

The Adams County Council met January 14, 2020, 8:30 a.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present were Council Members, Steve Bailey, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Dennis Bluhm, Yvette Weiland, John Schultz, and Cory Sprunger; County Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown; and County Auditor, Mary Beery. Commissioners, Doug Bauman and Kim Fruechte were in attendance as their meeting begins at 11:00 a.m.

IN RE: REORGANIZATION

Acting Chairman, Tony Mellencamp, opened the meeting by announcing that he would not like to be considered for the position of chairman due to lingering health issues. He thanked everyone for their concern and asked they respect his decision. He ended by mentioning that he might be willing in the future.

Acting Chairman, Tony Mellencamp, opened the nominations for the 2020 appointment of Chairman of the Council.

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland, seconded by John Schultz, to appoint Stan Stoppenhagen for Chairman of the Council for 2020. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Steve Bailey, seconded by Cory Sprunger, to close the nominations for Chairman. Motion carried.

Chairman, Stan Stoppenhagen, opened nominations for the 2020 appointment of Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Upon a motion by Steve Bailey, to nominate Dennis Bluhm as Vice-Chairman of the Council, seconded by John Schultz. All those in favor of Dennis Bluhm; Steve Bailey, Tony Mellencamp, and Dennis Bluhm. Motion died for lack of majority vote.

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland, to nominate Steve Bailey as Vice-President of the Council, seconded by Cory Sprunger. All those in favor Steve Bailey; Cory Sprunger, Yvette Weiland, John Schultz, and Stan Stoppenhagen. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by John Schultz, to close the nominations for Vice-President of County Council, seconded by Tony Mellencamp. Motion carried.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland, seconded by John Schultz, the December 10, 2019 Adams County Council Minutes were approved with the clarification on other matters properly presented that the grant will be awarded in June 2020. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2020

Chairman, Stan Stoppenhagen, opened the floor for Council Members to decide whether they wanted to remain on the same boards for 2020 which they were on in 2019.

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Steve Bailey, to approve members of the Adams County Council to sit on the following boards for 2020. Motion carried.

<b>COUNCIL MEMBER</b>	<b>BOARD ASSIGNMENTS</b>
Dennis Bluhm	Health Board Economic Development Corporation Health Insurance Meetings
Stan Stoppenhagen	Community Corrections Board IT Committee Dispatching Services Committee
Cory Sprunger	Emergency Management Board County Job Classification Appeals Board
Yvette Weiland	County Job Classification Appeals Board
Tony Mellencamp	Bi-County Communications Committee
Steve Bailey	Planning Commission Board
John Schultz	Solid Waste

IN RE: COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS FOR 2020

position	term beginning	term ending	appointee
County Council Attorney	1/1/2020	12/31/2020	Julie-Marie Brown
Member of the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals	1/1/2020	12/31/2020	Mark Smith
Member of the Alcoholic Beverage Board	1/1/2020	12/31/2020	Toby Sprunger

Upon a motion by Steve Bailey, seconded by Cory Sprunger, to approve Julie-Marie Brown as the appointment of County Council attorney for 2020. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Yvette Weiland, to approve the above appointments to the Alcoholic Beverage Board and the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals for 2020. Motion carried.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, requested clarification on the wages for the mechanics. The lead mechanic has an hourly rate of \$19.49 and the person he supervises makes \$19.56 per hour. The lead mechanic is backing Lonnie up for supervision. Mr. Caffee stated you cannot put the lead mechanic acting as second in charge lower than the

other assistants in the office. Mr. Caffee proposed making the lead mechanic an NE7. Cory Sprunger stated this position is non-categorized and all others were put on hold for the 2020 budgets.

Motion by Tony Mellencamp, to increase the wage of the lead mechanic by \$0.60 as they can operate the same machinery as the rest of the crew, seconded by John Schultz. Motion carried.

Dennis Bluhm questioned why Council would not categorize him and put him where he is supposed to be. Tony Mellencamp responded because he did not fit into a category, they opted for non-categorized. Cory Sprunger added non-categorized are people who do not fit into the matrix.

Motion by Dennis Bluhm, to make the wage of the lead mechanic retroactive to January 1, 2020, seconded by Tony Mellencamp. Motion carried.

IN RE: PROBLEM SOLVING GRANT/DRUG COURT

Superior Court Judge, Pat Miller, and Drug Court Coordinator, Kelly Sickafoose, met to discuss the additional appropriations that were approved in December 2019. At the November meeting Council requested that if an additional appropriation is needed the department head is going to have to meet with Council in December. The judge and coordinator did not attend the December meeting and were requested by Council to meet this month to explain their additional.

Tony Mellencamp apologized that he forgot to run through the additional when they met with Council earlier in the morning. Then when contacted they were unavailable later in the day. Cory Sprunger stated he was not in opposition to the additional and he just wanted an explanation of what they were for.

Kelly Sickafoose reported the grant receives funding and it goes into the pot and they do additional to put the monies into the line items. Cory Sprunger thanked them for coming in and explaining.

IN RE: SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Soil & Water Conservationist, Sandy Voglewede, requested permission to hire a replacement for the Assistant Soil & Water Conservationist. Misty Gehres left at the end of November 2019. The position is an NE3 and the wage is \$13.83 per hour.

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Yvette Weiland, to approve hiring at an NE3 at a wage of \$13.83 per hour. Motion carried.

IN RE: JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Council broke into discussion on moving forward with the wage and job description process. They agreed changing a job description will be at the discretion of the Commissioners. If a job description is approved by the Commissioners, the wage could then be appealed. Cory Sprunger stated an appeal is for people who do not like what was approved at budget time and if there are no changes then they don't need to meet with the appeals board. Department heads will go before the appeals board to change the bands. Cory Sprunger posed these questions; If there are changes do we go through the entire wage process? If department heads want to make changes do, they go before Council and if they disagree with the budget go to the appeals board? Stan Stoppenhagen advised they do not come before Council before there has been an approved job description change with the Commissioners.

Council agreed department heads do not need to request permission from Council to hire for a position that has been budgeted but they are to receive Commissioner approval. Departments are to follow the matrix and new hires for budgeted positions will be paid the minimum set wage. Department heads need to contact the Auditor's Office to make sure the wages are correct.

Motion by Cory Sprunger, if there is the need for a change throughout the year and based on the job description change which must be directly approved by the Commissioners first, then they will be heard by Council, seconded by Tony Mellencamp. Motion carried.

IN RE: SHERIFF

Sheriff, Dan Mawhorr, was going to meet to request permission to hire a full-time maintenance person. Due to the decision of Council that department heads do not need to request permission from Council to hire for a position that has been budgeted but they are to receive Commissioner approval, it was not necessary for his request.

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

**Data Pit Stop, Inc.**

Auditor Beery requested approval to contract with Data Pit Stop, Inc., for the excise (BMV excise, watercraft, aircraft, and lottery) tax program. This is a website application service program which will make the excise calculation process easier. The program extracts property addresses, not mailing, out of our MVP tax program then puts them in the correct township. Currently, we are having to look up everyone in the tax program on an individual basis who has paid excise. Then we put them in the correct taxing district so each taxing district gets the correct monies at settlement. This program will also be instrumental in the homestead deduction process. We will be able to compare the address where they got their plates with the address they are using to receive the homestead deduction. If an individual does not appear in our tax program, the excise program will compare the voter registration history with the license plate address. The program will allow us to run statistic reports at a faster pace than our current tax program. The one-time fee for the excise management program is \$6,000 with no contract to sign. All support and training is at no cost to the county. Updates are done regularly as we upload our data to the website. Mary Beery contacted IT Director, Mike Brown, and he has advised that the program is acceptable. Mary Beery asked Council for pre-approval and an additional appropriation will be submitted for approval in June. The costs will be managed out of the transfer fee fund which has a balance in excess of \$35,000. Steve Bailey commended Mary Beery for contacting Mike Brown and receiving his approval before coming to Council.



Deputy/Corporal - Patrick Piper	\$2,027.04	\$2,027.04
Deputy - Michael Mendoza	\$1,895.20	\$1,895.20
Deputy - Ty Hanni	\$1,779.84	\$1,779.84
<b>E911 (1222)</b>		
Dispatcher NE5 - Lindsey Werling	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
Dispatcher NE5 - Jeff McDonald	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
Dispatcher NE5 - Taya Yoder	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
Dispatcher NE5 - Marlene Bieberich	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
Dispatcher NE5 - Michelle Affolder	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
Dispatcher NE5 - Mallorie Hough	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
<b>Golden Meadows (0622)</b>		
LPN/Supervisory EX3 - Kendra Hamrick	\$1,810.38	\$1,810.38
Part Time Cook w/ Serve Safe NE2	\$12.43/hour	\$12.43/hour
Part Time Nursing Assistant NE1	\$11.19/hour	\$11.19/hour
Part Time w/out Serve Safe NE1	\$11.19/hour	\$11.19/hour
Part Time Resident Employee NE1	\$11.19/hour	\$11.19/hour
Full Time C.N.A. NE2	\$12.43/hour	\$12.43/hour
Part Time Housekeeper NE1	\$11.19/hour	\$11.19/hour
<b>Highway (1176)</b>		
Bookkeeper NE5 - Becky Cochran	\$1,364.80	\$1,364.80
Assistant Garage Mechanic NE6 + \$.60 - Kenric Gould	\$19.56/hour	\$19.56/hour
<b>Park &amp; Rec (1219)</b>		
Maintenance Laborer NE1	\$11.19/hour	\$11.19/hour
<b>Indiana State Opioid Response Grant (8105)</b>		
Case Manager/Probation Officer - Jamie Loshe	\$1,356.77	\$1,356.77

