

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

**REGULAR SESSION**

## **PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday (due to Labor Day) September 5, 2023 6:00PM 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 Gary Kruger, Jenny Keller, Franna Barger, Bob Barger, Connie Ehrlich, Gail Lambert, Larry Lambert, Chris Brucker, Judge Mary Welker, Leeann Wright, Scott Wuethrich, Mike Spiegla, Lynn Spiegla, Chris Schramm, Megan Galbreath.

President Mellon opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS**

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign Claims and Payroll #18 as presented, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

The Road Use Agreement with Bottlebrush Solar Energy LLC and Pulaski County presented for review and approval.

Michael McClure made a motion to approve and sign the Road Use Agreement with Bottlebrush Solar Energy, LLC as presented, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously. This is a Companion to the Drainage Agreement that had been approved. The Link to both documents are as follows:

**Road Use:** [http://gov.pulaskionline.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/09/Bottlebrush\\_Road\\_Use\\_Agreement\\_signed\\_9.5.2023.pdf](http://gov.pulaskionline.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/09/Bottlebrush_Road_Use_Agreement_signed_9.5.2023.pdf)

**Drainage:** [http://gov.pulaskionline.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/09/Bottlebrush\\_Drainage\\_Agreement\\_signed\\_9.5.23.pdf](http://gov.pulaskionline.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/09/Bottlebrush_Drainage_Agreement_signed_9.5.23.pdf)

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign August 21, 2023 regular session minutes as presented, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Sale of land offered at tax sale outside of tax sale discussed as someone is interested in buying 3 parcels at the \$50.00 minimum as in prior tax sales. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the sale, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

A proclamation of FRATCO, INC. presented for review and approval and reads as follows.

### **A PROCLAMATION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA, RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESS, LONGEVITY, AND COMMITMENT OF FRATCO, INC.**

**Whereas**, in the 1880s, Henry K. Lee and William Casey operated a brick and terracotta manufactory, Francesville Clay Products;

**Whereas** Mr. Lee, Mr. Casey, and Mr. Lee's son-in-law, E.C. Overmyer, displayed the entrepreneurial spirit that has long driven the Pulaski County economy by embracing the innovative agricultural practice of tiled field drainage and converted their facility into a producer of clay drainage tiles;

**Whereas**, in 1923, Mr. Overmyer purchased the shares of the company owned by his father-in-law and Mr. Lee and renamed the company the 'Francesville Drain Tile Company' — later to become 'FRATCO' —;

**Whereas**, again embracing our entrepreneurial spirit, E.C. Overmyer's son, Richard, pooled his resources with two other Midwestern clay-tile producers to invest in new plastic-tile technology and propelled his company and local agriculture further forward;

**Whereas** Richard Overmyer's son, Steve, strengthened FRATCO's relationships with its customers, served his community, and readied the enterprise first established by his great-grandfather for growth in the Twenty-first Century;

**Whereas** Steve Overmyer's son, Chris, has led FRATCO since 2006 and expanded its market into multiple Midwestern states by establishing plants in Illinois and Iowa, introducing new product lines, and continuing to invest in the original Francesville facility;

**Whereas** FRATCO has continued to be a supporter of the communities in which it operates through sponsorships, donations, service on civic and industry boards and committees, and providing employment opportunities;

**Whereas** FRATCO is now under fourth-generation Overmyer and fifth-generation Lee ownership;

**Whereas** 2023 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FRATCO and sole ownership by the Overmyer family, and approximately the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the predecessor-company and ownership by the extended Lee family;

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Whereas Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation did this year recognize FRATCO with an Indiana Century Business Award; and  
Whereas, in recognition of FRATCO's successes, longevity, and commitment to Francesville and Pulaski County, Chris Overmyer has been named the Grand Marshal of the 2023 Francesville Fall Festival Parade,

**Now, therefore, we, the Board of Commissioners of Pulaski County, Indiana, do**

1. extend our commendation to FRATCO for its impressive history in Pulaski County,
2. recognize FRATCO as a leader in its industry and in our community,
3. thank the Overmyer Family for the countless contributions made to Pulaski County,
4. declare September 2023 to be FRATCO Month in Pulaski County, and
5. express our wish and hope for another 100 years of FRATCO's successes in Francesville.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the proclamation recognizing FRATCO's 100 year longevity, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Proclamation will be read at this year's Francesville Fall Festival September 15-17.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to appoint Dale Gudeman and Robert Woods to the Francesville Zoning Planning Commission as recommended, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

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

**HEALTH: Celinda Briney, Vital Records Fall Conference, October 18-20, 2023, Florence, IN**

Connie Ehrlich asked why drainage agreement with Bottlebrush pertains to protection of wells of private participating landowners. Why does this not protect all landowners wells and tiles and not just the participating landowners?

With no other business to discuss, Michael McClure made a motion to adjourn at 6:10PM, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023 by the **PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.**

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CHARLES MELLON

MAURICE LOEHMER

MICHAEL MCCLURE

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