

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD September 25, 2023**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 am. on the 25th day of September, 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
Gary Timmerman, Member

Absent:

Anita Hess, Vice President

Also present were:

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

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

PROSECUTOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH

Jim Mowery, Noble County Prosecutor, along with Erik Smith, Victims Advocate and Jodi Messer, Assistant Victim Advocate, were present to requesting a proclamation be signed declaring October as Domestic Violence Month. Prosecutor Mowery reported number of cases have been steady over the years with domestic batteries setting at around 60 a year. These are reported case and unfortunately there are cases that are not reported. This is the purpose of the proclamation to get information out to the public. Motion to sign the proclamation came from Gary Timmerman and was seconded by Gary Leatherman. Motion carried 2-0. The team is also asking permission to decorate windows, put bows on the light poles and do a "chalk it up" on the sidewalk around the courthouse. That was given permission with a motion from Gary Timmerman and a second from Gary Leatherman. Motion carries 2-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Max Weber, Noble County Sheriff, and Brian Walker, Chief Deputy Sheriff, were present to discuss the exempt / non-exempt employee status with the commissioners. Max indicated that both Brian and the jail commander manage their time very well and have very little comp time. There was some confusion about vacation, sick and personal time and whether or not they get that time. Noble County has always included that in the existing exempt employees' benefits. Gary Leatherman explained that now that there is a substantial difference in pay and in a poll of other counties, most chief deputies are exempt. They also fall into the guidelines set forth in the FLSA for administrative exemption. The commissioners are discussing this matter and will make a final decision in the next month.

Highway

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, has the following update for the commissioners concerning the highway department:

- Zack has a quote for dual carbide blades for the upcoming winter season. The 4ft blades are at a cost of \$1290.00 each and the 3ft blades came in at \$969.00 each. The department is in need of 10 of the 3ft blades and 5 of the 4ft blades this totaling \$16,140.00. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the blade purchase. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0.
- Zack reported that the mobile mapping information was almost complete and should be delivered within the next 4 weeks.
- HMA 2023-01 – Zack reported that Pulver's have just about completed the 10.2 miles of asphalt paving that was in this project.
- HMA 2023-02 – Pulver's also got this contract but will not start this until after the first of the year.

- Bridge Inspection – There is an LPA invoice for preliminary engineering. This is in the amount of \$6,262.56. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the LPA voucher. Gary Leatherman seconded. Motion carried 2-0.
- Bridge 136 - there is also an LPA voucher for this project in the amount of \$105.92. Motion for approval came from Gary Timmerman. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0. Bridge 136 will go out for bids again in October in hopes of a more cost-effective bid.
- Bridge 44 - this bridge will also go out for bid in October.
- Bridge 59 - Zack has an agreement between Norfolk Southern Railroad and Noble County for this project. Gary Timmerman moved to allow Zack to sign the agreement on behalf of the commissioners. Gary Leatherman seconded. Motion carried 2-0.
- 100 N and 50 W Safety Project - Zack reported that the FMIS has been submitted for this project.
- Public Hearing High Point Dr Noble Township – a public hearing was held on the ordinance to lower the speed limit on High Point Dr in Noble Township to 20 MPH. There was no public opposition to this ordinance and was therefore adopted with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Gary Leatherman seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.
- Jerry Young and Steve ? from the HMO at Cobblestone were here for the review of the speed study recently done at Cobblestone. They are requesting a reduced speed to 20 or 25 mph. Zack reported on the recent study that was done. Mr. Young indicated that the speed monitor was set very close to the curve in that area. Zack will check on this and indicated that might be the reason for the inconsistent reporting. Gary Timmerman moved to do another study and then draft the ordinance for the next meeting. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0.
- LTAP submission - Zack indicated that there is a new requirement for LTAP and he has submitted the required information and received approval.
- Call for projects – this will open the end of October and go through December 1. Zack's thoughts are to submit Bridge 56 and Bridge 61 and possibly the Baseline Rd project. He was asking for feedback from the commissioners as well.
- Lastly, Zack has some information on permitting software that he is interested in for the highway department. He thought that possibly other department might be interested as well such as Building, Plan, Surveyor and possibly the health department. He will reach out to the other departments prior to getting a cost estimate of the project.

