

**AMENDED MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD June 27, 2022**

Comes now the hour of 8:30am. on the 27th day of June, 2022 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
Dave Dolezal, Member

Also present were:

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

Gary Leatherman, Commissioner President, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30am.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Anne Lowe, Health Nurse, came before the commissioners concerning the funding for the COVID testing site. This was supposed to end on June 30, 2022 but the state has now extended it another 6 months. Anne is making sure that the commissioners are on board with the extension. Anne has tried to contact the Noble County Library to see if the facility will be available another 6 months but has not heard back from them as of yet. Jackie suggested that possibly the Weber Road facility might serve this purpose if the library is not available. Anne will wait until she hears back from Sandy Petrie before she proceeds.

In other business, the department has hired an employee from another department for their opening and is requesting a waiver of the 10% salary reduction. Jan Cunningham is a current employee of the Extension office and will be joining the health department the end of July. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the waiver of 10%. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

GIS CONTRACT

Steve Hook, GIS Director, has his contract for the new plotter. Dennis Graft, County Attorney, had reviewed the contract and meeting his approval, Dave Dolezal moved to approve the contract and approved Steve Hook to sign the document. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Clerks Monthly report for the month of May
- IFA Environmental Programs – State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

CLAIMS

Commissioners reviewed claims dated 06/27/2022. The 10-page report totaled \$240,727.64 and was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

NON-RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENTS

The 2 buildings and the parking lot that is now under lease was reviewed and letters notifying the property owners of non-renewal was signed by the commissioners. Dave Dolezal moved to sign the letters of non-renewal for DA Merriman effective August 31, 2022; the parking lot owned by Chris Blaising effective August 31, 2022; and the building owned by John McGill and Rex Shisler effective November 30, 2022. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0. Jackie will send letters both certified and regular mail to the property owners.

UNIFIED PLAN DOCUMENTS

Motion to sign the plan document update indicating that our health plan will NOT cover Gene Therapy was made by Dave Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Dave Dolezal also moved to sign the Regulatory and Plan Document update to maintain current language and NOT cover Gender Dysphoria. This was seconded by Anita Hess and the motion carries 3-0.

The last document was the Plan document and summary plan description. This was signed with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

All signed documents were e-mailed to Cheryl Lee on Monday 6/27/22.

HIGHWAY

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent, brought the following construction update to the commissioners:

- Utility permit for NIPSCO to install gas lines along CR 300 E near Rome City
- The department is about 60% done with spraying
- Chip Sealing continues
- Mowing continues on the roadsides.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, has the following engineering update for the commissioners:

- Pulvers got the HMA project and the NTP is pending
- Community Crossing projects that were not approved on the last application cycle are now being resubmitted for this go-around.
- Zack has a letter of financial support for the commissioners to sign for the 2022 HMA -2 cycle. Dave Dolezal moved to sign the letter. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- A contract between the State of Indiana and Noble County for the 400 N project. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the contract. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- There is an LPA voucher for Bridge 136. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the voucher for \$1,450.00 for right of way services. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Also, on Bridge 136 there are 2 supplemental agreements for this project. Supplemental Agreement #2 is for right of way services in the amount of \$2,925.00 and Supplemental Agreement #3 is for Engineering services in the amount of \$11,500.00. Dave Dolezal moved to approve both agreements. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- There is a contract between the State of Indiana and Noble County that needs approval for Bridge 136 as well. Motion to sign this contract came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- Baseline Road – this project has closed. There only remains some watering after the seeding was complete. We have an LPA voucher in the amount of \$2,869.63 which is approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- We have an LPA voucher for the Old State Road 3 project. This is for preliminary engineering in the amount of \$21,698.00. Dave Dolezal moved to approve. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 73 – Zack reported that the contracts from Milestone were received and are now submitted to the State for approval and funding.
- Culvert Inspection – Richard and Zack have gone through the inspection list and are prioritizing the projects. Many of these projects will be dependent on funding.
- Little Long and Round Lake – this bridge project has gone out for bid. This was redone for a fall project and seems to have more interest now that the project timeline has changed.
- Zack reported a number of requests for speed studies. One of which was for the local detour created for the State Road 9/Northport Road project. This study was complete and Zack reported many cars in excess of the speed limit. Jo Lynn Mull, secretary of the Oak Shores homeowner's association was present to speak on behalf of the residents living along this road. She reported that there are 14 driveways that go to 150. The commissioners are in agreement with Zack to start the process to make this speed limit 30 MPH from this first drive to the curves on this road. Zack will draft an ordinance for advertisement approval at the next meeting.
- Baby Mountain - There have also been some issues in the Baby Mountain sub division. Zack reported that the Lake Bluff Road has a yield sign but there is a tree that blocks the view of oncoming traffic, The department will do some tree trimming in that area to see if this corrects the problem and if not will consider a double yield in the area.
- Tax Sale Properties – Zack had been given a list of roads in the area that should have been either deeded to the county or city by the developer or the owner. The Noble Hawk right

