

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2021.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, July 7, 2021. Commissioners Carl Schmitz, Bill Collins, and Randy Thornburg were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Deacon Mark McDonald lead the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the minutes from June 15, 2021; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve joint meeting minutes from December 12, 2020; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

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

CLERK'S REPORT

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the May Clerk's report; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

ORDINANCE TO CONSIDER BOARD PARTICIPATION VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS

B. Collins stated the Commissioners have two options to consider for the ordinance, one recommended by the State and the second submitted by a Commissioner.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the provided option two of the ordinance; C. Schmitz seconded. B. Collins stated he has checked with other local groups and surrounding Counties who have all used the Ordinance as recommended by the State. B. Collins asked if the meeting room is equipped to allow for not only the audience but the live stream audience to hear and see a Commissioner who is attending via electronic means. Maegen Greenwell, Posey County Auditor, stated yes, this is something that could be done. Joe Harrison, Posey County Commissioner Attorney, stated the ordinance does not specify Zoom as the only means; it could also be via telephone. Mrs. Greenwell stated this is something that would have to be addressed because, as of today, the current system is not functioning as it should. R. Thornburg stated the internet is not reliable for this type of technology.

C. Schmitz asked what the difference between the two ordinances are.

Heather Allyn, Posey County Council President, stated the Council would consider this ordinance at the next Council meeting. Mrs. Allyn stated the intent of this ordinance is to allow for participation given you are under extenuating circumstances. Mrs. Allyn stated there had been instances where Council members have missed multiple meetings due to being out of town, and this ordinance would have been valuable at that time; it would have allowed for that member to still participate in meetings.

C. Schmitz withdrew his second to the original motion.

C. Schmitz made a motion to table this ordinance; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-1, with R. Thornburg opposing.

COMPENSATION TIME LETTER

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, stated the County has two highway employees who have over 240 compensation hours accrued. Mrs. Greenwell stated the I.R.S. maximum is 240 hours. Mrs. Greenwell stated the County would pay those hours out and bring their compensation time back to 240. Mrs. Greenwell stated there is also an employee that was allowed to roll personal time over at the end of 2020, which the handbook states is not allowed, and to avoid a

mark on an audit, the Commissioners need to submit a letter stating they are allowing this employee to roll personal time from 2020 to 2021.

Mrs. Greenwell stated moving forward, in accordance with the handbook, highway employees will be paid overtime only and will not earn compensation time. Mrs. Greenwell stated the handbook states that if overtime funds are approved, overtime will be paid instead of compensation time.

Steve Schenk, Highway Superintendent, stated he spoke with Commissioner Collins and feels that 240 hours are too many. Mr. Schenk stated once these individuals are paid down to 240 hours, those individuals need to take overtime pay versus compensation time because they will be right back to over 240 hours. Mrs. Greenwell stated moving forward; compensation time will not be offered; it will strictly be overtime pay. Mr. Schenk stated that was fine. R. Thornburg asked if that could be lower than 240. Mrs. Greenwell stated yes.

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the above actions; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

COVID SMALL BUSINESS GRANT

B. Collins stated the Commissioners need to approve the list of businesses that will be receiving the OCRA Small Business Grant funds. Mr. Collins stated not enough businesses applied for the County to award the entire \$250,000.00. Mr. Collins listed the following businesses that applied:

2 Morrows Heating and Cooling L.L.C.
Adaptive Innovation Solutions L.L.C.
Body Flooring Installations
Depot Diner, L.L.C.
Dutchman Farms Incorporated
Egli Enterprise L.L.C.
Froggy's L.L.C
Gottman Electric Co, Inc
Lifestyle Tours
Lupfer Equipment L.L.C.
Posey Lanes, Inc.
Rustic Fab L.L.C.
Simply Prepped Meals L.L.C.
Tourcy, L.L.C.
We'll Repair

R. Thornburg asked if this was open to only small retail businesses. Mrs. Greenwell stated it is not retail-specific, just small businesses. R. Thornburg questioned Dutchman Farms on this list, as it is owned by Commissioners Schmitz. C. Schmitz stated he did not apply for this grant, he does not run the books for the farm and is willing to recuse himself from this vote.

B. Collins made a motion to approve the list.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the list excluding Dutchman Farms.

