

**MARCH 20, 2023**

**REGULAR SESSION**

## **PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Monday March 20, 2023, 8:30am at the Pulaski County Highway Department training room. Commissioners present were Charles Mellon, Maurice Loehmer, Michael McClure with County Auditor Laura Wheeler and County Attorney Kevin Tankersley.

Also present were Gail Lambert, Connie Ehrlich, Gary Kruger, Karla Redweik, Tina Dunn, Teresa Bryant, Nathan Origer, Chris Schramm, Megan Galbreath, Gene Payne and Art Conley.

President Mellon opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING**

Public hearing was held to discuss establishing Cumulative Building Fund and Cumulative Bridge Fund, as they were previously dropped from County's budget. There was no public comment. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve establishment of Cumulative Building Fund and Cumulative Bridge Fund, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. The ordinances read as follows:

**ORDINANCE 2023-01**  
**TO ESTABLISH CUMULATIVE BUILDING FUND**  
**Under Indiana Code 36-9-16**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana that a need now exists for the establishment of a Cumulative BUILDING Fund for the following purposes:

*For all uses as set out in IC 36-9-16*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board will adhere to the provisions of Indiana Code 36-9-16. The proposed fund will not exceed \$.0215 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation. Said tax rate will be levied beginning with taxes for 2023 payable 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that proofs of publication of the public hearing held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023, and a certified copy of this ordinance/resolution shall be submitted to the Department of Local Governmental Finance of the State of Indiana as provided by law. This Cumulative Fund is subject to the approval of the Department of Local Government Finance. Duly adopted by the following vote of the members of said Board of Commissioners this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

**ORDINANCE 2023-02**  
**TO ESTABLISH CUMULATIVE BUILDING FUND**  
**Under Indiana Code 8-16-3**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana that a need now exists for the establishment of a Cumulative BRIDGE Fund for the following purposes:

*For all uses as set out in IC 8-16-3*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board will adhere to the provisions of Indiana Code 8-16-3. The proposed fund will not exceed \$.0229 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation. Said tax rate will be levied beginning with taxes for 2023 payable 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that proofs of publication of the public hearing held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023, and a certified copy of this ordinance/resolution shall be submitted to the Department of Local Governmental Finance of the State of Indiana as provided by law. This Cumulative Fund is subject to the approval of the Department of Local Government Finance. Duly adopted by the following vote of the members of said Board of Commissioners this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

Public Hearing was closed.

### **IN RE: BOARD OF FINANCE**

The Board of Finance came to order with the first order of business being awarding the Cash Management Account. First Source Bank and First National Bank of Monterey were the only bids. County Treasurer Teresa Bryant recommended staying with First National Bank of Monterey since they do not charge fees and First Source does. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to keep County's Cash Management Account with First National Bank of Monterey as recommended, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

The Aviation Board request to invest in CDs since interest rates are rising. Charles Mellon made a motion to approve the Aviation Board investing some of their money into CDs, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the February 21, 2023 meeting minutes, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, the Board of Finance meeting was adjourned at 8:42am.

Regular session resumed.

**IN RE: CDC**

A rental agreement between Kyle Sommers and Pulaski County for office space for the Pulaski County Clerk presented for review and approval. This is a month to month lease with no confirmed termination date at \$600.00 per month with County responsible for utilities. CDC's budget will cover this cost until bond is issued and then the construction fund will take over. Michael McClure made a motion to approve and sign the lease as presented, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Proposals from Koorsen Fire & Security (\$14,493.13) and New Age Telecom (\$28,002.50) for Justice Center panic buttons presented for review. New Age is able to program alarms to alert radios directly and designate which radio channels receive them, Koorsen's system does not allow this. \$1,800.00 can be deducted from New Age's proposal if this is not wanted. New Age's proposal comes with a license for one computer based account to notify an unlimited number of email addresses and phone numbers (text). Koorsen's system allows this but with an additional monthly fee of \$75. Both proposals allow for additional buttons to the existing system in Courthouse in case we want that option in the future. Koorsen can add an unlimited number of buttons with no additional licensing fee but would require the installation of a new panel in the Courthouse in addition to the per-button cost. New Age would require a small one time licensing fee to add any buttons beyond 50 to the per-button cost and might involve installing a wireless repeater, but not the installation of another panel. New Age includes one Anywhere GPS panic button (mobile panic button). This will give protection to County employees while off premises. Due to this added protection, Charles Mellon made a motion to accept New Age's proposal, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Novotny Insurance Co was unable to obtain Builder's Risk Insurance as required in the Highway roof contract with Tonn & Blank because of the small amount and short length of time involved; however, Tonn & Blank was able to insure this through their carrier for a small premium.

