

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD May 8, 2023**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 am. on the 8th day of May, 2023 in the Commissioners Room in the Noble County Annex building, Albion, Indiana, being the time, date and place set for a regular session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County, Indiana.

Present were:

Gary Leatherman, President
Anita Hess, Vice President
Gary Timmerman, Member

Also present were:

Jacqueline L Knafel, County Coordinator
Dennis Graft, County Attorney
Matt Getts, KPC Media
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer
Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent

Commissioners President, Gary Leatherman, brought the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 AM.

EXTENSION

Ann Kline brought in the new 4-H Educator for introduction to the commissioners. Matt Dice has joined the extension department as the 4-H educator. Matt is a past Noble County 4-H member and will serve the 4-Hers in Noble County well. He is eager to start new programs while improving the present ones. Ann also shared a flyer about a recent trip that Abigail Creigh, Noble County's Health and Human Sciences educator, went on to Trinidad to work with cocoa farmers of the Tri-Valley Cluster.

CORRESPONDENCE

- IDEM - Air quality permitting – Dow Silicones Corp
- IDEM - Air quality permitting – Graphic Packaging International
- CMGroup – concerning a project on Waldron Lake

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the minutes. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

A 14-page report containing claims to be paid 05/08/2023 and totaling \$534,640.15 was reviewed by the commissioners and approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL

Payroll dated 05/04/2023 was also reviewed by the commissioners. This was a 3-page report that totaled \$495,354.08. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the payroll as presented. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

FINDINGS AND ORDERS

The findings and orders approved at the last commissioners meeting for the Nicoletti and Harrison properties were signed. Dennis Graft was e-mailed a copy of the signed documents and Jackie delivered the signed originals to the building department on this date 05/08/2023.

CREDIT CARD ORDINANCE

Shelley Mawhorter, Noble County Auditor, had presented a credit card ordinance for the commissioners to review. She is wanting to have one credit card in the county that the departments could use by signing it out then returning it with a copy of the hotel confirmation, invoice or claim. It would be under the auditor's control with the department head overseeing the purchase that was made. The IT department, Probation and Highway would continue to have their own credit cards but all other departments would go through the Auditor. Dennis

had rewritten the document to be in ordinance format, but will need to make some more changes prior to the commissioners signing of the document.

HIGHWAY

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent, was present to update the commissioners on the construction season at the department:

- Richard reported that the highway was actively installing culverts at this time.
- Mowing of the roadsides will begin soon
- The department will start spraying around the first of June and Richard told the commissioners that they would be seeing a claim for spray in the amount of \$3,500.00 coming up in the claims.
- There is a small issue with a structure at Steinbarger Lake. R L McCoy has given an estimate of the cost to repair lightweight sheeting to the structure in the amount of \$14,600.00. Motion to approve the repair work came from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Richard and Zack had a quote for truck build out. This is from WA Jones in the amount of \$13,306.09 on the 2023 Ford F250 Crew Cab. Motion to allow the expenditure came from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, had the following engineering business to bring before the commissioners:

- CCMG – 2023-01 HMA grant of \$1,000,000.00 for overlay. Zack presented the draft copy of the grant agreement with INDOT. Motion to approve the signing of the agreement came from Gary Timmerman and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
This is HMA 2023 -01 for grant purposes and 2023 02 for construction and is currently out to bid.
HMA 2022 -02 grant 2023 -01 construction has been approved with Pulver's being granted the work on this project.
- Bridge Inspection – the inspections have been completed and Zack is expecting a draft report before too long.
- 400 N – the county is done with their right of way work and Noble REMC is currently working on the utility right of way. Zack also has an LPA voucher for this project. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the LPA voucher for construction engineering in the amount of \$1,820.48. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 136 and Bridge 44 – both are set for an October letting.
- Bridge 134 – Zack has an LPA voucher for preliminary engineering for this project in the amount of \$6,980.00. Gary Timmerman approved the voucher, Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 69 – This LPA voucher is in the amount of \$1,820.48 and is for preliminary engineering. Motion to approve this voucher came from Gary Timmerman and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 59 - Gary Timmerman moved to approve the LPA voucher for Bridge 59 for preliminary engineering in the amount of \$8,692.00. Anita Hess seconded the motion and it carried 3-0.
- County Road 50W at 100N - Request of proposal notification has been distributed for letters of interest for the project. These are due June 9 by 2:30 pm.
- Riley Road – the additional dredging permits have been applied for and this project is looking to a May 22 completion date.
- Bridge 73 – this project is almost complete with paving done last week.
- Mobile Mapping – Zack reported that this project has been started and that he is hoping that the company will have a demo to share with the commissioners of the work.
- Zack has a series of e-mails that he shared with the commissioners concerning damage on county roads due to state road closures. Zack filed the report of the damage and they AGAIN are disputing the cost. This also happened with Brimfield Bridge closure on St Rd 6 and now again during the recent reconstruction of the road work on St Rd 9 north of Rome City. Zack told the commissioners that he sits on an LPA Collaboration Committee and will bring all of this to their attention as he is sure this is an issue in other counties as well. Dennis Graft, County Attorney, indicated that if that didn't work a law suit may be necessary.

