

**FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Monday February 6, 2023 6:00PM at the Pulaski County Highway Department training room. Commissioners present were Maurice Loehmer, Michael McClure with 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Auditor Mary Mays and County Attorney Kevin Tankersley. Commissioner Charles Mellon absent.

Also present were Brandon DeLorenzo, Terry Young, Gary Kruger, Judge Mary Welker, Jeff Phillips, Jason Kuchmay Connie Ehrlich, Candy Myer, Ed Cotner, Leeann Wright, Ken Becker, Chris Rogers, Kevin Wyatt, Jerry Locke, Dale Chen, Greg Henry, Brenda Henry, Nancy Lynch, Karla Redweik, John Masterson, Timothy Shirley, Norm Welker, Megan Galbreath, Darrin Jacobs, and Nathan Origer.

Vice-President Maurice Loehmer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN RE: VETERAN’S MEMORIAL SWINGING BRIDGE DAY**

The Veteran’s Memorial Swinging Bridge will be rededicated July 3, 2023 as it will be 100 years old. The following proclamation designating July 3, 2023 as Veteran’s Memorial Swinging Bridge Day presented for review and approval. Mike McClure motioned to approve the proclamation as presented, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**A PROCLAMATION OF PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA, DESIGNATING  
JULY 3, 2023, VETERAN’S MEMORIAL SWINGING BRIDGE DAY**

**PROCLAMATION:**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana (the “Board of Commissioners”), is responsible for the performance of various functions for Pulaski County (the “County”) and**

**WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners recognizes that in the year 1923, the Winamac Town Council, Winamac Park Association, and the Winamac Kiwanis Club, joined together to construct a permanent pedestrian walkway for the Town’s new campground to the private park on the peninsula; and**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners understands and acknowledges that the bridge was constructed following World War I, and in naming the bridge “Memorial,” the intent was and still is to honor all soldiers and sailors from Pulaski County, from the Civil War forwards: and**

**WHEREAS, in recognition of the strength and tenacity of the bridge, and in special recognition of the Memorial Bridge’s One Hundred Year Anniversary, the Board of Commissioners wishes to offer congratulations for the celebration and re-dedication to be held on July 3, 2023.**

**BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize the historical impact this bridge has on Pulaski County and the honor it holds for veterans of Pulaski County. We do adopt the Resolution and proclaim July 3, 2023, to be Veterans’ Memorial Swinging Bridge day.**

**Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, via majority vote on February 6, 2023.**

**IN RE: COMMERCIAL SOLAR UPDATES**

Karla Redweik, Building Inspector, gave updates on solar projects in Pulaski County. Only one (Starke Solar LLC/Mammoth) has been issued a permit. Total acres on recorded leases is 22,323.64 but panels will not be placed on all acres due to setbacks and other regulations.

**IN RE: LIGHTSOURCE BP**

Lightsource bp plans to develop a 180 MWdc solar project in Pulaski County with approximately 1000 acres under panel, located along 100N between 300W and 600W. This is around a \$300,000,000.00 project and will generate \$50,000,000.00 in tax revenue over 35 years. They hope to begin in early 2024 and are not requesting a tax abatement.

**IN RE: JASON KUCHMAY AND CONNIE EHRLICH**

Concern is expressed over solar development taking over the County as there is no public notice and no control since the UDO was changed.

22,323.64 Pulaski County acres on recorded leases reported, which is 11% of the County’s crop area. While many counties are getting tougher on solar projects, Pulaski County has gone the opposite way.

**IN RE: HIGHWAY**

The 1992 Bomag roller needs replaced. A 2019 Cat, 2018 Bomag and 2020 new Bomag compared. The 2018 Bomag would be a good purchase as it only has 77 hours. Maurice Loehmer motioned to approve the recommended purchase of the 2018 Bomag, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: CIRCUIT COURT**

Family Treatment Court has received an \$84,700.00 grant and a second grant is being applied for, that will enable the County to receive Title IV-E cost recovery funds to reimburse public defender costs, from which County received \$4,407.00. Maurice Loehmer motioned to approve the grant application, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. CASA has been rewarded two grants totaling almost \$12,500.00.

**IN RE: CDC**

Courthouse, Justice Center and Highway roof updates reported. CASA noise issue is ongoing. Maintenance, Sheriff and Justice Center departments pricing panic buttons for the Prosecutor and Circuit Court to tie in with existing alarms, making one new system.

Two sets of room-specific drawings are being reviewed by the steering committee. Once design development has been completed and Tonn & Blank has updated pricing estimates, a presentation will be given, probably the April joint session.

A contract between Pulaski County and Tonn & Blank for the Pulaski County Highway roof project presented for Commissioners' review and approval. The contract is valued at \$211,320.00, has been reviewed by County Attorney and once executed, Tonn & Blank will start work as soon as weather allows. Maurice Loehmer motioned to approve the contract as presented, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. The roof is expected to endure a 55 MPH wind speed.

**IN RE: EMS**

The new ambulance is expected to be delivered January 2024. The lead time in ordering is so long that starting the process of ordering the next ambulance now would be beneficial. Commissioners agreed and approved getting bids.

**IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS**

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign claims and payroll #2, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign January 17, 2023 minutes, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

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

**CORONER: Jennifer Johns, \$30,000.**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> DEPUTY TREASURER: Dianne Hanson (correction)**

2023 Infinity Voting System Annual Maintenance Agreement presented for approval. This contract is \$13,000.00 per year for 3 years. Commissioners approved and signed the contract.

With no other business to discuss, Maurice Loehmer made a motion to adjourn at 6:39pm, Mike McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2023 by the PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

**ABSENT**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLES MELLON

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAURICE LOEHMER

\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL MCCLURE

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAURA WHEELER, PULASKI COUNTY AUDITOR