

# COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

**AUGUST 17, 2020**

**PRESENT: ALL**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the White County Commissioners held a regular meeting on Monday, August 17, 2020, in the White County Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> – floor Commissioners' Conference Room beginning at 8:15 a.m.

Commissioners present were: President John C. Heimlich, Commissioner Steve Burton, and Commissioner David Diener. Also present was White County Auditor Gayle Rogers, White County Attorney George Loy, and the Commissioners' Assistant Donya Tirpak.

## MINUTES

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on August 3, 2020, seconded by Commissioner Diener. **Vote: Unanimous**

## PAYROLL

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to approve payroll for August 10, 2020, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

## CLAIMS

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to approve the claims except for check number 001342 from account 1000-3100, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

## WOLCOTT MAIN STREET

George Blissett, President of the Wolcott Main Street, appeared to notify the Commissioners that they are working with the Remington-Wolcott Community Development Corp. to purchase the old gas station/liquor store property adjacent to the park in Wolcott for \$20,000. They have applied for a grant with the State that will cover the cost to clean-up the property for the town and use it for green space. They have raised \$8,000 through fundraising and donations and would appreciate any financial assistance from the County.

Commissioner Diener informed Mr. Blissett that an assessment has already been done on the property and to contact the Kankakee – Iroquois Regional Planning Commission to find out more information.

## HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENT

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to accept Linda Russow's resignation from the White County Health Board, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

## DATA SHARING APPLICATION

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to approve the Data Share Application from Environmental Consulting & Technology, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

## HIGHWAY – EQUIPMENT LEASE

Highway Superintendent Mike Kyburz presented a contract from Republic First National to lease a new Recycler/Grinder. The current one is 20+ years old. The lowest bid came in at \$376,000. He would like to do a 4 - year lease at 2.98% so he can pay for it out of his MBAH New Equipment line item each year without having to ask for additional appropriations. After the \$40,000 down payment, the annual amount will be \$90,360.12.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to enter into a lease agreement with Republic First National for the purchase of a Recycler/Grinder after County Attorney Loy approves the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Diener. **Vote: Unanimous**

## COUNTY – CITY OF MONTICELLO AMBULANCE CONTRACT

County Attorney Loy presented a contract between White County and the City of Monticello for ambulance service from 2021 -2026.

The six year contract says that White County will pay the following for County ambulance service to Monticello:

2021	\$1,260,000
2022	\$1,310,000
2023	\$1,360,000

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2024	\$1,420,000
2025	\$1,480,000
2026	\$1,540,000

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to enter into a contract with the City of Monticello for ambulance service as presented, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

**At this time**, Council President Butch Kramer called the Council members to order in joint session with the Commissioners. Council members present:

President Butch Kramer  
Jim Davis  
Casey Crabb

Vice President Denny Carter  
Janet Faker

Jim Annis  
Art Anderson

### **REPORTS PRESENTED AND ON FILE**

Highway Department  
Economic Development  
Area Plan

### **COVID-19 TESTING SITE**

Ed Gutwein, White County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, said that the State is offering \$100,000 to each County to open a Covid-19 testing site. They would like to see it open from September 1 through the end of June 2021, approximately 35 hours a week. The Indiana State Dept. of Health (ISDH) will provide the training, materials for the site, software, and everything else needed. The County has to provide a site location (either a drive-thru or a walk-up place) and the employees. The Health Department employees will not be able to do it because they are already too busy.

Tippecanoe County chose not to do a site because they already have places in the County where the public can go to get tested. Cass and Benton County are going to do the site testing. Currently, you can only get tested in White County if you are symptomatic; otherwise, you have to travel out of the County to get tested.

There is a contract that the County will have to sign with ISDH if we choose to do this. The WC Health Officer does not want the Health Dept. to be involved with the testing site because of their workload already, but according to Mr. Gutwein, Board Member Dr. Misenheimer is in favor of White County having a testing site.

After a lengthy discussion, the Commissioners and Council expressed concerns with liability, location, and funding to pay employees. Mr. Gutwein also points out that we could also join another county to put up a testing site and have double the funds.

The Commissioners wanted to discuss this with the Council during the budget hearings and hopefully have an answer by the next meeting.

### **CROSSROAD WIND FARMS**

Matt Thorton, EDP Renewables, appeared to discuss the Rosewater Wind project, which consists of 25 wind turbines. This is the seventh project in White County and will be completed in November 2020. The Rosewater Wind project is in partnership with NIPSCO. NIPSCO will be the owner, and EDP will be the operator. The Crossroad Wind Farm project, Project 8, will be south of Reynolds to Brookston. They are hoping to start construction on the 72 wind turbines this summer/fall, and they are also working with NIPSCO on this project.

### **BADGER GROVE CHURCH**

Commissioner Steve Burton said that the Badger Grove Church in Badger Grove would be celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on August 30.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to proclaim August 30, 2020, Badger Grove Community Baptist Day celebrating 150 years of service and contribution to White County, seconded by Commissioner Diener. **Vote: Unanimous**

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There being no further business to come before the County Council, they adjourned to their meeting.

**CR 1100 IMPROVEMENTS – CHANGE ORDER #1**

A change order from F&K Construction for the CR1100 project was submitted as follows:

Additional Construction Signs	\$2,445
Connect Existing 8” Field Tile	\$2,400
Total	\$4,845

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to approve Change Order #1 from F&K Construction for \$4,845, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

**SURVEYOR – LARGE FORMAT PRINTER**

White County Surveyor Brad Ward said that Copiers Plus found him a large format printer/scanner for \$20,500. The price is \$1,000 more than the other printer from Indianapolis, but he would like to stay local for maintenance reasons. He also requested permission to hire someone to move it up to his office because it won't fit in the elevator.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the Surveyor to purchase a printer from Copiers Plus for \$20,500 and the cost of moving the printer, seconded by Commissioner Diener. **Vote: Unanimous**

There being no further business to come before the board, their meeting adjourned.

_____ John C. Heimlich, President	_____ Steve Burton, Vice President	_____ David Diener, Member
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ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gayle Rogers, Auditor