

COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2021

PRESENT: ALL

BE IT REMEMBERED that the White County Commissioners held a regular meeting on April 19, 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 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 from the regular meeting on April 5, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Davis. **Vote: Unanimous**

PAYROLL

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve payroll for April 22, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

CLAIMS

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

CHANGE ORDER – REMINGTON/WHITE WATER MAIN EXTENSION PROJECT

Change Order No. 3 for \$233,600 was submitted for the Town of Remington/White County Water Main Extension, Phase 1.

1. Install the water main deeper under the RR tracks, under CR 380, and tap into the 10" main on the west side of CR 380. \$228,660.00
2. Additional 76 linear feet of 12" Water Main required to finish the project. \$ 4,940.00

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Change Order No. 3 for \$233,600 for the Town of Remington/White County Water Main Extension project, seconded by Commissioner Burton. **Vote: Unanimous**

SURVEYOR – SOFTWARE TO MONITOR PONDS

Surveyor Brad Ward reminded the Commissioners that they had the ponds rebuilt at the Hoosier Lift Station at the Mid America Commerce Park five years ago. He requested permission to purchase software that will notify him when the pumps go down. A quote from BL Anderson for \$2,992.40 will provide the software, and a reoccurring annual fee of \$347.40 is for the cellular/website.

This will only be for the Hoosier Lift pond, not the Egg Life pond.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the quote from BL Anderson for \$2,992.40, seconded by Commissioner Davis. **Vote: Unanimous**

COVID-19 MASKS MANDATE

Commissioner Diener said that White County had not seen a surge in Covid-19 cases since residents have returned from Spring Break and Easter vacations. He asked for comments on if the mask mandate should be changed.

EMA Director Chris Springer said that the numbers for White County were going down until last week. He said that effective April 6, the masks mandate for Indiana, ended, except for schools, state buildings, and vaccine clinics. He felt that right now is a good time to do away with the mask mandate because vaccines are readily available, and we have ample PPE supplies if needed.

HR Director Leah Hull said that she hadn't had any cases of Covid-19 reported from employees for several weeks now. She said the CDC recommends that the masks continue to be worn, and the White County Health Officer

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recommends that masks are worn until the end of the month. A majority of the employees would like to see the mask mandate go away. She made the recommendation to go to Phase 4, where the masks are strongly encouraged, but all of the other mitigation strategies would stay in place. She also recommended that the masks be required for all public coming into County buildings.

After a short discussion, the Commissioners' agreed that the public should still be required to wear the masks when entering any County building. They will review this discussion in two weeks.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to move the County Slow Opening Phase back to Phase 4, where face masks are strongly encouraged for all employees but not mandatory, and masks are required for the public entering County buildings, seconded by Commissioner Diener. **Vote: Unanimous**

CORONER'S OFFICE

Commissioner Diener submitted a proposal from Patriot Engineering and Environmental, Inc., from Indianapolis, for \$3,500. Patriot will perform a geotechnical engineering investigation on property adjacent to the existing White County Sheriff's Department located at 915 Hanawalt Street in Monticello. This is the first phase that must be done before the design and planning for a new Coroner's Office.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to accept the proposal from Patriot Engineering for \$3,500, seconded by Commissioner Davis. **Vote: Unanimous**

COUNCIL ON AGING

Gale Spry, Director, submitted a resolution authorizing her to apply for the 2022 grant funds for Council on Aging's transportation program. She is looking to receive \$198,756.00 from Federal and \$50,741 from the State. Council on Aging will be responsible for the 50% matching funds.

- Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Resolution No. 21-04-19-01, authorizing the filing of CY2022 application for a grant under Section 5311/5339 of the Federal Transit Act, as amended, seconded by Commissioner Davis. **Vote: Unanimous**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A CY2022 APPLICATION FOR A GRANT UNDER SECTION 5311/5339 OF THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ACT, AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Administration (FTA) to support capital, operating and feasibility study assistance projects for non-urbanized public transportation systems under Section 5311 of the FTA Act of 1964, as amended;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to support capital, operating and feasibility study assistance projects for nonurbanized public transportation systems under Section 5311 of the FTA Act of 1964, as amended.

WHEREAS, the office of Transit, Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has been designated by the Governor to make Section 5311/5399 grants for public transportation projects.

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision by it of the local share of project costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY WHITE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

1. That David Diener, County Commissioner, on behalf of White County Commissioners is authorized to make the necessary assurances and certifications and be empowered to enter into an agreement with INDOT for the provision of rural public transportation services within White County for the provision of rural public transit under this grant contract.
2. That White County Council on Aging/Public Transit is authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of White County Board of Commissioners with the INDOT to aid in the financing of transit assistance projects pursuant to Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act, as amended.

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- 3. That White County Council on Aging/Public Transit is authorized to furnish such additional information as INDOT may require in connection with the application.
- 4. That White County Council on Aging/Public Transit is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of the Board of White County Commissioners.

MICROVOTE

Auditor Gayle Rogers presented an amendment to the existing MicroVote contract increasing the Annual Voting System Maintenance from \$12,000 to \$13,000. The Clerk does have the funds in her budget for the increase.

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the amendment to the MicroVote contract from 12,000 to \$13,000 after review from the County Attorney, seconded by Commissioner Burton. Vote: Unanimous

TOWN OF REYNOLDS – TRANSFER REAL ESTATE

County Attorney George Loy presented a resolution approving a transfer of real estate to the Town of Reynolds for no consideration. The property is located at 201 E. Second Street in Reynolds. This property is currently a vacant lot, but at one time, it was the former Reynolds post office. Through court order, the building was demolished, and the property was cleaned up and donated to White County. The County now wants to donate it to Reynolds.

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 21-04-19-02, approving the transfer of real estate to the Town of Reynolds for no consideration, seconded by Commissioner Burton. Vote: Unanimous

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-04-19-02
RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF REAL ESTATE
TO THE TWON OF REYNOLDS FOR NO CONSIDERATION**

WHEREAS, I.C. 36-1-11-8 permits the transfer of property between governmental entities upon terms and conditions agreed upon by the entities evidenced by substantially identical resolutions by both entities; and

WHEREAS, White County, Indiana, owns the real estate located at 201 E. Second Street, in the Town of Reynolds, Indiana, described as follows:

A strip of ground thirty-five (35) feet in width off the West end of Lot Number Four (4) in Block Number Five (5) in the Original Plat of the Town of Reynolds, White County, Indiana (hereinafter the "Real Estate"); and

WHEREAS, the Real Estate consists of a vacant lot which the Reynolds Town Board desires to acquire for the Town of Reynolds, and which the White County Commissioners desire to transfer to the Town of Reynolds for no consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the White County Board of Commissioners as follows:

- 1. White County shall release and transfer title to the Real Estate to the Town of Reynolds without consideration therefore.
- 2. The transfer of the Real Estate under this Resolution shall be effective upon the adoption of a substantially identical resolution by the Reynolds Town Board accepting title to the Real Estate.
- 3. The President of the White County Board of Commissioners and the White County Auditor are authorized and directed to execute the deed and any other documents required to transfer title to the Real Estate.

CHANGE ORDER - GORDON ROAD PROJECT

Highway Superintendent Mike Kyburz submitted Change Order No. 12 for \$-48,561.13 on the Gordon Road expansion project from INDOT. The change order covers overrun and underrun of times plus or minus 20,000 dollars, per specifications. He's currently working with INDOT to see if we get that money back.

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

Butch Kramer	Denny Carter	Jim Annis	Casey Crabb (Virtual)
Janet Faker (Virtual)	Art Anderson	Matt McKean	

REPORTS PRESENTED AND ON FILE

Council on Aging
Recycling Dept.
Area Plan
Economic Development
Environmental Officer
Highway Department
HR Department
Tourism Marketing

AIRPORT

Board President George Green said that the Fish and Wildlife wants them to do a bat habitat assessment for the tree obstruction project. The board will request \$15,000 from the County Council to have this done and repay the money once the grant funds come in.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

EMA Director Chris Springer reported that they applied for a grant for \$93,000 to purchase 2 – 30’ solar-powered surveillance towers. This will give their emergency operations center better visibility so they can have a better response to emergencies. He will request from the Council an additional \$900 for the internet service during the budget time if the grant is received.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT

Economic Development President Randy Mitchell announced that White County and the City of Monticello were awarded \$250,000 each from the 3rd Round of Covid-19 Response Grant funds from the Office of Community & Rural Affairs. Businesses with less than 100 employees will be able to apply for funds up to \$10,000. Businesses within the city limits will apply with the City of Monticello, and businesses in the County will apply with White County. Businesses can’t apply to both. Advertising will be in the newspapers and on the radio. A committee consisting of Councilman Art Anderson, Councilman Jim Annis, Councilman Denny Carter, Commissioner Steve Burton, and Auditor Gayle Rogers will review all applications and choose which businesses will be awarded.

IVY TECH’S PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Krysten Hinkle, Site Director, reported that three recipients participated in the Promise Scholarship program last fall. Two of the three are doing very well and will finish this year with strong GPA’s, and the other has dropped out of school. They currently have 73 White County individuals attending Ivy Tech in the Lafayette region, and they will start having traditional classes this Summer.

IVY TECH LEASE AGREEMENT

Krysten Hinkle, Site Director, presented a lease agreement for the Ivy Tech Building from August 1, 2021, to July 31, 2022. The number of students enrolled for the fall semester is not available at this time.

Commissioner Diener said that when the lease expires in 2022, he would like to sit with Ivy Tech and make adjustments to the contract. For now, the agreement is reasonable.

MONTICELLO FIRE/PARAMEDIC/AMBULANCE SERVICE IN REYNOLDS

Commissioner Steve Burton said that a year ago, former Commissioner Heimlich and he discussed the possibility of extending Monticello Fire/Paramedic/Ambulance Service out into the County more than what is available now. He asked the Monticello Fire Department to come to the meeting today to present their service.

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Former Monticello Fire Capitan Robert Hickman, Monticello Fire Chief Galen Logan, Mayor Cathy Gross, and Lieutenant Craig Green appeared to give the presentation.

Mr. Hickman said that when Magnetation was built, conversations were started about putting an ambulance station in Reynolds. Nothing has transpired since then. Right now, only 41% of the emergency medical service (EMS) calls meet the 8-minute standard for having paramedics on scene. There have been times when it takes the paramedics 24 minutes to get to a location because of the distance. The largest populated areas with the most calls are Union, Prairie, and Monon Townships. Reynolds and Burnettsville volunteer fire/ambulance are going out of service, and Monon has to pay on-call people because volunteers are declining.

Mr. Hickman proposed to staff the Monticello Fire/Paramedic/Ambulance service in the Town of Reynolds effective January 1, 2022. The satellite station will bring advanced life support and paramedics to the population and release some of the stress on the local volunteer stations. He said the Reynolds Fire Station is the best location where they should be, and the cost will be approximately \$600,000 for the first year.

Honey Creek Township Trustee Sharon Brooks, Reynolds Town Board member Bill Dahlenburg, Reynolds Town Council President Charlie VanVoorst, and the Reynolds Town Fire Chief were all present in support of a satellite station in Reynolds. They are very excited to move forward with the project, and they will expand their Fire Department to accommodate the paramedics/ambulance as needed.

Councilman Art Anderson said that he isn't against the program; he's all for it but questioned why a patient isn't taken to Lafayette when they request it.

Mr. Hickman said that the vast majority of the patients are taken where they want to go.

Commissioner Davis thought that this was an excellent idea. He said that if we can save lives for people that lived in Monon, then the County needs to find a way to get this project done.

Commissioner Diener suggested a committee be put together to continue the conversation and the project moving.

Mayor of Monticello Cathy Gross said that this hadn't been discussed with the City Council, so it's not a done deal.

The committee consisted of Councilman Jim Annis, Councilman Dennis Carter, Councilman Art Anderson, Commissioner Steve Burton, Reynolds Township Trustee Sharon Brooks, Monticello Fire Chief Galen Logan, Capitan Robert Hickman. The first meeting with the committee is May 4 at the Monticello Fire Department, and Commissioner Burton is in charge of running the meeting.

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

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