

The Adams County Board of Commissioners met May 21, 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 Deputy Auditor, Angie Brite. County Auditor, Mary Beery, was absent.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the Adams County Board of Commissioners' Minutes for May 14, 2019. Motion carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR'S REPORT

Health Insurance

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for Allied Health Insurance funding request for May 20, 2019, in the amount of \$12,217.73 (Medical \$12,217.73 & Pharmacy \$0.00). Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of payment for the June 2019 consulting fee with Shafley Plan Management in the amount of \$2,916.67. Motion carried.

Weights and Measures Report

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept into the record the report by Larry Weaver, Weights and Measures Director, for the period April 16, 2019 to May 15, 2019 stating there had been 11 inspections, with 11 correct and 0 rejected. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

Cumulative Bridge

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, reported that the contract for B-106 is being looked over by county attorney, Mark Burry to clarify some engineering in the contract.

Mr. Barkey wanted to remind the Commissioners that bids for B-75 on county road 400 W between 100 & 200 N will be opened next week along with Community Crossing paving projects.

These will be opened after 10:00 AM.

Bridge B-75 will have to have restricted traffic until it is replaced.

Signs will go up in advance of the narrowing of the bridge. It will go from 28' to 16' width until replaced.

Mr. Barkey has spoken to Primco doing business as Indiana Barrier Wall about renting 180' of barrier wall. The liability the county would have to carry to rent this wall is more than what we are required by law to carry. The county would have to purchase extra liability insurance to rent this the wall.

The cost of renting this 180' of wall would cost the county \$15,339.60.

After finding out the price to rent this 180' of barrier they asked what it would cost to buy 180' of barrier and this price was \$14,592.60. This would be a savings of \$747.00 and this amount does not include the savings of buying more liability insurance.

The cost of buying the barriers would include delivery to the job site.

These barriers are each 10' long, 32"-36" tall and weigh about 4,500 lbs.

Commissioner, Doug Bauman asked if they contacted Berne Ready Mix or Prestress to see if they had anything like this on their lot.

County Engineer, Tim Barkey said he would get ahold of them to make sure there is not something local that could be used.

No decision has been make at this time.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

4-H Fair Parking

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, introduced Jason Nussbaum from Adams County 4-H Fair Board. Mr. Nussbaum asked permission from the Commissioners to use the Highway Department lot for parking this year again for the county 4-H Fair after the hours of 4:00 PM.

Mr. Caffee stated last year they used the lot and there was no problem at all. Mr. Nussbaum said they would run everything like they did last year.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore to allow the Adams County 4-H Fair Board to use the lot for parking during the 4-H Fair. Motion carried.

Roads-NIRCC

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee introduced Jerry Foust and Danny Avery from NIRCC (Northeast Indiana Regional Coordinating Council).

NIRCO helps counties annalise areas of concern with road-way situations. The area they are looking at right now is roadway between the south part of 600 E and the east part of 150 S. This is a very narrow part of the road where two vehicles cannot pass and it is very difficult seeing the road when snowplowing.

There was a three-day study done on the amount of traffic this area gets in a day. Within these three days there was only approximately 150 vehicles using this road. There is a very deep drop off on both sides of the road that allows for a very vulnerable area of concern. Because of the curves in this road, school buses cannot see behind them when backing up. Farmers in the area do not use this section of road because of the narrowness of the road and getting their equipment thru safely.

It was proposed by NIRCC that this part of the road be vacated and a cul-de-sac be put in at both ends of the road for turning around due to low traffic use, narrow & poor visibility.

Before any of this can be done there will need to be some land purchased from adjoining property owners to put the cul-de-sac in at each end.

Mr. Caffee said the cul-de-sac can be installed in-house by his department. It was also proposed that 600 E be widened if this vacation is approved.

All emergency departments would need to be notified if this happens.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte to accept the vacation of the road and place a cul-de-sac at each end. Motion carried.

MVH/Local Road & Street

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, presented for approval this week the Annual Operational Report. The Commissioners took this under advisement last week.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, to accept the Annual Operational Report from Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee. Motion carried.

Permits

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, submitted the following permits and agreements for approval:

UTILITY COMPANY	ROAD	ROAD SECTION	TOWNSHIP
INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER CO	750 N	300 W - 400 W	PREBLE
CRAIGVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY	200 N	600 W - 700 W	KIRKLAND

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept the two permits presented. Motion carried.

Buggy Plates

Mr. Caffee reported they have as to date sold 2,400 buggy plates. This amount is slightly higher than year 2018.

IN RE:

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Superior Court

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Stimpson, reported Jed Myers is working at Probation/Court building installing a new air conditioning unit. Mr. Myers said it will take about two days.

Joe H. is working on a quote for the roofing on Superior Courts west side.

New doors have been installed at Superior Court and the new IT room.

Bob Hakes, from IT is working on getting key cards for doors.

IN RE:

CIRCUIT COURT

Circuit Court Judge, Chad Kukelhan, met to introduce the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program to the board of Commissioners. Present were Judge Kukelhan, Leslie Dunn, Indiana Supreme Court Office of Judicial Administration, GAL/CASA Indiana State Director, and Beth Webber, current GAL and proposed Adams County CASA director. Beth is a private contractor.

Adams Circuit Court’s Caseload in CHINS (Child in Need of Services) case type has increased 30-40% over the last several years. A trend where there is no real end in sight. CHINS cases in year 2010 were 62, years 2011-2013 were 40 each year, 2014 was 65, 2015 was 98, 2016 was 116, 2017 was 149 and year 2018 was 121. The numbers are going up, and we need an advocate for Adams County’s children so they are represented in the best possible way. The CASA volunteers, overseen by Ms. Webber, will support and augment her work.

The Pauper account #12804 and GAL account #13800 each had a \$30,000 budgeted beginning balance for year 2019. On average in year 2018, 30-40 cases cost the county \$10,000. Judge Kukelhan stated that this year we are on track to see over 100 cases which will use the entire Circuit Court GAL budget of \$30,000.

A grant was applied for in the amount of \$5,000 for training and other start-up costs, a matching grant for \$18,300, and a Capacity Grant in the amount of \$8,446. The county does not need to increase the current GAL line item so long as the current line item remains funded. Ms. Dunn assured the Commissioners that the grant monies would be available into the future. The grant funds deposited into the proposed account are non-reverting.

Judge Kukelhan will keep the program small in Adams County, but use it where it is needed. He will make it a quality over quantity program. The Judge mentioned that keeping the quality of program intact should lead to less volunteer fatigue. The program is state funded and will result in a net positive fiscally for Adams County.

Judge Kukelhan requests permission from the Commissioners to start the Adams County CASA program and create a line item in Circuit Court’s budget for the grant money to be deposited and distributed.

The grant applications are due to the State in October and the monies received will placed come into the county around November or December of year 2019.

If approved by the Commissioners, Attorney Mark Burry said he would write a resolution with the CASA program.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte to grant permission to accept the CASA program for Adams County and start to set up funds to put the monies from the grants when they come in. Motion carried.

IN RE: GOLDEN MEADOWS

Application for Admission

Mrs. Nichols submitted an application for admission of an Adams County male to the Golden Meadows Home.

Upon a motion Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the admittance of an Adams County male based on recommendation of Kris Nichols. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney, Mark Burry, presented the revised contract with DCR Software for all three courtrooms.

Mr. Burry looked over the revised contract putting all of the departments needing this software together and developing a new price for services. The final cost came in at \$16,935.03. This is a slight decrease from the prior cost.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte to accept the new contract with DCR Software for all three courtrooms. Motion carried.

Mr. Burry spoke with IT Director, Mike Brown and he said they will be re-cabing the courthouse soon. They will also possibly need to have more electrical outlets put in prior to installation of the software.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, the meeting for May 21, 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

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