

**DAVISS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, February 9, 2021
Daviess County Commissioners Room, Daviess County Government Center
Washington, Indiana**

The Daviess County Commissioners met Tuesday February 9, 2021 at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Room of the Daviess County Government Center.

Pat Kelly with The Church of Christ, gave the opening prayer.

Roll Call.

Present: Michael Taylor, President (Not voting), Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, Ron Arnold, Secretary.

MEETING MINUTES 1/26/2021

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Motion: Approve meeting minutes 1/26/2021, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY

HIGHWAY MEETING

No Highway Meeting for 2/9/2021.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY APPROVAL

Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway Supervisor, presented the Commissioners with the Health and Safety Policy for the Highway Department. **Document Document**

Motion: Approve the Health and Safety Policy, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

IOSHA REPORT

Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway Supervisor, came before the Commissioners to discuss the IOSHA (Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration) Settlement Agreement. A Settlement Agreement was received from IOSHA regarding the jobsite accident on September 2020. Out of the eight penalties received the report showed five penalties were upheld and three penalties were reduced. All penalties have been forgiven by IOSHA. Grant Swartzentruber, Daviess County Attorney, has reviewed the Settlement agreement. Mr. Cornelius will email the final copies of this document after it has been signed to the Commissioners. **Document**

Motion: To give Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway Supervisor, approval to sign the abatement for IOSHA regarding the settlement agreement, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

900 E PROJECT

Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway Supervisor, came before the Commissioners with 900E project updates. The Highway Department removed the final four trees on the 900E project. These are the last of the trees to be removed with the exception of REMC possibly needing something removed.

CANNELBURG ROAD LPA VOUCHERS

Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway Supervisor, presented the Commissioners with three LPA Claim Vouchers.

The first LPA Claim Voucher #26 is for Preliminary Engineering for Cannelburg Road Phase 4. This claim voucher is for the amount of \$87,434.00 with 80% reimbursable at \$69,947.20. **Document**

The second LPA Claim Voucher #27 is for Preliminary Engineering for Cannelburg Road Phase 4. This claim voucher is for the amount of \$37,011.81 with 80% reimbursable at \$29,609.45 **Document**

The third LPA Claim Voucher #65 is for Right Of Way, Cannelburg Road Phase 4/5. This claim voucher is for the amount of \$18,882.50 with 80% reimbursable at \$15,106.00. **Document**

Motion: Approve all 3 claim vouchers, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously.

PROJECT UPDATES

Working on tree removal on 1500N, hauling a lot of rock. With the weather and roads frozen about the only thing that can be done on gravel roads is to apply rock. Today with the roads with more snow than expected there are a total of 16 trucks working on the roads, plowing, and applying salt and sand. With the storage building for salt only able to hold so much salt and sand they apply this on overpasses, bridges etc. Salt is \$81.00 a ton. At some point would like to have a discussion for a bigger salt barn/storage. Bridge #282 at Perdue will start construction and road closure from Clark Road to 300W April 5, 2021.

INNKEEPERS TAX INCREASE-JOE MORRIS

Joe Morris, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, came before the Commissioners regarding the Tourism Commission and increasing the Innkeepers tax in Daviess County. Mr. Morris presented the Commissioners with a Budget Estimate for Daviess County Visitors Bureau for 2020-21 calendar year. These documents show a reference point regarding the Innkeepers Tax. Mr. Morris went over the Daviess County tourism and opportunities to create more tourism. Daviess County's current Innkeepers tax is at 5% which was set in 1987 and has not changed since. The Innkeepers tax bill still has to pass in Legislation but he has been in communication with Senator Eric Bassler and Legislator Shane Lindauer and they are supportive of this passing. Mr. Morris also has letters of support from Daviess County hotels in support of the Innkeepers tax increase. Mr. Morris is asking the Commissioners for their support for a 4% Innkeepers tax increase bringing this to a 9% Innkeepers tax. One and a half percent of this Innkeepers tax would be earmarked to go toward facilities such as the Daviess County Conference, Convention & Visitor's Center. Mr. Morris is also looking for a commitment from the Commissioners for \$50,000.00 annually for the next four years totaling \$200,000.00 to help with the financial support towards a property purchase. The purpose in purchasing a property is to have a conference, convention & visitor's center for Daviess County and surrounding region. The center would promote commercial tourism locally, regional, state and national for conferences, conventions, reunions, receptions, and banquets.

Motion: Approve support of the increase in the Innkeepers tax for Daviess County., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To support the Visitor's Bureau Project with \$50,000.00 annually for the course of 4 years for a total of \$200,000.00 to come out of the Edit fund, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ron Arnold, Secretary, **Seconded by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President.

Motion passed unanimously.

BYRON SANDERS PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

Byron Sanders, Project Management Consultant, came before the Commissioners to introduce himself and discuss the consultant project for the Government Center Building. He explained what information he will be covering in his reports of the Government Center project. Mr. Sanders is hoping to have the final report for the end of March 2021.

RELEASE FROM LIABILITY-PAUL WILLIAMS

Paul Williams, with Hoosier Insurance, came before the Commissioners with a Release from Liability. The Release of Settlement Agreement is between the Daviess County Board of Commissioners and Debra Coleman and Tyler Coleman in the amount of \$1,250.00. There was a house for sale and the septic was short and failed requirements on the system. The adjustments need to be done to the septic system in order to sell the house. The buyer, seller, and contractor do not want to pay for the adjustments to the septic system. Geoff Stoner, Daviess County Health Department, stated that this was an error and misunderstanding in the Health Department and the septic system was verbally approved at the wrong rate. This was an accident and they have made changes to ensure there will no longer be verbal approvals until everything is rectified in these circumstances. Mr. Williams stated that the insurance will pay for the County to pay for the amount on the Settlement Agreement. By agreeing for the County insurance to pay for this it will prevent the possibility of this coming back on the County down the road and possibly sued for the septic system. **Document**

Motion: Approve the Release from Liability in the amount of \$1,250.00 to come out of the Health Department budget, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously.

RESERVE OFFICE ACCIDENT & SICKNESS RENEWAL-HOOSIER INSURANCE

Paul Williams, with Hoosier Insurance, came before the Commissioners regarding Reserve Officer Accident and Sickness Renewal. This is for the Police Reserve Officer Policy, currently there are 9 reserve officers. This policy is \$1,100.00 a year for Reserve Officers only. This policy is required for the County to cover by State law. The \$1,100.00 will be funded out of the Commissioner's budget.

WORKMANS COMP PRESENTATION-HOOSIER INSURANCE

Paul Williams, with Hoosier Insurance, came before the Commissioners regarding Workman's Comp for the County. IPEP (Indiana Public Employers' Plan, Inc.) had the best Workers Compensation renewal rate for 2021 to 2022. The renewal rate for this year is \$122,588.00 with increase of payroll of \$389,959.00. Mr. Williams presented the Commissioners with a Loss History report. Mr. Williams also stated that IPEP does many things outside of claims. IPEP awarded the Highway Safety Equipment grant to the Daviess County Highway Department in the amount of \$3,787.00. Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway Supervisor, stated that the backup cameras for the highway department trucks are being installed with this grant money received from IPEP. **Document**

Motion: Approve Workman's Compensation Renewal with IPEP in the amount of \$122,588.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously.

COVID DRAW #2 SIDC

Rhonda Rumble, with SIDC (Southern Indiana Development Commission), came before the Commissioners with the second draw for the COVID2 Small Business Relief Grant. Eligible employers that submitted request and met requirements for the grant money is Tammy's. Tammy's is awarded the \$5,000.00 grant funds. **Document**

Motion: Approve Tammy's for the \$5,000.00 COVID2 Small Business Relief grant money, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

LETTER OF SUPPORT-SIDC

Rhonda Rumble, with SIDC (Southern Indiana Development Commission), came before Commissioners regarding approval for the Letter of Support regarding the CV-CV1-209 Draw #2. This letter expresses the Commissioners' consent for SIDC to submit the second claim in the amount of \$5,000.00 on behalf of Daviess County. **Document**

Motion: Approve the Letter of Support, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

TM OFFICE SOLUTIONS CONTRACT-JANICE WILLIAMS

Janice Williams, Daviess County Clerk, presented the Commissioners with a contract from TM Office Solutions. This contract states that the Sharp MX-3051 (located in the Clerk's office) copy machine will be paid per copy on this equipment. Ms. Williams stated that if she pays per copy then she doesn't have to pay for toner and maintenance on the equipment. **Document**

Motion: Approve the TM Office Solutions contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

WESTGATE APPOINTMENTS

Michael Taylor, Daviess County Commissioner, asked for a motion to approve Natalie Smith to the Westgate Board.

Motion: Approve appointment of Natalie Smith to the Westgate Board., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

Darla Norris and Diana Snyder submitted their resignations to the Westgate Board. Commissioner Ron Arnold asked that the Commissioners consider Diana Snyder for a liaison role on the Westgate Board due to her knowledge and background.

Motion: Approve appointment of Kent Parisien to the Westgate Board to replace Darla Norris, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Approve appointment of Joe Morris to the Westgate Board to replace Diana Snyder., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

SURPLUS OFFICE FURNITURE

Michael Taylor, Daviess County Commissioner, stated that the remaining furniture and fixtures from the offices moving to the new Government Center needs to be finalized. Any County Officer that wishes to

use any of the furniture should pick it up as soon as possible. The rest will be declared surplus and the policy will be followed. If any local nonprofit agencies have any interest they are to contact the Auditor Patty Ball.

Motion: Approve distribution of remaining furniture and fixtures for County Officers, then the remaining furniture and fixtures to be declared surplus and any interest from nonprofit agencies to contact the County Auditor Patty Ball, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ron Arnold, Daviess County Commissioner, asked that Grant Swartzentruber, Daviess County Attorney, to review Indiana Code 36-2-2-9 regarding the Commissioner meetings conducted outside of the Commissioners room referring to the twice a year meetings that are conducted on the road twice a year.

PAYROLL DOCKET 2/2/2021 & 2/5/2021

Motion: Approve payroll dockets, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously.

CLAIMS DOCKET 1/26/2021, 2/1/2021, & 2/12/2021

Motion: Approve claim dockets, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

Motion passed unanimously

INFORMATION

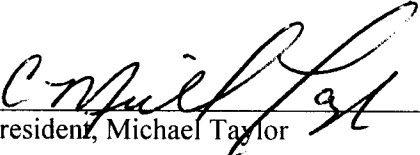
IDEM NOTICE OF DECISION

HUTSON JOHN DEERE

ADJOURN

Motion: Approve to adjourn, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nathan Gabhart, Vice President, **Seconded by** Ron Arnold, Secretary.

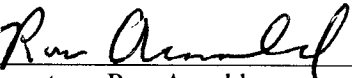
Motion passed unanimously.



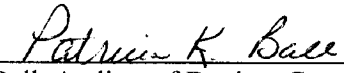
President, Michael Taylor



Vice President, Nathan Gabhart



Secretary, Ron Arnold

ATTEST: 

Patricia K. Ball, Auditor of Daviess County