

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD July 10, 2023**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 am. on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 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

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

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT RESOLUTION**

Tina Lough was present as Anne Lowe was on vacation for the signing of the State Public Health Funding acceptance. Gary Timmerman was asking questions such as budgeting, and the what ifs – if the program goes away how programs will go on and the cost to the health department general fund. Anne was called to answer some of the questions that Tina could not answer. After a prolonged discussion, Anita Hess made a motion to opt in to the public health funding. Gary Leatherman seconded. Motion carried 2-1 with Gary Timmerman voting against the option. Resolution 2023 -11 was scanned and sent to Anne Lowe and Tina Lough to get to the proper agency.

**HIGHWAY**

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, was present and reported on the construction on behalf of Richard Rogers who was on vacation:

- Zack reported that RL McCoy has now completed most of the repairs to the bridges that they were contracted to do. Zack indicated that the estimate cost was \$20,000.00 and the work was completed for just over \$10,000.00
- Zack had received a quit claim deed for some property that appears to be road from Scott Ziegler's office. No one had talked to the highway or commissioners about this and Dennis Graft recommended that Zack reach out to Scott's office and let him know that we will need to go about this in a different manner.

Engineering:

- HMA 2023-01 – no update but work should be starting soon
- HMA 2023-02 Zack has requested the PO from the state – work to begin in the fall
- 400 N – work is complete on this project and ready for construction in 2024.
- Bridge 136 and Bridge 44 - these projects are set for October letting.
- Bridge 44 – the crews are working on utility relocation. Zack also has a consulting contract for Bridge 44 with United Consulting. Motion to sign the contract came from Gary Timmerman, Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 69 – there is an LPA voucher for bridge 69 in the amount of \$5,224.80 for Preliminary engineering. Motion to approve the voucher came from Gary Timmerman and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
- County Road 100 N and 50 W – consultant election was done at the last meeting. Calculation will be completed and the state will be notified.
- Little Long/Round Lake – this project is complete except for the signage being in place.
- Mobile Mapping- all the field work is complete for this project.
- Noble Township Speed Ordinance – the public hearing was held for the speed ordinance in Noble Township. This will reduce the speed to 20 miles per hour on Woodstrail Dr between SR 109 and the Noble County line and on Hilltop Drive between SR 109 and

Woodstrail Dr. There being no opposition to the ordinance it was adopted with a motion from Gary Timmerman and a second from Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0

- Zack has an offer from the State concerning the damage done to local detour during the work at the Northport Bridge. It was in the amount of \$12,000.00 which Zack thought was fair.
- Gary Leatherman asked about the work at the viaduct on 150 E Zack was only aware that the railroad was doing the work but had no knowledge of the time frame.

#### ANNEX

- Shell space work continuing. The majority of the wiring is complete and most work should be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- The memorial plaque for Dave Dolezal was installed last Wednesday.
- The part of the extension office that will be temporarily used for the courts have the furniture set for their move.

\$ 1,907,000.00

#### COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

- Zack has received the 3<sup>rd</sup> party estimation of construction. This came in at \$7.987. Zack is hoping that this will be very close to the bids that should be coming in – in September.
- Zack also reported to the commissioners that the council had selected Lake City Bank and that once the closing papers came, he would get in touch with the commissioners for their signatures.
- Zack is working on the storm /sewer construction with the Town of Albion.
- FFE will be bid for the courthouse in the same method as was done for the Annex.
- The electrical rebid will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### WAWAKA

Connie Swartz, Elkhart Township Trustee, was present to discuss speed bumps in Wawaka. She is asking for permission to place them in a couple of location on Brown Street which is the road into the park. She explained that they are constructing a building there that will be used for rentals and expecting more traffic in the area. These will be temporary speed bumps that will be removed in the winter for plowing and will be purchased with township funds. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the speed bumps – paid for by the township – and the responsibility of the township to remove them before plowing season and with the understanding that the signage will be provided by the highway department. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- IDEM – Ashley Industrial Molding – Air Permit Application
- Monthly report of the Clerk of the Court – duly entered

#### MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as written with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### CLAIMS

Claims dated 07/10/2023 were reviewed by the commissioners. A question about a Campbell & Fetter Charge of \$95.00 came up and the commissioners tried to contact Stacey and Danyel about the charge. Neither were available during the meeting. The 8-page report totaled \$231,649.37 and was approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman with an explanation of the \$95.00 charge coming. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### PAYROLL

Payroll dated 07/13/2023 was reviewed by the commissioners. The 3-page report totaled \$490,110.08 and was approve with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

#### FINDINGS & ORDERS

The Findings & Orders for the Harrison building at 1864 S 6<sup>th</sup> St Albion Indiana approved at the last meeting by the commissioners were signed today by the commissioners.

PAYROLL 06/01/2023

Gary Timmerman approved the payroll dated 06/01/2023 that had been missed early. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

TITLE

Randy Jordan, Shop Superintendent, has requested that a title be signed for 2008 Ford F350 Super Duty pickup be signed. The vehicle will be removed from service and sold. Gary Timmerman moved to sign the title. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

SHERIFF

Max Weber, Noble County Sheriff, was present to update the commissioners on his department. Joan Garbaciak, from Trane, was to be here today to update the commissioners on the work at the jail, but she has rescheduled the meeting until the meeting in August. Max reported the at the roof project is almost complete and is hoping that all work at the jail will be complete by August. Max also advised the commissioners that Fort Wayne Roofing punctured a compressor. They will replace the compressor but has not heard from them to date.

Gary Leatherman asked about the transfer switch for the generator that caused issues last Friday. Max said that this was to be an hour process which turned into a 9-hour process. Max advised that we really needed a better process as this took way too long.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The public hearing was held for the building department's fee schedule. There were no residents in opposition and therefore the ordinance was passed with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

RECESS

BACK IN SESSION 1:30 pm

Shelley Coney, 911 Director, came before the commissioners to see about allowing part time employees to work more hours due to the fact that she is down 2 dispatchers and one other one will be going on maternity leave soon. The department has interviews scheduled for tonight so in hopes that there will be some good candidates for the open positions. This will help but there is still a lot of training to do. The commissioner discussed the FSLA rules with Shelley and she will try to work through the short fall with giving the current part – time the maximum amount of time allowed.

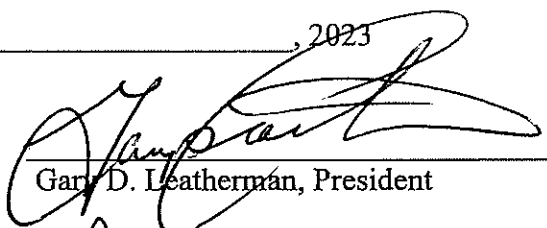
COUNTY OWNED LAND

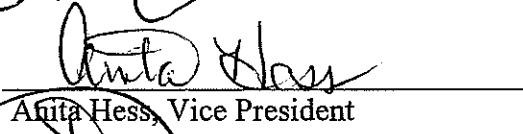
The commissioners again discussed the land by the landfill and the selling of that ground. Anita Hess has been in contract with the appraisers who did the appraisals close to a year ago. Some prospective buyers were thinking that this was appraised too high. Anita was waiting to hear from the appraisers as to more current comparisons. No decision was made to move forward and the commissioners will wait to hear from the appraisers.

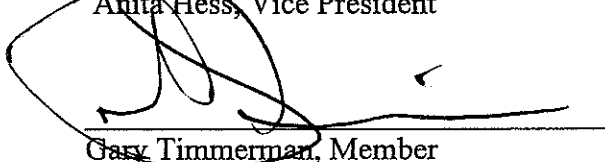
ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 2:30 pm recessed from day to day until July 24, 2023

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023

  
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Gary D. Leatherman, President

  
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Anita Hess, Vice President

  
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Gary Timmerman, Member

ATTESTED:   
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Michelle Mawhorter, Auditor