

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
GOVERNMENT ANNEX BUILDING, COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
June 4, 2020 6:30 pm

All Commissioners were present (Dave Lane came in late). Matt led the Pledge of Allegiance. Matt opened by saying it was a pleasure to be able to finally meet in person.

Jim Reeves from the Highway Department brought up the speed limit ordinance. Today will be the 1st reading on this. The ordinance is for 975/1000 N from CR 200 E and 740 E moving it to 35 mph for safety concerns. It currently is 55 mph unless otherwise posted.

Also he reported on the Latch Key program that was tabled last week. This involves renting of the Community Building. Matt said the consensus in talking with the other Commissioners was decided there wasn't much interest in doing this. They understand it would be helpful to parents but it also limits the other activity of the Community Building. This will be voted on when Dave Lane arrives.

Jim also reported they are doing some changes on the culvert permits and ordinances. The problem is people get a building permit but they don't always go buy the culvert. The highway dept has no way of making them do that. He is hoping the ordinance will pass to pressure homeowner's to do so. Some people just fill in the ditch and don't buy a pipe or they use one that is there, no matter what condition it is in. This new ordinance will make it so they can't get a final inspection until the driveway is installed. Ellie asked Marie if this is included in her zoning booklet. She said that it is. Marie said that she and Jim talked and wondered if it needed to be added/amended to Ordinance 99-02. Ellie thinks it could be changed at the bottom of the permit; sign off on bottom for inspection. Ellie can work on updating this. There will be no vote at this time.

Next up is bids for liquid asphalt for Community Crossing Chip & Seal program. (Dave Lane joins the meeting). The bids are:

- 1. Terry Asphalt Materials out of Hamilton, OH for AE90S at \$2.25/gallon
- 2. Asphalt Materials, Inc for AE90S at \$1.69/gallon

Jim will review these packets and make sure everything is included in the bids and come back for a recommendation.

Kitty Shepherd, Treasurer, reported the date for the Tax Sale will be September 4, 2020, if the Commissioners want to have one this year. The property owner has to be at least 3 installments behind. Matt asked if the county is required to have a tax sale every year. Kitty and Tessia said the county is supposed to have it every year. Ellie said if the state recommended not doing them we wouldn't have to but that is not the case so far. Matt is concerned about what it will do to so many people that have had such a hardship with the COVID 19 pandemic. Bob Willhite made the motion to approve Sept 4 2020 for the tax sale. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Randy Shepherd, from the Fair Board reported that most fairs in the state have cancelled. There is an opening the last week of July, ending August 1. That is the same dates that Jackson County normally has their fair. This would be with Poor Jack's Amusement but they won't know until June 18 for sure. Matt said he would love to have it for the kids but he is worried at how successful it would be since 4H has

County Commissioners

Page 2

June 4, 2020

gone virtual. Options were discussed. Ellie said it was just announced that the State Fair was cancelled. Amy Thompson asked if the rides would be sanitized each time. Bob Willhite made the motion to cancel the Jennings County Fair for 2020. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Matt said he appreciates all the hard work of the Fair Board.

Matt brought up the fireworks display at the Fairgrounds on July 4. It is headed up by a professional organization and of no cost to the county/taxpayers. They are working with the insurance company to make sure all the insurance is ok. This gentleman carries \$1million policy of his own. The person doing it is Jim Peters who is a county commissioner from Switzerland County and he puts on shows for Belterra and the Swiss Wine Festival. The cost would be \$20,000.00. Matt said they are possibly working on getting a band there also. Trent Wisner is the one working on getting this together. Trent was asking if the county would be willing to donate that at no charge. Bob Willhite made a motion to proceed with the fireworks. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Reeves re-joined the meeting and said everything on the bids from earlier in the meeting looked good. He recommended that the county award the bid to Asphalt Materials for \$1.69/gallon. Bob Willhite made the motion to award the bid to Asphalt Materials. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A vote on the latchkey was taken. Bob Willhite made the motion to not allow the use of the Community Building. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Nicci Lucas, HR, spoke on the Cyber Insurance that was tabled on May 14 and again last meeting. She asked if the Commissioners had reached out to Eagle Point Technologies and the insurance. Matt said he has not had a chance to. He felt this was something that had to be done, no alternative. Nicci said that is the best quote the county has got from the best company. She also reported that at a previous meeting the Extension Office asked if they could hire a part-time summer help position. That was approved at that time. Then the COVID 19 hit and they thought they were going to hold off on it, all advertising, etc was removed. Atina reached out to Nicci a few days ago and they are interested in that. Purdue is telling them they won't be back in the office until August. So currently there is only 1 full time and a part-time person in the office. They could really use some extra help. It is funded in their budget. She understands that the hiring freeze may be enforced from this point forward. Matt said this has already been approved so he doesn't feel they had to ask but appreciates that she did. He said secondly, he is wondering why more help is needed when less work is there to be done. Nicci said that Atina explained that with the 4H side of the fair going virtual that many things needed turned in to make this happen and there are a lot of 4H families coming in. This should last until around August. Bob Willhite made the motion to allow. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