- ADA Work – Zack has a quote for more sidewalk work in the LaOtto area from Pulver’s. This was in the amount of \$46,300.00 and was approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

ANNEX

Zack again discussed the award that was won for the New Annex building. We were awarded the 2022 Public Works Project of the Year by the APWA. The award will be given at the annual golf outing on May 18th.

- Zack reported that there were still some minor punch list items to be completed such as signage.
- Construction of the shell space still is in the works. This will be temporary space for the courts during the courthouse renovation. There was still a need for an electrical drawing which was being taken care of.
- The blinds have been shipped and hopefully the contractor will be able to install them in the next couple of weeks.
- Zack has PCO-66 for an added chair rail in the amount of \$1089.98 fir approval. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the PCO. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- The Memorial Plaque was requoted that will hang outside the commissioner’s room. The quote was \$2050.00 and was approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

COURTHOUSE

- Zack shared the early procurement Minutes with the commissioners.
- He informed the commissioners that a FFE walk through was complete with the same designer that did the annex although she is with a different company.
- Financing - George Bennett, Council President, was present for this part of the conversation as well as Larry Doyle from Campbell & Fetter Bank. - The county has had many conversations with our financial consultant as well as our bond counsel concerning the use of ARP Grant money and the combination of a BAN. Bond Counsel has cited many IC codes as to why just a normal “bank loan” is not feasible in this case. The county is wanting to get the BAN from a local bank and possibly use a “draw down” method. Another conversation will be had between Ice Miller, Dennis Graft and Zack.
- The IT department is wanting to purchase some equipment for the courts that has needed updated for some time. This will be used at the temporary space and then moved to the courthouse when the renovations are complete. Zack is seeking permission to make this happen. He has a quote from ADGators for the equipment in the amount of \$28,887.00. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the purchase. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- With things beginning to fall into place, Zack reported that the expected move for the courts might be the end of July with more details to come.

PROSECUTOR

Jim Mowery, Noble County Prosecutor, was present to discuss the hiring of another part-time attorney. This one is wanting benefits. Jim had reported early that rather than hiring a full-time deputy prosecutor, he would like to hire two part-time attorneys. Paul Sturm was hire in late March and is under contract – paid monthly – with no benefits. Shannon Connor is the other attorney, but wishes to take advantage of the county benefits so will be in employee status rather than a contract employee. Jim has a contract spelling out the 2/3 pay etc. but having benefits offered as well. Motion to sign the agreement came from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

TITLE

The 2017 Dodge Durango that was a sheriff’s vehicle had damage from the active shooter incident in Kendallville. Randy Jordan has requested the title be signed in order to get rid of the vehicle. Motion to sign the title with the last four VIN # of 3247 was made by Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

LAND

Lastly, there is bridge construction being done on State Road 205 at county road 450 S. There is a need for more right of way of which some of it is owned by the county. Clifton Dickerson

is a right of way buyer for Right of Way Jones, Inc The appraisal came in at \$300.00 but the offer will be at the minimum of \$1,000.00. Paperwork was brought in to Jackie prior to the commissioners meeting. Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney had reviewed all documents and with his recommendation will sign the documents. Anita Hess made the motion. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0. All signed documents were scanned and sent to Mr. Dickerson and hard copies were mailed on 05/10/2023.

OPIOID FUNDS

Danyel Wagner, Community Corrections Director, had sent an e-mail to Gary concerning the opioid settlement funds indicating that the JRAC is interested in being the group to review any requests for the money. They will develop an application to be completed by the agency requesting funds and then review the application and make recommendations to the commissioners as to who should receive the funds. Anita Hess moved to approve this process by the JRAC board. Gary Timmerman seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

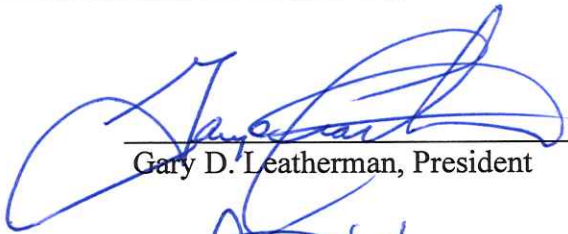
LANDFILL WORK

Derek Lough of Dick Coats Lawn Service, has provided a quote for spraying the fence line and around the planted trees at the landfill. This was for \$250.00 per application which might be necessary both spring and fall. Anita Hess moved to accept the quote for these service from the lawn service. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 11:00 am recessed from day to day until May 22, 2023

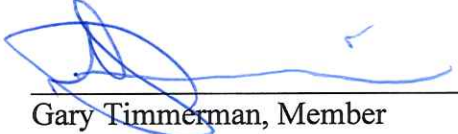
Dated this 22nd day of MAY, 2023



Gary D. Leatherman, President




Anita Hess, Vice President



Gary Timmerman, Member

ATTESTED:



Michelle Mawhorter, Auditor