

The Adams County Board of Commissioners met December 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Adams County Service Complex. Present were Commissioners: Doug Bauman, Rex Moore, and Kim Fruechte; County Attorney, Mark Burry; and County Auditor, Mary Beery.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the Adams County Board of Commissioners' Minutes for December 15, 2020. Motion carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

**Payroll Claims**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the payroll claims totaling \$315,735.13 for the pay period ending December 23, 2020. Motion carried.

**Claims**

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the claims totaling \$436,259.88 to be paid December 9, 2020. Motion carried.

**EMA**

John August, EMA Director, met to request what account the board wanted to pay the invoice to Rorick Electric for work done at the Hanna Nuttman Park. They had to take the pole down and relocate it after the renovation of the Hanna Nuttman Park. The total cost for the project is \$7,292.94 and Adams County is responsible for \$2,430.98 (1/3) and the City of Decatur is responsible for 2/3 of the project.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, to approve the county's portion to be paid out of the Commissioners budget maintenance of property line item (37501) and to transfer funds necessary to pay the claim. Motion carried.

**Health Insurance**

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the Allied Health Insurance funding request for December 21, 2020, in the amount of \$82,509.32 (Medical \$47,746.12 & Pharmacy \$34,763.20). Motion carried.

There is currently a combined total of \$2,765,886.66 in the checking and reserve accounts.

**Utilities**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the utility claims totaling \$33,154.78 for the claims that were paid 12/21/2020. Motion carried.

**Election Official's Bond**

The public official bond from Western Surety Company for Auditor, Tony Mellencamp, was submitted for approval, in the amount of \$30,000.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the public official bond from Western Surety Company, in the amount of \$30,000, for Auditor, Tony Mellencamp. Motion carried.

**Weights and Measures Report**

The report from Larry Weaver, Weights and Measures Director, was submitted for the period November 16, 2020 to December 15, 2020 stating there had been 72 inspections, with 72 correct and 0 rejected. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the report of weights and measures. Motion carried.

IN RE: 4H EXTENSION

Commissioner Fruechte mentioned that the 4H Extension board met and decided to get an estimate from Community Fiber to install their own phones at the 4H grounds in Monroe. The IT Department suggested they have Community Fiber go from the grounds in Monroe and connect to the County's fiber located at the Service Complex.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

**ACH PAYMENTS**

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, addressed an email that was received from a member of the Auditor staff. The email stated that Adams County will require all payments and distributions be directly deposited to bank account(s) via electronic fund transfer. Mr. Barkey received an invoice from a vendor that is unwilling to receive ACH payments. He asked for guidance on addressing these vendors.

Auditor Beery stated that this was a miscommunication as the letter from the SBOA stated their office would no longer accept checks. The SBOA did not mandate that counties should no longer pay with checks.

The board discussed the issue and agreed that the county will still issue checks to vendors who do not wish to go ACH.

**South Adams Trail**

The bridge has been reassembled on the north section. The Wabash River is flowing more than usual. Once the river goes down, they can continue with the project.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

**MVH/Local Road & Street**

Highway Superintendent, Brad Yoder, presented the monthly MVH and Local Road & Street report to the Commissioners stating the MVH and the LRS funds have decreased from last year.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept the December 2020 MVH and Local Road & Street report into record. Motion carried.

**Annual Bids**

Upon a motion to by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept all the bids as presented at last week's meeting. Motion carried.

**Buried Cable Permits**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, to approve the permit from I & M and located on 100 N between 000 and 100 E, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

**Department**

Mr. Yoder was contacted by Prestress who would like to put flashing signage in their area. Prestress will pay and maintain the signage. Mr. Yoder asked if the board would approve the installation.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of Prestress adding, paying, and maintaining flashing signage. Motion carried.

The department worked well with the recent snow storm.

IN RE: BUILDING MAINTENANCE

**Complex Building**

Building and Grounds Supervisor, Rick Burkhalter, reported the leaking shower faucet in the gymnasium has been fixed. The AC room is done except the fence which will be installed in the new year. Also, the humidifier pump needs hooked up.

**Courthouse**

They are changing out the coil for the heating and cooling unit at the Courthouse.

The Prosecutor's Office is experiencing problems with the thermostat kicking on and off. It is being taken care of today.

IN RE: LITERACY ALLIANCE

Brian Schlichtenmyer and Melinda Haines, Representatives for the Literacy Alliance, asked if there were any open rooms at the Service Complex that the class could meet in. They have been providing adult education in Adams County to improve their reading and writing. Northeast Indiana Works has been providing it. They have been having challenges and are limited on the amount of class sessions they can have and the time of day. The board suggested checking on the Northwest School. They are looking into this location but work needs to be completed before they can move forward. They have received help from the Adams County Community Foundation. They are currently meeting at the library and appreciate their help but they need additional space. The board suggested multiple contacts to ask.

IN RE: GOLDEN MEADOWS

**Monthly Report**

Golden Meadows Home Administrator, Kris Nichols, presented the November 2020 Golden Meadows monthly report stating that there were currently 30 residents at the home. The report shows \$32,199.77 was received in room and board funds.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the Golden Meadows report for November 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

**Application for Admission**

Kris Nichols, Golden Meadows Home Administrator, submitted an application for admission of a former county female resident.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the admittance of a former county female resident based on the recommendation of Kris Nichols. Motion carried.

IN RE: BUILDING & PLANNING

**Subdivision**

Mark Wynn, Building and Plan Commission Director, presented the following subdivisions for approval:

4 lot subdivision known as the Replat of the William S. Schwartz Subdivision, located on 800 South, west of 300 East / Section 12 / Wabash Township.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, the Replat of the William S. Schwartz Subdivision was approved. Motion carried.

1 lot subdivision known as the Teeple's First Addition, located on 500 West north of Hwy 218 / Section 35 / French Township.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, the Teeple's First Addition was approved. Motion carried.

1 lot subdivision known as the Menno N. Schwartz Subdivision, located on 350 South, east of 200 E / Section 24 / French Township.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, the Menno N. Schwartz Subdivision was approved. Motion carried.

#### Monthly Report

Mr. Wynn presented the monthly reports for October and November 2020:

##### October

TYPE OF PERMIT	NUMBER OF PERMITS	DOLLAR VALUE OF PERMITS
Single Family Residence	7	\$882,738
Residential Additions	6	\$135,941
Unattached Buildings	6	\$107,990
Addition to Unattached Buildings	7	\$91,500
Pools	2	\$89,600
Commercial Construction	4	\$525,000
Addition to Commercial	1	\$120,000
New Electrical Service	3	\$65,168
Electrical Upgrade	1	\$7,500
Remodels	3	\$70,840
Total Permits	40	Total dollar value \$2,096,277

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the monthly report for October 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

##### November

TYPE OF PERMIT	NUMBER OF PERMITS	DOLLAR VALUE OF PERMITS
Single Family Residence	3	\$604,495
Residential Additions	5	\$184,500
Unattached Buildings	4	\$151,566
Addition to Unattached Buildings	3	\$38,750
Agricultural Buildings	1	\$1,000
Addition to Commercial	1	\$6,000
New Electrical Service	3	\$65,168
Electrical Upgrade	1	\$2,000
Remodels	1	\$2,000
Ponds	5	\$38,500
Total Permits	24	Total dollar value \$1,028,811

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the monthly report for November 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ATTORNEY

#### Request Vacation Waiver

County Attorney, Mark Burry, reported three requests for vacation policy waivers were received by the Auditor. He has questions so he will contact the Sheriff for verification. The requests were submitted and are being considered.

#### Prosecutor Investigator Contract

Mr. Burry submitted the contract for employment of the new Prosecutor Investigator.

Motion by Rex Moore, to approve signing the contract for the Prosecutor Investigator, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

#### Mann Cemetery

The legal descriptions prepared by Wemhoff Land Surveying for the Mann Cemetery were received.

#### WebEx System - CARES

Mr. Burry discussed the CBTS contract for the monthly charges for access to the WebEx system. The system was COVID driven, the payment approved by CARES, equipment ordered and scheduled to be installed over Christmas. The monthly fee is \$935.74 and provides access for 26 users. The system provides video conferencing for the courts, Service Complex, Jail, and Prosecutor's Office. The contract renews annually and requires a 60-day notice for termination.

Claims have been submitted for payment but they have not been paid. Reading through the CARES requirements, they need to be paid before December 31, 2020.

Motion by Rex Moore, to preapprove payment of the claims submitted by the IT Department for WebEx software, equipment, maintenance, installation, and setup that were approved for CARES funding, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, the meeting for December 22, 2020 was adjourned. Motion carried.

ATTEST: Kristy Stenkey *chief deputy Auditor*  
Mary B. Berry, Adams County Auditor

Kim A. Fruechte  
Kim A. Fruechte, Commissioner

Rex Moore  
Rex Moore, Commissioner

Douglas L. Bauman  
Douglas L. Bauman, Chairman