

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 5, 2023

The Cass County Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room. Present for the meeting were Ruth Baker, Mike Deitrich, Attorney Jeff Stanton, and Auditor Cheryl Alcorn. Michael Stajduhar was absent

Ruth Baker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a moment of silence.

MINUTES – Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve meeting minutes as presented, Ruth Baker seconded. The motion carried.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL- Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented, Ruth Baker seconded. The motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT II – Judge Swaim requested approval to fill full time vacant court reporter position.

Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve request to fill full time court reporter position, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER – Daphne Slusher explained the Treasurer’s office has had difficulty with the current on-line payment service and is requesting approval to change service provider to Govolution by Deluxe using Velocity Payment System.

Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve request to change on-line payment service to Govolution for the Treasurer’s Office, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried.

DYKEMAN PARK RENOVATION – Michael Bowditch, representing the Dykeman Clubhouse Fundraising Committee, presented a request for funding of renovations in the park and construction of a new clubhouse. Currently the project has received \$2.5 million in contributions towards the \$3.5 million-dollar project.

Mike Deitrich made a positive recommendation to the County Council to contribute \$300,000 over the next three years to the Dykeman Park Renovation Project, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried.

AMEND OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN POLICY – Rocky Buffum presented recommendation to amend the current Outdoor Warning Siren Policy to include trained county personnel the authority to activate warning sirens.

Mike Deitrich made a favorable recommendation to amend the Outdoor Warning Siren Policy as presented, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried.

Ruth Baker added the policy states once the sirens have been activated there will not be an all clear issued. Citizens needs to take it upon themselves to determine when it is safe to return to normal activities.

FIRE DISTRICT #1 – Chief Steve Fisher presented 2nd Quarterly Report for 2023.

FIRE RESPONSE CALLS:

- 24 Fire
- 76 Medical
- 11 MVC
- 111 Response

Chief Fisher reported two replacements and one addition firefighters have been hired. Department has hired it's first female firefighter, Charity Mussleman and the other new hires are Brayden Shoaff and Brock Cohee. Two firefighters have received EMT certification; Derrick Maxwell and Michael Gehlhausen.

During the month of July, all shifts assisted the 4-H board in preparing for the county fair by hosing down the buildings and arena show barn. Department also provided Fire/EMS coverage at the fairgrounds all week from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. C-shift provided coverage at France Park for annual fireworks display.

All fire apparatus pumps have been tested and recertified. Engine #3 is experiencing significant oil loss; chief vehicle is being used for medical response to help conserve fuel and to limit the use of Engine #3. Three SCBA's are out of service and need repaired.

Financial Officer Bridget Enyeart presented a 5-year Comprehensive Plan and 2024 Budget prepared by Peters Franklin Finance Advisors and Consultants.

DISPATCH E-911 – Tara Grigsby presented monthly report for August.

911 Calls	1357
Admin Calls	5138
CAD Screens	3225
Overtime	21 shifts

Tara reported one new hire is in training. Dispatchers continue course training for State Mandated Certifications and CPR class is scheduled for September.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Serenity Alter was unavailable to attend. Monthly report for August was submitted for review. Mike Collins completed 54 restaurant inspections, responded to one compliant and issued 22 food permits. Three environmental inspections and one follow-up, two lead follow-ups and one inspection, four pool inspections, and one meth follow-up. Dan Musselman completed 14 environmental calls, 6 soil reports, 13 residential searches and 2 residential repairs, 4 new construction permits, 40 EPA lead removals, and 6 OSS permits.

Vital Records department received \$1,900 in document fees. The department printed 120 birth certificates, 110 certified death certificates, and 1 paternity affidavit.

The Health Department held eleven routine immunization clinics. During this report period 274 patients were seen with 584 vaccines given. Twenty-two latent TB patients and twenty-nine lead cases received care and medications if needed and five cases being followed. TB medication is provided free of charge through Purdue Pharmacy.

Public Health Nurses received training for testing and treatment on HIV/HEPC as well as STI prevention with services to begin in September. Department provided TB Testing for clients at Community Corrections and provide STI, HIV, HEPC testing at the Jail when needed.

School Liaisons have been selected and will provide a connection with local schools in providing health education to students. Assisted the City Code Enforcement Officer in the clean up and condemnation of city properties.

Serenity reported the storage unit at Smith Street has been cleaned out and removed. Health Plan has been created with overview of programs offered at County Health Department. This plan has been submitted and approved by IDOH to meet KPI requirement for next year.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – Jeff Smith appeared before the Commissioners with the Highway Department monthly report for August. Crews completed 2.75 miles of pug mix and 1.3 miles of asphalt pavement in Jackson, Tipton, Clinton, and Noble Townships.

Restoration of roadway within the NIPSCO pipeline project is nearly complete. NIPSCO will remediate parts of CR 600S and 650S, highway crews will grind and level 600E south of 800S in exchange for payment to cover material costs.

Three large culvert pipes were replaced on Lewisburg Road just south of Logansport Road. With cooperation of Zimpleman Excavating, IMI for stockpiling, Hendrixson Dairy cutting field silage for vehicles in case of an emergency, and cooperation of local residents the project only took one day.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – BID OPENING – County Attorney Stanton opened and read aloud the following bids received for trucks & equipment:

TRUCK BIDS	MODEL	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
------------	-------	------------	-------

Terry Truck Equipment Inc.

2960 W 200 North, Winamac, Indiana

Quantity 2	Complete Bed Package Per County Specs	\$115,000.00	\$230,000.00
------------	--	--------------	--------------

W.A. Jones

1171 South Williams Drive, Columbia City, Indiana

Quantity 2	Complete Bed Package Per County Specs	\$104,266.50	\$208,553.00
------------	--	--------------	--------------

Jeff Smith commented there being no bids received for truck chassis the prospect for chassis will be revisited.

Mike Deitrich made a motion to take all bids under advisement, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried.

EMS – Brady Wiles presented the monthly report for August. EMS responded to 385 calls and provided 254 transports. Average response time of 6:36.

Brady reported 2170 billable miles consisting of 134 ALS calls plus 9 Level II ALS calls and 83 BLS calls. Total billed for the month was \$263,482. Ambulance #4511 is repaired and back in service. All new paramedics have completed field training and are staffing ambulances. EMT training class is scheduled to begin this month. Department currently has twenty part time hires.

Department receives weekly requests to provide on site emergency services for special events. Due to overtime costs the number of events serviced will need to be reduced.

FRANCE PARK– Dana Hildebrand was unavailable to attend. The following monthly report for August was submitted for review. Estimated revenue received for the month was \$88,860. Park continues to be busy throughout the season. Report for Labor Day weekend will be presented next month. Storage units have been installed for the kayak rental service.

CORONER – George Franklin was unavailable to attend. Monthly report for August was submitted for review.

CAUSE OF DEATH

NATURAL	5
DRUG RELATED	2
ACCIDENT	1
SUICIDE	1
TOTAL DEATHS FOR August:	9
AUTOPSIES PERFORMED:	5
TRANSPORTS:	7

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT & RECOGNITION – Commissioner Baker announced a historical presentation of ‘Settlers and Immigrants’ will be held at the Cass County Historical Society, 421 E Broadway, Logansport on September 15th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Michael Stajduhar will be the main speaker of presentation.

Next Commissioners meeting will be held on September 18th.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJOURNMENT – Mike Deitrich made a motion to adjourn, Ruth Baker seconded. The motion carried.



Ruth Baker, President

absent

Michael W. Stajduhar, Vice President



Mike Deitrich

ATTEST:



Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor