

The Adams County Board of Commissioners met May 7, 2019 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 April 30, 2019. Motion carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR'S REPORT

Health Insurance

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for Allied Health Insurance funding request for May 6, 2019, in the amount of \$8,788.93 (Medical \$12,744.53 & Pharmacy \$0.00 & Stop Loss Reimbursement \$3,955.60). Motion carried.

There is currently \$165,201.66 in the checking account and \$1,955,911.23 in the reserve account totaling \$2,121,112.89.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to acknowledge receipt of the above figures. Motion carried.

Clerk of Circuit Court Monthly Report

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept into the record the April 2019 report from the Clerk of the Adams County Circuit Court. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept into record the April 2019 report from the Treasurer of Adams County. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

Cumulative Bridge

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, requested permission to attend the Engineer and Supervisor's Conference held in Indianapolis on June 5 - 6, 2019.

Mr. Barkey reported he has been asked to sit on the Bridge Reinspection Committee. He would be working with INDOT and consulting engineers. Three county engineers (Boone, Tippecanoe & Adams) were asked to participate on the committee. There will be a 3 hour meeting held on Friday which, if approved, he will attend.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve Tim Barkey to sit on the Bridge Reinspection Committee and grant permission for him to attend the conference in Indianapolis. Motion carried.

Mr. Barkey submitted a draft copy of an agreement with Butler Fairman & Seufert for bridge B-106. He will be meeting with Council to let them know he will be requesting an additional appropriation to pay for the design of the structure.

Highway Building Demolition

Mr. Barkey reported Lonnie Caffee is cleaning up the shop area and considering disposing of the concrete block building on the north side of the property. Steel beams have been placed there and he has no use for them. He would like to put out a notice to sell the steel beams. They are in good condition and bridge contractors could utilize them on projects. There is also a lot of native lumber in the building and there might be interest in letting bids for the demolition of the building.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, to advertise a notice to bidders for demolition of the building to sell the steel beams, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Buried Cable Permits

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, submitted the following buried cable permits and installation agreements for approval;

Company	Location	Township
CenturyLink	3944 E - 100 N run line on 1000 N and 101	Union
Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the buried cable permit and installation agreement from Century Link. Motion carried.		
Calix/CenturyLink	700 N - begin 600 E & end 500 E	Union
Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the buried cable permit and installation agreement from Century Link. Motion carried.		
Calix/CenturyLink	800 N - begin 500 E & end 600 E	Union
Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the buried cable permit and installation agreement from Century Link. Motion carried.		
CenturyLink/Electricom	200 E on 900 N to 800 N	Root
Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, to approve the buried cable permit and installation agreement from Century Link. Motion carried.		
CenturyLink/Precision Utilities	200 E on 900 N to 800 N	Root

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the buried cable permit and installation agreement from Century Link. Motion carried.

Mediacom/QC Communications 1100 N begin 200 W & end 100 W Root

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the buried cable permit and installation agreement from Century Link. Motion carried.

Highway Building Demolition

Mr. Caffee reported the monies for a new storage building are already appropriated. The department has equipment that sits out in the weather and he would like to provide in house storage on the property. They try to keep the higher dollar equipment in the building currently at the location. His intension is to get the concrete and dirt work in by the end of 2019. It will have a stone floor and no heat but will require electricity. It will have a drive through door for trucks to get in and out of the building. The quotes have been between \$140,000 and \$150,000 including concrete. The stone work will be completed by the highway department. The Commissioners expressed that the esthetics need to be attractive. The building will sit in an east and west direction, have a 4/12 pitch roof and no drop ceiling, and will be 140' long and 80' wide.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, approval to proceed with the new building. Motion carried.

Roads

This week, they are getting ready to widen 400 E between 600 N and 550 N. The road will be widened each way. They will continue toward Winchester Road pending good weather.

Buggy Plates

May 15th is the deadline for purchasing buggy plates/stickers and the penalty is \$25 if late.

IN RE:

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Service Complex

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Stimpson, reported Bob Hakes and Ethan Snyder have moved into the new IT room on the first floor. Weeds were pulled yesterday and mulch will be completed next week. Havel completed changing the pop off valves on the system at the Service Complex.

The Schindler elevator quote has increased by \$8,000. Currently, we are paying \$78,000 and moving forward it will be \$86,000. We only have 3 to 5 years left in the elevator. The work will consist mostly of replacing the guts of the elevator but it will be like a new elevator.

Superior Court

Mr. Stimpson asked Joe H Construction for a quote on the west side of the roof of the Superior Court building.

IN RE:

BI-COUNTY SERVICES

Tim Ramsey met with the Commissioners to present Bi-County's annual financial review and budget funding request. The 2019 request would be for \$39,312.00 which is the same amount requested for over a decade. Employment levels continue to be a challenge and they raised wages last year. They are down considerably on staffing which provides services. Many of the people that they serve are reaching an advanced age and some have passed away. These people have not been replaced and empty beds reduces the revenue. These challenges are affecting all providers who provide the same type of services. They cannot advertise to replace people who require services. The state provides clientele who needs services and the individuals are assessed locally to see who fits into the program. There are four group homes in Adams County. All of this has impacted their revenues but Bi-County has sufficient financial reserves. Bi-County continues to be in a strong financial position. Individuals are paid on a time study and they are rated by what they can accomplish. Commissioner Moore requested a cash flow statement which will be submitted.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of continuing the funding of Bi-County Services, in the amount of \$39,312. Motion carried.

IN RE:

DECATUR SCULPTURE TOUR

Adams County Community Foundation, Coni Mayer; sculptor, Curtis Rose; and Adams Public Library Director, Kelly Ehinger, met with the Commissioners on behalf of the Decatur Sculpture Tour. New sculptures will replace the old ones located on the northeast and southeast side of the Courthouse. The Annual Decatur Sculpture unveiling is Friday, June 14, 2019 at 6 p.m. The event lasts ten months long from June to April then they move on. The artists continue to grow with 44 exhibits in 2019, one of the largest exhibits to date. The exhibits are owned by the artist and a few sculptures have been sold.

Mrs. Mayer reported the sculpture tour started in 2011 with the first gallery in 2012 and only 12 exhibits. There will be 27 exhibits brought into Adam County and 17 exhibits of the current exhibits we remain in Adams County. These are quality artists who come to Adams County bringing income to the community through hotel, food, and other expenses. Nine states are being represented in the sculpture tour.

Kelly Ehinger expressed the appreciation of tourists through schools, public, and other visitors.

Curtis Rose spoke on the mobias mand type sculptures which he sculpts. Mobias mand is a symbol of something that has no beginning and no end.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to continue to keep exhibits on the Courthouse Square. Motion carried.

Coni Mayer asked for financial support from Adams County. The Commissioners decided to take the request under advisement.

IN RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Community Corrections Director, Ian Gilbert, requested permission to replace a full-time employee that is retiring. Case Manager, Bart Alexander, is retiring June 7, 2019 and has vacation and comp that will be paid after he leaves. He also requested permission to advertise the position.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, to grant permission to advertise and replace the full-time position. Motion carried.

IN RE: EMA

EMA Director, John August, met with Commissioners to discuss the siren housed at the Hanna Nuttman Park. The project at the park will begin in mid-June and he has to move the siren temporarily. When completed the pole will be re-installed along with the siren. Rorick Electric has submitted a quote for \$5,800 to take the pole/siren down, store, and reinstall. In the past there has been money in the Commissioners budget. The city might agree to pay a percent along with the county.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, to share with the city the cost of quote with the county paying 1/3 and the city paying 2/3, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

IN RE: BUILDING & PLANNING

Mark Wynn, Building and Plan Commission Director, presented the monthly report for April 2019 showing that there had been:

TYPE OF PERMIT	NUMBER OF PERMITS	DOLLAR VALUE OF PERMITS
Single Family Residence	1	\$100,000
Residential Additions	2	\$31,000
Unattached Buildings	13	\$378,500
Addition to Unattached Buildings	6	\$82,165
Agricultural Buildings	2	\$65,000
Decks	2	\$2,700
Commercial Construction	4	\$503,000
Addition to Commercial	3	\$721,500
Signs	1	\$600
New Electrical Service	4	\$18,300
Remodels	1	\$8,000
Total Permits	39	Total dollar value \$1,910,765

The report shows a decrease in the estimated building costs as compared to 2018 due to the large construction at Adams Central Schools.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the monthly report for April 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney, Mark Burry, mentioned that the Public Defender Commission will take over the appointment of one of the judges. Currently, both judges in Adams County appoint a member to the local Public Defender Board.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, the meeting for May 7, 2019 was adjourned. Motion carried.

ATTEST: Mary B. Beery
Mary B. Beery Adams County Auditor

Kim A. Fruechte
Kim A. Fruechte, Commissioner

Rex Moore
Rex Moore, Commissioner

Douglas L. Bauman
Douglas L. Bauman, Chairman

Adams County Council (Special Meeting) Work session – to discuss wage scale adjustments and budget procedures

The Adams County Council and Commissioners met May 7, 2019, 12:00 p.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present were Council Members, Steve Bailey, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Dennis Bluhm, Yvette Weiland, Cory Sprunger, and John Schultz; County Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown; County Auditor, Mary Beery; County Attorney, Mark Burry; and Commissioners, Doug Bauman, Rex Moore, and Kim Fruechte.

Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown gave an overview of the topics that had been discussed at the various workshops. The New Focus analysis is a guideline and tool to move forward.

Council and Commissioners discussed how to move on from here and how do we get there from present.

Attorney Burry suggested making a decision on adjustments then calculate new ranges/levels into the current scale.

Councilman Bailey suggested moving toward a common wage and department heads would need to move tasks within the office. The job description should define what an employee does. The value of assessment was for us to be fair with the employees.

Commissioner Bauman stated county government is a unique animal. Keep it common, comparable and competitive.

Councilman Sprunger stated he does not want to raise taxes just for compensation. Give more discretion to department heads but give them a high/low figure.

Councilman Mellencamp suggested discussing a dollar amount for the employees who are within the higher wage and a percentage or larger dollar amount for those who are below scale.

Councilwoman Weiland suggested to get rid of the current scale and set a starting rate for each position.

Final thoughts:

Stick with 3 levels, points, department head discretion.

What to tell department heads.

Create a line item in the Commissioners or Council budget for a dollar amount for employees.

Raise amount for budget submission.

Wage committee remain active.

Council will make a decision at their May 14, 2019 meeting. Consensus of Council is to meet as a group to work out practices moving forward.