COURTHOUSE/ANNEX PROJECTS

Zack Smith, Project Manager, has the following report for these two projects for the commissioners:

- Annex - This project is almost complete and the close out for financials should happen very soon.
- EATON – another request was received from EATON for the extension of the warranty for UPS. Zack will reach out to Dave Baum and Tim Lock to get this taken care of.
- Zack has a couple of reports concerning the courthouse renovation concerning the masonry and the roof. Zack indicated that between himself, Weigand and American StructurePoint, the report would be reviewed and the repairs would be done based on the most urgent needs. Anything that could be extended would be and become a project in the future.
- As far as the electrical issues, there are a few minor changes to the project which will result in minor cost increases.
- There are two special meetings coming up. The pre-bid conference will be held this Thursday beginning at 11:00 AM in the new annex building. This is mostly for bidders. American StructurePoint and Weigand will be on site to take care of this meeting. This is mostly for bidders to ask questions etc. and will be followed by a walk through of the courthouse.
- The next meeting will be October 12, 2023 at 2:00 PM for the bid opening. This will also be held in the lounge/café area of the new annex building.
- Lastly, Zack is wanting to know if the commissioners want to hold a “groundbreaking” ceremony for the renovation. He indicated that this is not done normally for a renovation project. It seemed to be the consensus of the group to not hold a groundbreaking but rather a ceremony when complete.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Noble County Drainage Board – Public hearing for the Roscoe Drain
- CORE Facilities Inc – Information about their services for projects
- Applied Natural Sciences – report on the condition of the trees at the landfill as part of the Treewell system.
- Indiana Department of Health – this was concerning the weights and measures and the need for continuing education and certifications.
- IDEM – Notice of approval for Mobex Global
- Noble County Drainage Board - public meeting for J. Stuckman drain.

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as written with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Gary Leatherman seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

CLAIMS

Claims dated September 25, 2023 were reviewed and approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0. This was a 12-page report totaling \$491,189.20.

PAYROLL

Payroll dated 09/21/2023 was also reviewed by the commissioners. The 3-page report totaled \$493,449.81 and was approved by a motion from Gary Timmerman and a second from Gary Leatherman. Motion carried 2-0.

SEWER PROJECT SOUTH COMPLEX

Randy Sexton, Project Manager for this project, returned to the commissioners with his recommendation for a contractor. Randy had reviewed the bids for accuracy and has the following recommendation of PinPoint Directional Boring as the lowest bid of \$87,907.50 for the complete project. Gary Timmerman moved to approve this recommendation. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

PROBATION UPDATE

Stacey Beam, Chief Probation officer, was before the commissioners for the monthly update. Stacey reviewed the history of the department reported that in 1990 when she began working here there were 2 Juvenile officers and 2 adult officers and today there are 16 officers. There are now a lot more requirements of the department including assessments, evidence-based programs, drug testing, teaching classes, pre-trial assessments and the community corrections department of probation. When asked about probation violations, Stacey indicated that only about 15 to 16 % violate.

IT DEPARTMENT/SECURITY

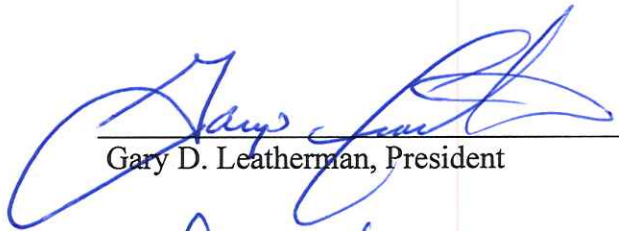
Dave Baum, IT director, is coming before the commissioners about security at the south complex. This is the only building with minimal security. Dave indicated that he has money in his budget to pay for camera both exterior and interior as well as entrance security. He is planning to talk with the Health Department as well as the Surveyors office to make sure his estimation of 6 cameras would have sufficient coverage of the area. He is considering FOB entrance to the main door only. He had an estimated quote for the 6 cameras and entrance security at about \$17,000.00 but will get a firmer quote once he has spoken with the departments housed at this location.

Dave was asked about the EATON UPS warranty that was brought up during the Highway business and he indicated that he has asked for a detailed listing of what service they will offer as well as the cost of the warranty package. He will get back with the commissioners once this information is received.

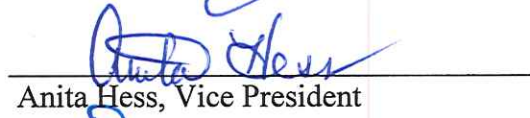
ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at 11:10 am approximately recessed from day to day until October 10, 2023.

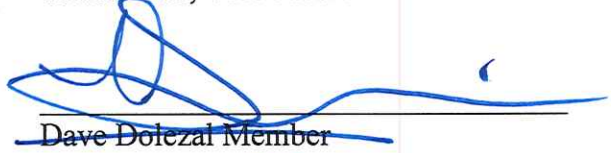
Dated this 10TH day of OCTOBER, 2023



Gary D. Leatherman, President



Anita Hess, Vice President



Dave Dolezal Member



ATTESTED:



Michelle Mawhorter, Auditor