

COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

DECEMBER 6, 2021

PRESENT: ALL

BE IT REMEMBERED that the White County Commissioners held a regular meeting on December 6, 2021, in the White County Building, 2nd floor John C. Heimlich Conference Room, beginning at 8:15 a.m.

Commissioners present were: President David Diener, Commissioner Steve Burton, and Commissioner James B. Davis. Also present were White County Auditor Gayle Rogers, White County Attorney George Loy, and the Commissioners' Assistant Donya Tirpak.

Commissioner Diener called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on November 15, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

PAYROLL

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve payroll, seconded by Commissioner Davis. **Vote: Unanimous**

CLAIMS

- Commissioner Diener made a motion to approve and pay the claims as presented, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

US 421/GORDON ROAD ROUNDABOUT PROJECT LOCHMUELLER GROUP – AMENDMENT #1

Jessica Clark, the project engineer, submitted in writing Amendment #1 to the US 421/Gordon Road roundabout project. Both INDOT and INDOT Environmental Services Division (ESD) changed their requirements during the preparation of the NEPA document. They updated the Public Involvement Manual in 2020/2021 to respond to COVID-19 precautions social distancing requirements. These changes resulted in additional work to prepare the documents and certify the public involvement process to maintain eligibility for federal funding.

Environmental Scope Impacts:	\$21,200
Public Involvement Scope Impacts:	\$25,200
Road Design Scope Impacts:	\$17,400
Total Increase:	\$63,800

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Amendment #1 from Lochmueller Group for the US 421/Gordon Road Roundabout project increasing the agreement total to \$471,900, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

VETERAN'S DEPARTMENT

Nathan Baker, the service officer, appeared to highlight services that the Veteran's Department offers to veterans: Survivor's Pension, Education Services, and Disability Services. He asked everyone to let all veterans in our community know to stop in his office to see if they qualify for any or all of the services.

Mr. Baker said that the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) is responsible for providing the money for a veteran to get to their doctor's appointments through the VA Travel pay or provide White County the money for the trip. The VA has a DAV Van Program that will help counties with the cost of purchasing and maintaining a van to transport veterans to doctor's appointments. They are backed up currently because of Covid, but he is on the list for a new van. He will have paperwork for the Commissioners to sign in the future.

NIPSCO CIRCUIT REBUILD PROJECT ROAD USE AGREEMENT

County Attorney George Loy presented a Road Use Agreement between NIPSCO and White County. NIPSCO proposes to replace approximately 67 existing electric utility poles with new poles and replace the existing conductors of roughly 5.6 miles of a current overhead electric transmission line between Chalmers and Oakdale. Construction will start January 2022 thru mid-May 2022.

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<u>Road</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
700 S.	SR43	350E
350E	700S	725S
725S	350E	Springboro Road
Nelson Rd.	725S	650S
650S	Springboro Rd.	300E

- Commissioner Davis motioned to accept the Road Use Agreement between NIPSCO and White County as presented, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

US 421/GORDON ROAD ROUNDABOUT- LPA – CONSULTING CONTRACT

An LPA – Consulting contract between Lochmueller Group and White County was submitted for the right-of-way services for the roundabout project. The maximum amount payable shall not exceed \$46,645.00.

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to accept the LPA – Consulting Contract for right-of-way services with Lochmueller Group, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

REQUEST FOR FUNDING TRAFFIC LIGHT AT HANAWALT & 6TH STEET

Monticello Mayor Cathy Gross appeared and said that Ball Corporation had requested a traffic signal at Hanawalt & 6th Street intersection for many years now. They are increasing their production line, increasing the semi-truck traffic by 50+ a day.

Mayor Gross asked the Commissioners to participate in funding a new traffic light at this intersection by committing \$60,000 to the project. The City of Monticello and the White County Economic Development already committed \$60K to the project.

Commissioner Davis said that the Sheriff’s Department has told him that they would like to see a traffic light at this intersection.

Mayor Gross said that they are not using their TIF funds because they are being used to pay the bonds on the Monticello Fire Station.

Highway Superintendent Kyburz would like everyone to explore other options besides a traffic light. He would like to see a roundabout because he could see traffic getting backed up to Hwy 24 with a traffic light.

Commissioner Diener agreed that a roundabout would be fewer maintenance costs and a better traffic flow.

Auditor Rogers mentioned that the intersection of Hwy 24 and CR300 needs to be looked at because there have been a lot of accidents in the past.

- Commissioner Davis motioned to commit \$60,000 to fund a traffic light at the Hanawalt & 6th Street, seconded by Commissioner Diener. **Vote: Unanimous**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEASE AGREEMENT

Attorney Loy presented a lease agreement for the Knights of Columbus building for the elections in 2022. The County will pay \$3,000 for the rental of the building for both elections. The County will also pay the electric and water bills on a prorated basis.

- Commissioner Davis motioned to accept the lease agreement with the Knights of Columbus for the 2022 election, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

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

David Diener, President

Steve Burton, Vice President

James B. Davis, Member

ATTEST: _____
Gayle Rogers, Auditor