

**POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020.**

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, April 7, 2020. Commissioners Carl Schmitz, Randy Thornburg, and Jay Price (via telephone); Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were in attendance.

**MINUTES**

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2020 regular meeting and the March 17, 2020 special meeting; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

J. Price made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2020 special meeting; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

**CLAIMS**

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the claims as presented; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

**HIGHWAY YEARLY BIDS**

C. Schmitz stated the following recommendations were made regarding the yearly by Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk:

Section A chip and seal: Rudolph with the low bid

Section B cold mix and hot mix for patching: Rudolph and David Enterprise

Section C AE90 for total patch loaded on County tank truck: Rudolph with the low bid

Section D: AE90 delivered to Poseyville garage for 6,000-gallon total patch tank: J. H Rudolph with low bid

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the recommendation for sections a, b, c, d of the yearly bids; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Section 8:

Accept all three bids:

J. H. Rudolph with firm bid

David Enterprise for back up with firm bid

E&B Paving with escalation bid

J. Price made a motion to approve the recommendation for section 8 of the yearly bids; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

**HANDBOOK AMENDMENT SECOND READING**

C. Schmitz stated this is the second reading of the ordinance amending the Employee Handbook to reflect a minimum age requirement of 18 to be employed by the County. C. Schmitz stated this will be ordinance 2020-04-07-01.

J. Price made a motion to approve this ordinance; C. Schmitz seconded.

R. Thornburg stated according to the Indiana Department of Labor all Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior students are allowed to work, and for this reason I oppose this amendment. Mr. Thornburg stated he feels it would be good for the County if they had the chance to teach work skills to this age group. Mr. Thornburg stated State Form 896 lays out what would be allowed and what wouldn't. Mr. Thornburg stated they would not be allowed to operate power equipment.

C. Schmitz stated he is in favor due to the liability issues.

The motion carried with a vote of 2-1, with Mr. Thornburg opposing.

**EMERGENCY ORDER EXTENSION**

C. Schmitz stated the current Emergency Order expires today. Mr. Schmitz stated the first order was signed on March 17, 2020 and has been extended via executive order twice. Mr. Schmitz stated this can only be done by executive order twice. Mr. Schmitz stated the Emergency Order the Commissioners will sign today will be through April 14, 2020, but can once again be extended via executive order twice.

J. Price made a motion to sign the new Emergency Order and allowing it to be extended via executive order another two times; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Schmitz stated the Commissioners also have an emergency order dealing with the closures of certain businesses in the County. Mr. Schmitz stated this is due to expire on Friday, April 10, 2020. Mr. Schmitz stated he believes that the Governor's orders covers this issue and the Commissioners can let their orders expire.

R. Thornburg made a motion to let the County order expire and allow the County to follow the Governor's orders; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

**COUNTY EMERGENCY FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE EXPANSION ACT  
POLICY**

County Attorney, Joe Harrison, informed the Commissioners this is part of the Families First Corona Virus Response Act. Mr. Harrison stated this will give emergency FMLA for a time period of ten weeks. Mr. Harrison stated beginning April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 employees are entitled to paid family leave for several different reason that are laid out in the act. Mr. Harrison stated the main reason would be for care of children during the time that schools and daycares are closed. Mr. Harrison stated notices have been posted in all County Buildings. R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the County Emergency Family and Medical Leave Policy; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

**COUNTY EMERGENCY PAID SICK LEAVE POLICY**

County Attorney, Joe Harrison, informed the Commissioners this is also part of the Families First Corona Virus Response Act. Mr. Harrison stated this entitles County Employees to a two-week paid sick leave, that is in addition to any other benefit time the employee might earn. Mr. Harrison stated this is two weeks at the normal pay rate of the employee if they fall into the first three categories; if the employee falls into categories four, five and six, they are entitled to 2/3 of their normal pay rate.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy for the County; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

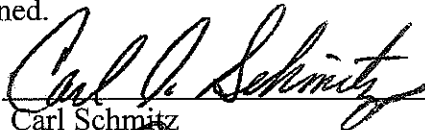
**DEPARTMENT UPDATES**


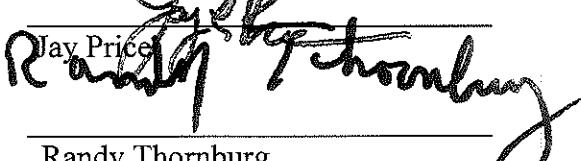
C. Schmitz read the March Animal Control report as follows:

- 27 Complaints
- 7 Animals picked up
- 1 Animal euthanized
- 3 Bite reports
- 1 Animal testing positive for rabies

Mr. Schmitz took time to thank the County's First Responders and Health Care Professionals. Mr. Schmitz stated he would also like to thank the Community for their response to this pandemic. Mr. Schmitz stated he has been in contact with the local food banks and they all stated they are fully stocked at this time. Mr. Schmitz urged the Community to continue to work together.

No other business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

  
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Carl Schmitz

  
  
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Randy Thornburg



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell