

The Adams County Board of Commissioners met August 20, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Adams County Service Complex. Present were Commissioners: Doug Bauman, Kim Fruechte, and Rex Moore; 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 August 13, 2019. Motion carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

**Payroll Claims**

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the payroll claims totaling \$296,861.82 for the pay period ending August 9, 2019. Motion carried.

**Utility Claims**

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the utility claims totaling \$31,495.77 for the claims that were paid 8/14/2019. Motion carried.

**Health Insurance**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for Allied Health Insurance funding request for August 12, 2019, in the amount of \$50,296.42 (Medical \$10,890.94 & Pharmacy \$39,655.48 & Medical Void Credit \$250.00). Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for Allied Health Insurance funding request for August 19, 2019, in the amount of \$18,300.03 (Medical \$18,300.03 & Pharmacy \$-0-). Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of payment for the September 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 July 16, 2019 to August 15, 2019 stating there had been 8 inspections, with 8 correct and 0 rejected. Motion carried.

**Animal Control**

The Animal Control report for July 2019 was received from Animal Control Officer, Chad Sprunger, reporting that 11 dogs, 3 kittens, and 2 cats had been picked up from July 1, 2019 to July 31, 2019. Total mileage was 446 miles at \$.44 per mile for a total of \$196.24.

Upon a motion Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept the July 2019 report as submitted by Animal Control Officer, Chad Sprunger. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

**Cumulative Bridge**

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, presented an email he received on August 13<sup>th</sup> from Jutte Excavating Inc. They are requesting a delay of completion for the rehabilitation of Bridge B-100. The abnormal spring rains created delays and scheduling conflicts that could not be avoided.

The completion date was to be September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and they would like to extend this date to late Spring 2020.

Jutte Excavating also offered some type of compensation for this delay.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte giving permission for Jutte Excavating to extend out their contract until late Spring 2020.

Mr. Barkey informed the Commissioners that due to the wet spring the seeding of grass at the Judicial Center has not been done yet. The contractor is still working on leveling out the soil and getting it ready.

Another contractor put in the sidewalks and never cleaned up the area or put the final grade on the ground.

Upon Mr. Barkey talking to the two contractors they are fine with moving \$1,090.00 away from the sidewalk installation contract and giving it to the contractor that is doing the work and seeding the grass.

Mr. Barkey will write up an addendum to the two contracts and present them for the Commissioners for signatures at a later meeting.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte to sign the contracts for moving \$1,090.00 from the sidewalk contract to the seeding contract. Motion carried.

Next Monday Mr. Barkey will be going over to Van Wert Ohio to meet with their County engineer about the border bridges between Indiana & Ohio.

The focus of this meeting is to determine who is going to take care of what bridges and determine a common border. There are three bridges that fall in this category.

INDOT is wanting a written agreement on who is going to do what or if shared what is being shared. The Federal Highway is also wanting a copy for their file. This is so no bridges get missed or neglected due to misunderstandings.

Inspections of these three bridges is every two years.

Adams County used to have these bridges in our book, but shortly before Mr. Barkey became an Adams County Employee they were taken off. He is not sure what made this happen? There is no explanation in the books.

By the end of the meeting on Monday this will all be in writing and ready to go to INDOT & the Federal Highway. Mr. Barkey will report back to the Commissioners on the final outcome.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**MVH/Local Road & Street**

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, presented the July 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 Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, to accept the MVH and Local Road & Street report into record. Motion carried.

Indiana & Michigan requested an overhead line to be installed between 700 S and 650 W to end at 700 W.

**Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte to accept I&M request to put in an overhead line to be installed between 700 S and 650 W to end at 700 W.**

Mr. Caffee reported to the Commissioners he has looked in the cost of filling in the troths on county roads. To do one mile of road it would cost around \$40,000 down and back the road. This cost would be with feathering it out about three feet.

The county is using pea gravel now to fill the troths. They have tried limestone before and that is not a good product to use for this type of work.

The Commissioners suggested the Mr. Caffee look at other counties and see what they are using and how well filling in their troughs are holding up. We have not filled in any troughs this year so far.

Mr. Caffee received a phone call the other day from a gentleman with the Berne & Geneva Bridge project in regards to getting rid of their "rip rap material" from their project. It would be at no cost to purchase.

There would be approximately 100 loads of rip rap to haul. The construction site is wanting to get rid of the rip rap by the mid to late fall.

Mr. Caffee contacted Jeff McIntosh from Solid Waste Management asking if they possibly had a place we could have it hauled to and stored until we are in need of the rip rap. The county garage has nowhere to store it.

Mr. McIntosh said they could possibly use the south landfill on 850 S. He would need to go out to that landfill and take a look at the best place to put it.

Paul Norr, Survey & Drainage Department Head welcomed the idea of accepting the rip rap even if we have cost of hauling it.

IN RE: BUILDING MAINTENANCE**Service Complex**

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Stimpson, presented a quote from Havel for \$6,364.70 for replacing a Wilkins main service backflow. This will be done on August 7<sup>th</sup> over the weekend due to shutting off the water.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte to accept the quote for \$6,364.70 and replace a Wilkins main service backflow on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Stimpson, reported on September 7<sup>th</sup>. He received six phone calls in regards to an alarm sensor going off on the sump-pump at the Service Complex. He went into the complex a couple of times to check but everything was o.k.

The problem with the company we are using now is that they called four hours after the sensor went off and alerted them. If this would have been an actual failure of the pump the basement would have been completely saturated with water.

Mr. Stimpson would like to look into getting another vendor to monitor our alarms after work hours. This has not been the first time the late call to him has happened.

The Commissioners gave Mr. Stimpson permission to look at other vendors and get some prices of what it would cost. They also suggested looking into how reliable they are getting calls out after a sensor goes off.

IN RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

Barry Scherer, Regional Sewer District, reported that Steve Bailey a member of County Council spoke to the Council about lending money to the Sewer District at the August meeting.

What the Regional Sewer District is requesting from the Commissioners & Council is to consider letting the Regional Sewer District borrow money from the County's Rainy Day Fund in order to start preparing for installation of sewer lines and other prep-work prior to acceptance of the Federal Grant monies.

If we would have had the prep work done for year 2019, we could have received a 13 million-dollar grant. Because they were not at this point the monies had to be declined.

Next year when the grant monies come available Adams County Regional Sewer District wants to be "shovel ready" so they can accept the funds for their projects.

The Regional Sewer District has a great deal of prep work to do. The Regional Sewer District does not have that kind of funds by themselves to be able to do the prep work needed to accept the grant. They are requesting to borrow from the Rainy Day Fund the county has in the amount of \$450,000 to \$500,000. This would get them to the point they could accept a large Federal Grant.

When Mr. Bailey spoke to the Council at the July meeting and they seemed in favor of allowing this to happen, but also wanted the consensus of the commissioners.

A bond could be sought, but it would cost the Sewer District a great deal of money to get a bond and they would like to avoid going this way.

After general discussion on the matter the Adams County Commissioners were in consensus of allowing the Regional Sewer District to borrow \$450,000 to \$500,000 to be "shovel ready" for the Federal Grant.

IN RE: PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST & FEES

Nathan Reinking, Attorney from Miller, Burry & Brown spoke on the many public requests we have received in the past few months.

These public requests take a great deal of time to gather information and none of these hours by Indiana State Law are allowed to be charged out.

Mr. Reinking is requesting the Commissioners to consider looking at appointing a designated person to be the contact person for county employees to contact if they are presented with a public request.

A comment was made that they do feel that someone needs appointed or a position made to handle public requests and possibly human resource.

The Commissioners asked Mr. Reinking if he could possibly write up a job description for public records appointment. Mr. Reinking said he would work on something for public records.

Mr. Reinking also suggested we rewrite the county ordinance in regards to court certification fees. There were some discrepancies in the charge. We need to set an ordinance where everyone charges the same.

The Commissioners agreed and Mr. Reinking will work on writing up a new ordinance.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, the meeting for August 20, 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