Mrs. Greenwell stated she is not sure the list could be altered; this is something she would have to talk to the grant administrator about. Mrs. Greenwell stated all the businesses that applied fell within the OCRA Grant's state guidelines.

R. Thornburg made a motion to table the approval of the list until the next meeting; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0, with C. Schmitz recusing himself.

COUNTRYMARK REIMBURSEMENT

Attorney Joe Harrison stated during the initial phases of the bypass project, it was discovered that a CountryMark pipeline would need to be relocated. CountryMark is seeking reimbursement from the County for survey work done on this pipeline to allow for relocation.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this request; C. Schmitz seconded.

B. Collins asked if this could be paid from the bonds. Mr. Harrison stated yes or possible T.I.F. funds, but no County funds would be used.

The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION LEGAL NOTICE

B. Collins stated the County is going to request bids for a project manager for the Broadband project that is upcoming.

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the legal notice; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, stated the bids for bridge number 243 on Broadway Avenue would be opened at the next Commissioners meeting. Mr. Schenk stated the department has another bridge that needs to be addressed. Mr. Schenk stated bridge number 211 on Wildeman Road is in need of replacement; however, it is on the historical list. Mr. Schenk stated because of the historical aspect; the engineering cost is roughly \$66,000.00. Mr. Schenk stated a typical engineering cost is \$46,000.00. Mr. Schenk stated the extra cost is an additional process due to its historical nature. Mr. Schenk stated the bridge will have to be disassembled, then placed on a state-wide website for sale, and will remain for sale for five years; if it has not sold in five years, the County will scrap the bridge.

C. Schmitz asked Mr. Schenk to give an update on gravel versus paved roads in Posey County. Mr. Schenk stated the County has a paving evaluation done every two years, and the last one was in 2020 and stated the following:

705 miles total

333 miles of asphalt/paved roads

128 miles of chip and seal roads

233 miles of gravel roads

Mr. Schenk stated he believes there were several miles not accounted for that were underwater.

Posey County E.M.S. Director, Chris Neaveill, addressed the Commissioners on the ongoing process of switching medical directors. Mr. Neaveill stated the current medical director is asking for a 90-day notice of termination. Mr. Neaveill stated there is no current contract with the current director; however, it will take the department that amount of time to get standards updated for the new medical director and give time to draw up a new contract. Mr. Neaveill stated the new medical director would begin on October 2, 2021.

R. Thornburg made a motion to allow for a 90-day notice of termination to be sent; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Neaveill stated his department has one open position.

Posey County Treasurer, Vicki Peerman, stated the County would hold a tax sale on October 18, 2021. Mrs. Peerman stated as of June 30, 2021, there were 135 properties on the tax sale list; however, that number will go down significantly.

Posey County Community Corrections Director, Justin Rutledge, stated he has two grants that he has applied for and needs signatures from the Commissioners. Mr. Rutledge stated these grants are for Work Release and Community Corrections.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this request; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Posey County Chief Deputy Sheriff, Jeremy Fortune, gave the following housing update:

127 total

28 Vanderburgh County

20 DOC

79 Posey County

\$41,737.50 brought in from Vanderburg County in June.

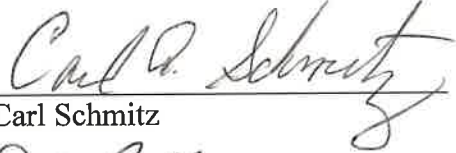
R. Thornburg asked how the radio situation for the Sheriff's office was. Mr. Fortune stated he had received some complaints; however, he has been on vacation and would defer that question to the Sheriff.

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, stated the next Commissioners meeting would be July 27, 2021. Mrs. Greenwell stated settlement had been completed, and budget hearings are coming up.

Posey County resident, Chris Greathouse, spoke regarding Greathouse Road. Mr. Greathouse stated this road was blacktop in the '80s and then was changed gravel. Mr. Greathouse stated he

would like to speak with the Commissioners regarding the process to change from gravel to pavement. R. Thornburg stated he would look at this road with Steve Schenk.

C. Schmitz stated he had been approached about planting two oak trees on the Courthouse lawn. R. Thornburg made a motion to approve; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.




Carl Schmitz



Jay Price



Randy Thornburg



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell