

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
September 18, 2023

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

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

MINUTES – Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting and Executive Session minutes, Ruth Baker seconded. The motion carried with one abstaining. Michael Stajduhar abstained due to absence.

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

CD FINANCING INVESTMENT – Commissioner Baker, on behalf of the Finance Committee, requested approval to invest \$3,000,000 into a CD for financial support of Logansport Memorial Hospital.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve CD Financing, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RES. 23-07 CERTIFICATE TAX SALE - Establishing the intent to conduct a Commissioner’s Sale to sell tax sale certificates for properties that are severely delinquent in payment of property taxes.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Resolution 23-07 Property Tax Certificate Sale, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to retain the current minimum bid of \$75 for tax sale, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

BID AWARD – HIGHWAY TRUCKS – Jeff Smith recommended the bids received at the last Commissioners Meeting to be rejected due to the lack of bids received for truck chaises.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to reject bids received as recommended, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

EMS – WALTON FIRE GARAGE BAY LEASE – Brady Wiles stated the garage bay lease six-week trial period was successful and requested approval of a one-year continual lease agreement between County EMS and Walton Volunteer Fire Department.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Garage Bay Lease Agreement as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Dave Wegner presented monthly report for August. Department received 19 new clients and 11 clients completed the program. Seven clients were returned and twelve clients were held in the jail on pending violations. Department currently has 31 males and 6 female residents in the work release program.

CLIENTS SERVED	188
• HOME DETENTION	120
• WORK RELEASE	51
• Transferred	17

Dave reported the department has secured the SIM Grant funding for therapeutic services and will partner with Court Services to expand therapeutic interventions. Building renovations are complete and personnel are settling into their new environments.

JULIAN RIDLEN AIM HIGH PARK – Deb Waggoner was unavailable to attend. The follow monthly report was submitted for review. Fall softball is into the fifth week with 31 games and 122 practices. USSSA State Tournament will be held on October 6th, 7th, and 8th. Work continues in maintenance and repairs of the complex and fields to be ready for the tournament.

Water line and spicket on the upper level of field 2 will be completed before October and the refrigerator was replaced in the concession building.

I.T. DEPARTMENT – Cj Gilsinger presented the monthly report for August. Metronet service continues to be an issue. Alternative solutions and quotes are being reviewed of three other service providers. Storage Array Network and Firewall system are nearing end of support, system upgrade options are being explored.

Roll out of new laptops to replace desktop units are back on schedule with a five-year rollout plan. Office equipment at the Jail for assistant commander and nurses have been relocated. Computer equipment is set up in the new offices of Community Corrections. Fiber cable damaged at France Park over the Labor Day weekend has been installed and waiting to be spliced together.

Election ballot public test has been successfully completed and ballots are ready for mailing. Election equipment is currenting running on 2.3 software version waiting for state certification and distribution of the upgrade 2.7 version.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – Richard Gundrum presented monthly report for August. New lights installed in Superior Court I court room. Chiller temperature switch replaced and boiler ignition parts replaced in the Government Building. Pressure washer installed in Jail garage for vehicle washing.

INDOT raised three storm sewer grates as a result of recent repaving of Third Street in front of the Government Building. Renovations completed and departments are operational at Work Release, Probation, Weight and Measures, and Coroner’s Office.

Richard announced this is his last monthly report to Commissioners upon his retirement after 10 years of employment.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT – Sheriff Schroder presented monthly report for August.

PRISONER BOOKINGS	174
PRISONERS RELEASED	160
MILES TRANSPORTING PRISONERS	3,394
MEALS SERVED TO PRISONERS	20,479
OFFICER PATROL MILES	26,363
TRAFFIC WARNINGS ISSUED	173
TRAFFIC ARRESTS/CITATIONS	86
DWI/OWI ARRESTS	8
CRIMINAL ARRESTS	66
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS	28
PROPERTY DAMAGE	22
PERSONAL INJURY	5
FATALITES	1
CIVIL PROCESS MILAGE	1,469
CIVIL PROCESS PAPERS SERVED	387
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS:	
CASES	19
PRESENTATIONS	0
TRANSPORTATIONS	0

<i>ANIMAL CONTROL:</i>	<u>County</u>	<u>City</u>
TOTAL CALLS	20	33
UNFOUND CALLS	3	5
CONSULTS	8	22
WRITTEN WARNINGS	2	7
SHELTERED ANIMALS	11	5
ANIMALS REFUSED AT SHELTER	0	5
BITE CASES	1	4
Local Ordinances Violations	0	3
State Statute Violations	1	3

Sheriff Schroder added the current Jail population is 225 including 18 out of county inmates and 25 DOC inmates. Sheriff introduced new hire Deputy Adam Morrow a 20-year LPD Officer recently retired. Extended appreciation to Richard Gundrum for his service to the county and assistance during the Jail Expansion Project.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT– Christy Householder presented monthly report for August. Christy made seven industry visits, eleven business retention and expansion visits, attended nineteen local, six state, seven regional projects meetings, with nine business leads.

Christy reported READI Grant first phase funding are in full swing. Those projects are; Lexington Village, Urban Park, and Broadband. Planning for second phase funding is underway and due by mid-February.

Christy is working with IT Department to prepare a list of addresses that are underserved or not receiving adequate internet services. Completed list will be reported to the State by October 6th.

BROADBAND – Matt Mavrick presented update report of Broadband Project. All four railroad crossings have been completed within Logansport. Railroad crossing clearance for Clymers is projected for October. Town of Lucerne has been mapped out for a complete build-out, this was not in the original plan.

Matt reported 18 new hook ups for a total of 274 customers. One hundred sixteen miles of fiber completed with 25 miles remaining and 133 miles of strand completed with 8 miles remaining.

Fielding and data planning for the READI Grant are underway. Quotes for materials are being received and negotiated. READI funding will provide additional 206 miles by August 2026.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION – Commissioner Baker presented a certificate of appreciation to Richard Gundrum for his years of service to the county as Superintendent of Maintenance. Congratulations and wished him well on his retirement.

Jeff Stanton commented the county has been very fortunate to have Richard as an employee that has his heart there for Cass County every day.


PUBLIC COMMENT – Lora Redweik, 5524 N 600 East, Twelve Mile – Can you explain the list of underserved internet services that will be submitted to the State?

Commissioner Baker explained there were three different sources for residents to register as underserved or not served internet services. The list will be reviewed and checked for duplication or missing addresses prior to submitting to the State.


ADJOURNMENT - Michael Stajduhar made a motion to adjourn, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.




Ruth Baker, President



Michael W. Stajduhar, Vice President



Mike Deitrich

ATTEST: 

Cheryl Acorn, Auditor