

## POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

The Posey County Commissioners met in regular session at the Hovey House on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The following members were present at said meeting: Carl Schmitz; Jay Price; Randy Thornburg; Commissioners Attorney Joe Harrison; and Auditor Maegen Greenwell.

C. Schmitz called the Posey County Commissioners meeting to order at 9:00am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### MINUTES

J. Price made a motion to approve the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Commissioners minutes; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Joint Meeting minutes; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### CLAIMS

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

### EXTENSION OFFICE CONTRACT

Hans Schmitz, with the Posey County Extension Office, addressed the Commissioners regarding the 2020 contract with the Commissioners and Purdue University. Mr. Schmitz stated the contract covers 2.8 Educators, the Community Wellness Coordinator, and the Nutrition Education Program assistant. Mr. Schmitz stated this contract price was presented to the Council during budget hearings. Mr. Schmitz stated the price is \$101,460.00.

J. Price made a motion to approve this contract; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### BOOKING FEE ORDINANCE SECOND AMENDMENT

Sheriff Tom Latham explained that per State Board of Accounts, the Ordinance should read that the fee may be collected by the Circuit and Superior Court Judges and the payment must be paid at the Sheriff's office. Mr. Harrison stated the Judge will order this payment pursuant to the ordinance and the Sheriff's office will collect the fee. Mr. Harrison stated the Sheriff's office would then include this on the monthly report of collections that is given to the Auditor's office.

R. Thornburg made a motion to wave the first reading of ordinance 2019-11-04-01; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the amendment to the Booking Fee Ordinance; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### CONSTELLATION ENERGY

Brian Hirshberg, with Constellation Energy, addressed the Commissioners regarding the current natural gas marketplace. Mr. Hirshberg stated natural gas production is at an all-time high and the overall storage is roughly 18% above last year's levels.

Mr. Hirshberg stated the County saw an increase in usage over the last two summers. C. Schmitz stated that could be attributed to the jail expansion.

Mr. Hirshberg stated currently the County is locked in for 75% of volume for November through March at \$2.95.

Mr. Hirshberg outlined the options for 2021 and 2022 and gave the Commissioners the option to lock in those amounts. Mr. Hirshberg also gave the Commissioners the option to wait and see what the market looks like next summer.

J. Price made a motion to lock in for 2021 at 75% at \$2.82; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

C. Schmitz made a motion to lock in 10% at a limit price of \$2.60 for 2021 and locking in 75% for 2022 at \$2.50; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **PROBATION DISCUSSION**

Michelle Fortune, Chief Probation Officer, addressed the Commissioners regarding a grant the department received. Mrs. Fortune explained the department received The Justice Partners Addictions Response Grant. Mrs. Fortune stated part of that grant money will be set aside to purchase a Courthouse facility dog. Mrs. Fortune is requesting permission from the Commissioners to allow the dog access to County buildings.

Shawna Rigsby, with the Posey County Probation department, stated there will be two handlers for the dog, and those handlers are going through training currently. Mrs. Rigsby stated the dog will reside with Probation Officer, Courtney Price, or with herself when needed.

R. Thornburg asked who funds the care and maintenance of the dog. Mrs. Price stated they are in the process of obtaining a grant that will cover maintenance of the animal. Mrs. Price stated the dog is a labradoodle and therefore will be hypoallergenic. Mrs. Price stated the dog will be used by other court entities.

R. Thornburg made a motion approving this request; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **TAX EXEMPT PAPERWORK FOR HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT**

C. Schmitz stated this is paperwork regarding the lease of highway equipment that needs to be filed with the IRS. J. Price made a motion to approve the financing agreement with CAT; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Steve Schenk, Posey County Highway Superintendent, informed the Commissioners paving is almost complete. Mr. Schenk stated the can apply for the Community Crossing Grant for next year in January.

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, informed the Commissioners the jail is currently housing the following inmates:

10 DOC  
1 Sullivan County  
50 Vanderburgh County  
73 Posey County

Sheriff Latham stated last month, Sullivan County was billed \$1,680.00 and Vanderburgh County was billed \$68,670.00.

Kay Kilgore, Posey County Clerk, reminded the Commissioners that tomorrow is Election Day. Mrs. Kilgore stated Mt. Vernon General Baptist will be the one polling place for the City Elections this year. Mrs. Kilgore stated they had 510 early voters and 63 absentee ballots.

J. Price introduced Chris Neaviell as the interim EMS Director.

C. Schmitz read the October Animal Control as follows:

21 Complaints  
3 Animals Picked Up

3 Bite Reports

Randy Thornburg read the following Workforce Development report:

Unemployment Rate:

United States Rate: 3.5%

Indiana Rate 3.2%

Posey County 2.4%

Top 5 Jobs:

1. Inspector/Tester

2. Nurse

3. Production Worker

4. Production Worker

5. Post-Secondary Teachers

C. Schmitz stated there are 2300 jobs available currently in Posey County.

J. Price stated he would like to send a letter INDOT on behalf of the Commissioner's regarding the Highway 66 and Rexing Road intersection. Mr. Price would like the letter to request a light be placed at that intersection.

J. Price made a motion to allow the Commissioners to send a letter of concern to INDOT; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

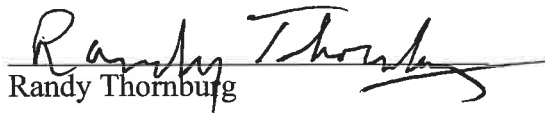
No further business was discussed and the meeting adjourned.



Carl A. Schmitz



Jay Price



Randy Thornburg

ATTEST: 