

## **FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Monday, March 2, 2020**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 9:00 a.m. with Pledge to the Flag. Present: Bryan Lewis, Rick Ranstead, Steve Metzger, County Attorney Holli Shorter-Peiffer, and Deputy Auditor Leslie Bruner.

**COUNCIL ON AGING** –Rusty Moore from the Council on Aging presented the totals for 2019. 2019 had a total trip count of 37,285 trips, which was down 10% from the last year. 23% less miles were driven, 13% less hours were worked, and 3% less gallons of fuel were used. 5 years ago, 35% of runs were seniors, and the rest were general public. The percentage of senior trips had gone up last year to 48%, 32% of those were to/from work. The Capital contract was accepted and a purchase order has been filed and three new vans will be coming with the help of the Community Foundation. They are expected to be received in the next 2-4 weeks. In 2020 so far, the average number of trips per day is 155. The average for last year was 152. An invitation was then extended to the Commissioner's to visit the facility to observe how things operate. Steve asked why the total of trips was down 10%, to which Rusty responded that a driver had left April 1<sup>st</sup>, and their position was not replaced. In addition, they had started turning down out of town trips beyond an hour, consisting of roughly 10-12 trips per day.

**HIGHWAY** – John then came to the podium and gave an update on permit requests. The first is from Dan Musselman, who is wanting to do a 12in road bore for tiling for 1000 ft E of 300 E on 950 S. A motion was moved by Rick, with Steve seconding, with all in favor. John then presented a second request from Frontier to place a new 48-count fiber cable along 1075 E from State Rd. 14 approximately 4000 ft South. One road bore would be included. Plans were approved by John, Steve motioned to approve the Frontier communications permit, seconded by Rick, with all in favor.

John then updated everyone on recent activity including patching, brush work, working with REMC, and changing out culverts. A culvert scheduled for today on 200 S had to be cancelled due to too much water in the ditch. Up to this point they have changed 7 pipes already this winter and are ahead on pipe work. Currently they are trying to put together the 2020 road program and will have it completed within the month.

Two Western Stars have been returned back to the fleet. They were in service previously, but were back out and used with last week's snow. An invitation was then given to the commissioners to come look at them. Nothing has been heard on the Community Crossings grant, and probably will not hear anything until the end of the month.

Federal Aid will be discussed in a meeting in LaPorte to go over Bridge #161, the do's and don'ts of that bridge. A meeting was also scheduled for Bridge #50 afterwards to go over plans for it. INDOT expressed concerns, with co-beams and the guard-rail. USI will be at the meeting to defend it. John invited the commissioners to join, with Rick saying he might attend.

Two appropriation requests were brought up. The first is for \$73,324 from Cum Cap that was not spent. It was encumbered for the dump beds, but fell off due to not being presented until after the first of the year. The second was for \$116,000 for balancing Highway General out of MVH.

Joe Morrow turned in a mowing contract for the highway grounds for \$30 per each time of service of mowing/trimming. It was questioned by John if the Kewanna property was to be included. The commissioners agreed on Joe's contract for 1 year with Rick motioning, and Steve seconding, with all in favor.

John informed all present that INDOT is opening contracts for salt today through the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, and inquired about doing extra since having the extra facility. When asked by Rick, John mentioned he is currently contracting 600 tons right now and can go up to 720, but has to buy 480. Currently we are at 500 tons. Steve inquired on the new price, to which John said he should have it later today. After deliberation, it was agreed to sign the agreement for the Kewanna property for Highway use from Ceres Solutions. The purchase price of \$110,000 would be broken down into 4 separate payments of \$27,500/year coming out of the MVH. Rick informed those present he would abstain from the vote of approval due to his son working for Ceres Solutions. Bryan made the motion, and Steve seconded, with approval of 2-0. Reverting back to the topic of salt tonnage, John indicated he would see what the price is and obtain salt however beneficial with use of new facility. John then informed of a truck show he and his mechanics will be attending, as well as bid letting on Friday.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – Gail then approached the podium notifying those present that Athens is currently working on their siren as a part of weather preparedness. She noted we are not responsible for maintaining them, we just set them off. Henry township has paid J & K to fix the board that has gone out, and is in the process of being repaired.

LAPC training is needed this month. Last year's attendance fell short. A commissioner, responder training is needed to be compliant. After Rick inquired, Gail and Larry explained that part of HC compliance is to have some type of exercise to deal with hazardous materials. One was implemented at the end of last year, but it was cancelled due to lack of individuals signing up. Gail said this training is a must. Council and commissioners who sit on the board should participate in the event.

Gail mentioned a meeting this week in Plainfield for the National Emergency Member Association, that she is president of. An additional appropriation was submitted again due to not being encumbered as a result of approval not reaching her mailbox in time. April 13<sup>th</sup> thru the 18<sup>th</sup> is the NINA conference, the 911 conference. Most of the staff will be attending for training, as well as trying to get the Governor to sign the House Bill 1198. A letter will be sent for the Commissioners to their Association as well as the Sheriff to submit to the Sheriff Association for participation.

Gail then notified the Spillman project is going well. Training will take place 3 times this month so the deputies can be tested and certified for the mobile data terminals.

**SHERIFF** – Larry Jolly reported the jail population is at 77.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES** – Bryan welcomed Pete Karas as the new Weights & Measures employee. Pete determined the next step is the State officials will be contacting him, and in the meantime, he expressed the need for Mike to get ahold of him for a list of locations/gas stations etc. It is believed a partial list may be on Mike's computer that is in his possession.

**EMA/HEALTH** – Rhonda Barnett took the floor and explained to all present the procedures Dr. Reyburn and Rick have worked up in defense of the Corona Virus. She informed all present that at this point there is a record of one death in the US from the virus. Rhonda noted that the game plan would be isolation, and preventing the spread from person to person. There are no isolation areas in Indiana at the moment, just surveillance.

It was approved to provide hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes to all offices, which is to be used to wipe surfaces down twice a day. Rhonda then confirmed the virus is not as deadly as the flu at the moment but because it is gathering more attention due to mutating from animal to person to person. It is a common cold that is in the lower lungs than the upper lungs. Most deaths associated with the Corona virus thus far are from a secondary illness such as pneumonia. Rhonda also confirmed the virus is typically carried to people who already have pre-existing health issues.

Moving on Rhonda mentioned she is working on a pod exercise at the high school for an anthrax pod of dispensing, set up for four hours. There will be an exercise on how to bring people in, treat them, and get them back out the door. The last time this exercise was performed was 2012 for H1N1 at the fairgrounds. The Exercise will be March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9. Rick re-iterated wash hands and keep coughs contained from others. Rhonda said there is a plan in preparation, and local schools (Knox, Winamac, etc.) have already taken the initiative without Health Department's order to close in attempt to contain the flu.

**TOURISM APPOINTMENT** – Lyle was unable to be present, but Melinda Clinger presented information to those in attendance. The Tourism Department issued 16 grants to local non-profit organizations to help with advertising and money to help get people into the county. They are trying to push out information for everyone/every festival/everything coming to the county as a whole, which has required large scale advertising in Travel Indiana, as well as pamphlets showing restaurants and shops to change things up and draw people in. One issue presented however, is that under a recent ordinance, certain employees could have two 2-year terms, but then have to wait out a term. The concern is that there may be 3 employees whose terms are up this year with potentially no replacements. If this is the case, is there a possibility of changing the ordinance, or maybe each time come back to the commission and remain or be removed. The motion to extend Lyle's term by a year is placed by Steve, and seconded by Rick, with all in favor.

**PERSONNEL POLICY WAIVER (WEIGHTS AND MEASURES)** – In light of Pete's passing of his testing for the Weights and Measures position, Rick motioned to approve the waiver of the 8% reduction, seconded by Steve, approved by all.

**WTH MAP DATA AGREEMENT** – Leslie then notified all that Mapping Solutions of is requesting county GIS data, configuring of multiple layers (state/federal highways, waterways, etc.). A total check of \$250 would be sent to the county for GIS data. There was a clarification after inquiry from Larry Hoover that the data

would be used for reference for use of developing a county plat book. After deliberation the commissioners voted 3-0 in favor with the motion carried by Steve and seconded by Rick.

**JAIL DEED CONVEYANCE** – Leslie presented the deeds for both the new and existing jail. She explained that the existing jail currently sits on 7 different parcels, with one of which being in a different name from the rest. Due to the differences in names, two different deeds were prepared. Leslie suggested that once transferred, it would be advised to combine those parcels into one legal description to avoid future confusion.

**MINUTES** – While notarization of the deeds took place, Rick motioned to approve the minutes from the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, with Steve seconding, all in favor.

**DEEDS** – Steve motioned to approve the deeds for the old and new jail sites, which Rick seconded, and all 3 voted in favor.

**CLAIMS** – A concern was not all receipts were submitted yet, but will be approving the credit card statement per the personnel policy. Approved as presented by Leslie, moved by Rick and seconded by Steve, 3-0:

3/2/2020	Total	\$396,479.06
2/20/2020	Credit Card Statement	\$4,746.43
2/28/2020	Payroll	\$208,039.27
2/28/2020	Payroll Deductions	\$90,451.98

**TRANSFERS** – Leslie presented a transfer request from County General for the Soil and Water Conservation for building rent for \$165.00.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS** – Appropriations were presented by Leslie as follows:

Drug Free Community Fund	Fulton County Drug Free	Prevention & Education	\$10,356.00
		Intervention & Treatment	\$10,356.00
		Criminal Justice & Activities	\$10,356.00
		Provider Services & Activities	\$10,356.00
Fund NVH	Highway Maintenance	Equipment	\$116,731.00
Fund 1222	E911 Communications	E911/Sprint Contract	\$25,000
Cum Cap	Highway Dept.	Vehicles	\$73,324.00
Fund 4946	Host Fees for Fulton County Office	Other Charges	\$18,000

Phyl Olinger questioned what the “Other Charges” were, to which Bryan clarified it’s the miscellaneous disbursement to increase fund balance of the fuel fund.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** – Rick mentioned that they had met with the Health Committee in regards to the Health screens and that numbers were down with county participation. A meeting was noted for March 16<sup>th</sup> with two different time slots that would go over the benefits of doing the health screens. Gail mentioned that others should be aware that the bloodwork provided results in a matter of minutes. Leslie added that the emails need to be more descriptive on what is to be presented, as questions have been asked from co-workers in regards to what all is covered. Rick mentioned the possibility of a follow up email to notify those who missed the meeting on what is offered.

**RECESS** – Rick motioned to recess at 9:52 a.m., seconded by Bryan; carries.