**IN RE: ZONING**

Gene Payne, a Medaryville resident appeared along with Art Conley, President of the Medaryville Town Council, to express their frustrations of possible zoning code violations. Gene's neighbor was issued a building permit for a shed but he doesn't think it is being built to code and will drag his property value down. Karla Redweik, County Building Inspector, was present and explained the violation process and that Building Permits are only good for one year. A letter was sent to the property owner and they have 30 days to respond. Current property owner said that they will take care of the shed.

**IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS**

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve claims and payroll #6, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign March 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the Indiana Department of Revenue Power of Attorney form for County vendor MALCON, which allows them to represent Pulaski County regarding fuel tax refunds from January 2023 through December 2025. Michael McClure seconded and motion approved unanimously.

Moss Creek Solar Road Use agreement presented for review and approval. Moss Creek will present a list of roads they will be using and then an independent contractor (paid by Moss Creek) will inspect conditions of said roads once finished. Michael McClure made a motion to approve and sign agreement as presented, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried with Maurice Loehmer recusing himself.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the following conference request as presented, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**HEALTH: Celinda Briney, IVRA Spring Conference, 4/20-21/2023, Fort Wayne, IN**

Rita Carpenter has resigned from serving on the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA) and Deb DeSchepper is recommended to replace her. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to appoint Deb DeSchepper as recommended, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Coroner’s cooler replacement discussed briefly.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign “Tax Sale Services Support Addendum” with SRI, Inc., Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

K-9 insurance is in place and a Memorandum of Understanding in which Pulaski County assumes all expenses while K-9 belonging to Deputy Keaton Leszek is working for County. MOU reads as follows:

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Comes now Sheriff Chris Schramm hereinafter referred to as “Sheriff” and the Pulaski County Board of Commissioners hereinafter referred to as “Board” and county employee, Keaton Leszek hereinafter referred to as “Leszek” and enter into this memorandum of understanding as follows:

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has employed Leszek to work as a patrol duty for the Pulaski County Sheriff’s Department; and

WHEREAS, Leszek was formerly employed at the North Judson Police Department and was the K-9 handler for their dog, Tikko; and

WHEREAS, the North Judson Police Department upon the resignation of Leszek gave ownership of K-9 (Tikko) to Leszek and Tikko is no longer an asset of the North Judson Police Department and Leszek is now the sole owner of Tikko; and

WHEREAS, K-9 Tikko has received all his necessary training and has been approved to work as a K-9 officer; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff desires to have Tikko sworn in as an officer of the county and Leszek, as the owner of Tikko, agrees to allow the Pulaski County Sheriff’s Department to use his K-9 while Leszek is on duty; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff agrees in exchange for the K-9 working for the Department, the Sheriff’s Department will provide all necessary items for his employment including but not limited to dog food, continuing certification classes if necessary, veterinarian care, and all other costs associated with the use of Tikko as a K-9 officer; and

WHEREAS, the Board as the executive body of the County and the provider of liability insurance for the Sheriff’s Department agrees to assume liability insurance over the K-9 for any actions it may take during employment; and

WHEREAS, the parties agree if Leszek’s employment is terminated or he resigns, he will continue to be the owner of Tikko, but the County insurance will be terminated at the time Tikko is no longer used by the Department.

With no other business to discuss, Michael McClure made a motion to adjourn at 9:23am, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023 by the **PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.**

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CHARLES MELLON

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MAURICE LOEHMER

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN