens of the County, and in many instances the desired development has included wind or solar projects;
WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana ("Board"), supports efforts to expand alternative-energy sources, as called for by the County's comprehensive and economic-development-strategic plans:
WHEREAS Indiana House Bill 1381 of 2021, currently pending in the Indiana General Assembly, would, if enacted, disenfranchise citizens of the ability to determine the conditions under which renewable-energy projects would be allowed in their counties, and communities would be compelled to allow wind and solar projects under conditions dictated by others living outside the community;
WHEREAS the Board believes the decisions regarding wind and solar development are best made by the residents living in the community, rather than by energy-industry representatives, State officials, or others who live outside of the community; and
WHEREAS the Board supports the right of communities to direct their own future through land-use decisions made by duly appointed and elected officials representing their constituents,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD THAT

1. the Board formally opposes Indiana House Bill 1381 of 2021 and its intention to deprive communities and their responsive, elected and appointed government officials of the rightful authority to establish land-use policies, especially regarding the development of renewable-energy projects; and
2. the Board encourages the members of the Indiana Senate to reject House Bill 1381 as an attack on the local control at the heart of American democracy and on the residents of Indiana who wish to retain responsible control of their communities' futures.

Maurice Loehmer recused himself due to potential conflict of interest. Mike McClure motioned to approve the resolution as presented, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer gave update on the County's property coverage. There were no recommendations at this time but dropping comprehensive/collision on older vehicles, increasing deductibles, and getting rid of excess vehicles all being considered.

With no other business to discuss, Maurice Loehmer made a motion to adjourn at 9:22am, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 5th day of April 2021 by the PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CHARLES MELLON

MAURICE LOEHMER

MIKE MCCLURE

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