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Yvette Weiland, the above Salary Ordinances for 2020 were approved by Council. Motion carried.

#### **Building & Grounds (9601)**

Supervisor EX1 - Rick Burkhalter (effective 1/8/2020)	\$1,483.77	\$1,466.42
Custodian NE2 - Yolanda Baker	\$994.40	\$994.40
Custodian NE2 - Mike Stimpson (effective 1/8/2020)	\$1,092.31	\$994.40

Mary Beery informed the board the above bi-weekly wages for building and grounds were submitted by Rick Burkhalter as instructed by the Commissioners. She asked the board to be mindful that Mike Stimpson has worked for Adams County for over 30 years. He was the custodian at a county owned facility before he accepted the supervisory position of building and grounds. She informed the board Mike Stimpson had an annual wage around \$32,000 before assuming the supervisory position.

Council broke out into discussion agreeing that longevity is not a factor in the consideration of wages. They have approved a matrix that categorizes each position along with a wage and they were not going to deviate from it.

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger, seconded by Steve Bailey, to approve the NE2 band and preset wage of \$12.43 per hour for Mike Stimpson as custodian. Motion carried. Tony Mellencamp opposed.

Mary Beery asked the board how they wanted to pay Rick Burkhalter as supervisor. This position is categorized as EX1 with an annual wage of \$38,127. The prior supervisor was budgeted for 2020 at a wage of \$38,578.02. The matrix shows a minimum wage of \$38,127 annually. Council again agreed they were not going against the matrix.

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger, seconded by Yvette Weiland, to approve the EX1 band and preset annual wage of \$38,127 for Rick Burkhalter as supervisor of building and grounds. Motion carried. Tony Mellencamp opposed.

IN RE:

#### OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY PRESENTED

Chief Deputy Sheriff, Eric Beer; Sheriff, Dan Mawhorr; and County Attorney, Mark Burry, met with the board to make Council aware of the concerns of the IT equipment stored at the Sheriff's Department.

At the IT Committee meetings IT Director, Mike Brown has mentioned things that needed to be done which will involve additional expenses. Mark Burry stated an Executive Session will need to be held to explain the program and issues that are relative to security at the jail. Mr. Burry added any decisions must be made at a public meeting.

Mark Burry mentioned the concerns of the IT Committee as follows;

- The IT closet was designed at the end of the jail and located in an area where there is a mechanical closet, sewage, and buckets of sewage are being carried through the area where the computer servers are located.
- The wiring of the RF equipment radios and data switches is right together and it should not be. The RF was causing the data switches to go down in the middle of the night. The situation was discussed with former

Sheriff, Shane Rekeweg, and he was unwilling to give up space close to the antenna. Space has been found next to the tower which will secure the equipment.

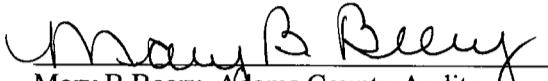
- These concerns can be funded through Cumulative Jail and E911. ENS wanted to become the county's director and we pay them a consulting fee. Former IT Manager, Landon Patterson left halfway through the situation. It would cost approximately \$300,000 annually to use the service of ENS.
- IT infrastructure is a critical component to county government. IT infrastructure needs to be looked at the same as roads in order to thrive economically. GIS promotes economic growth and the schools are on board.

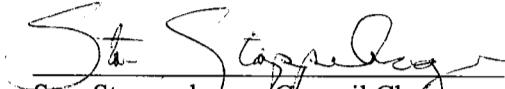
IN RE:

ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Tony Melencamp, seconded by Steve Bailey, for adjournment of the January 14, 2020 meeting of the Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor

  
Stan Stoppenhagen, Council Chairman