of way, it was decided to let it go to tax sale one more time then do a commissioner's deed to deed to the county. There is a State Rd 8 and State Rd 3 parcel that they will make a "no ownership parcel" or a 99999 number. There are a couple of Albion Rd parcels and a Hopewell Rd parcel that the county will try to contact the owner for quit claims deeds. There are another 2 parcels that could be deeded to Kendallville City and the last one on the list needs more information before proceeding on this parcel.

- Bridge 61 – Zack has received a proposal for Engineering assessment for this bridge. The service will be provided for a sum of \$6,500.00. This is approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.

ANNEX

Zack Smith, Project Manager, had the following report for the new annex:

- There have been some requests for some minor changes for a few of the offices. The company will be back in next week sometime after all requests can be evaluated.
- The name plates for veterans in the lobby area will be done this week - this will be at a cost of \$5,400.00 and is approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

A professional Services Agreement was brought before the commissioners for architecture, interior design, structural, mechanical, and electrical engineering and is with American StructurePoint. Motion to approve the agreement for services in the amount of \$492,970.00 to be paid from the ARP dollars was made by Dave Dolezal. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

REZONING

Teresa Tackett, Plan Director, along with Dutch Metzger and Scott Hile and their attorney, came before the commissioners for rezoning of 3 tracts of ground to put a gravel pit operation on. It was established at the plan commission meeting that this is the best use of the land and that once this has been completed that possibly some of the ground can be returned to residential properties. There were some oppositions to the project at the plan commission meeting but their concerns were addressed according to the attorney and there are also future meetings set with the residents voicing concerns. Dave Dolezal moved to rezone 34.415 acres from I2 to H1 owned by Metzger and Metzger LLC; a 1.445 ac also owned by Metzger and Metzger LLC rezoned from A1 to HI and a 128.837 acre tract owned by SK and DD LLC from A1 to HI. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

SHERIFF

Max Weber, Noble County Sheriff, was present to request the waiver of 10% salary reduction for Mike McCann. Mike is the new security officer and comes to us as a retired police officer with over 20 years of experience. He is also certified in all areas. Max is also asking that Mike have 10 days' vacation available as well. Dave Dolezal moved to approve both requests. Anita Hess seconded and motion carried 3-0.

Max reported that the scanner for the new building will be arriving sometime in July.

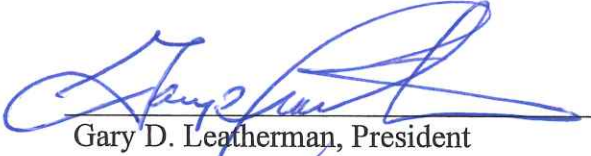
The commissioners discussed the possibility of having part time police officers sign up for security here at the new building for night meetings. Max was in agreement and will review his part time overtime budget to fund the costs.

In the afternoon, the commissioners, Teresa Tackett, and Dennis Graft had a conference call with Tom Engle and Rick Hall from Barnes and Thornburg out of Indianapolis. The commissioners were looking for some direction or advise for the solar fields that are proposed in Noble County. They are wanted to limit the number of acres put into solar. Teresa will be sending the ordinance dealing with solar to them to review and give their advice and/or options of what would be the best way to accomplish some type of control. Dave Dolezal moved to engage Barnes and Thornburg to review at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

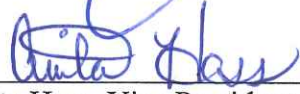
ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 2:30 PM recessed from day to day until July 11, 2022

Dated this 11 day of July, 2022



Gary D. Leatherman, President



Anita Hess, Vice President



Dave Dolezal Member

ATTESTED: 

Tonya L. Jones, Auditor