County Commissioners

Page 3

June 4, 2020

Nicci also reported that the county will transition to Stage IV as of June 14 and this will be in between meetings. Right now we have temporary screeners at the entrance of the Annex. They ask people to put on masks as they come in the building; they are screening temperatures during the day. There are 2 that share the work week, they are aides from the school system. Nicci needs to know about pay for them. June 14 face coverings become optional. Also how long are we anticipating needing someone at the door given the changes of June 14? Matt suggested she ask County Council that it come out of either General Fund or Rainy Day Fund and then be reimbursed with the \$900,000 grant. Matt said how long they will be needed is determined week to week. Matt would like for employees protect themselves and continue to wear masks when among the public.

Also the hand washing stations were delivered today. Jim Reeves brought out some of his employees to help unload them and deliver them. The question is how are we going to supply this and who is going to maintain them? Nicci said Bonnie is not going to be able to fill the tanks or empty the waste tanks, they are too heavy. She did reach out to circuit probation that does the yard work on the weekends and they have agreed to fill and empty the waste water containers when they do the rest of their maintenance. It is unknown if that will be enough. Matt said it needs to be someone at each location to monitor the usage. Matt said he wants those inside the buildings. Matt was asking about where they are to be emptied at and Nicci said she was not involved in ordering them so she is unsure. He will do some research. 8 were ordered. Sheriff's Dept does not want one.

Ellie reported that Barnes and Thornburg is offering to help cities and counties apply for funding through the CARES Act. Based on needs it could be potentially \$800,000.00 (bigger cities). Their fee is a \$5,000.00 flat fee that is to be paid no matter how much you get. Ellie asked if this could be paid from the money the county receives. The problem with that is the money has to be used for certain things and this probably would not qualify. She read the requirements, etc of the program. She said an example is the recording systems may need to be upgraded due to social distancing. Marie Shepherd asked Ellie if she talked to Jerry Shepherd about it. She said that is a project that they are required to work on as well. She said he is already gathering information. Matt recommended nothing be done until they talk to Jerry. Tessia said there are 2 different ones, one is FEMA and one is CARES. Marie and Matt said he is working on both of them. Ellie said she will e-mail Jerry on this. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Nicci came back with the numbers for Corvus for the Cyber Insurance. David Moore of Shepherd/Moore Insurance recommended. The quotes are \$1million limit per incidence and \$50,000 deductible is \$12,486.55/year; the \$1million limit and \$25,000 deductible it is \$14,368.45/year; \$2million and 50,000 deductible is \$19,335.60; \$2million and \$25,000 deductible is \$22,272.23. Based on history the \$1million policy is sufficient for the county. He felt that the \$50,000 deductible for \$12,486.55/year would work. Bob Willhite made the motion to go with the \$1million, \$50,000 deductible. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

County Commissioners

Page 4

June 4, 2020

Sheriff Kenny Freeman said he posted the new ordinance on the FB page and got quite a bit of negative feedback as people don't understand what the intent was. He said they would like to repeal the ordinance and have more clarification so it is better understood. Ellie asked why it was posted on FB. The Sheriff said he wanted the public aware. No violations have been written. Matt said he was confused as Dave Turner came requesting that the Commissioners do the ordinance. Sheriff Freeman said he feels it needs more clarification as a "good neighbor policy" and that the intent is not to take away someone's right to burn as long as it doesn't violate a neighbor or violate EPA or other laws. He said everyone is reading things into it. The noise portion needs more clarification. There is much discussion on this. Ellie said it could be rescinded, add a paragraph and re-adopt it. Or she suggested putting a paragraph on FB that this is for health and safety and then this may stop some of the calls the Sheriff's office has been getting. Sheriff Freeman said he doesn't think FB should be the way the ordinance is communicated. Marie Shepherd from Area Plan said they have had several threats from people thinking that the ordinance is from Area Plan. Ellie said this can be revised but there does need to be some common sense application. She said there can be a paragraph added that says the ordinance will be enforced when it is a threat to health and safety. Matt said he doesn't think the ordinance should be rescinded, he feels that a paragraph could be added. Ellie said it could be left in place and just amend it. Ellie said she can write an addition and present it at the next meeting. The original ordinance was not published in the paper yet so it cannot be enforced anyway.

Jackson County REMC letter of support that was handled by Bob needs to be on the record. This was for the Commissioners support of a grant for fiber optic in the lower part of the county. This was done last year and it was due again so Bob signed it as Matt was unavailable. This is at no cost to the county. Dave Lane made the motion to sign it. Bob Willhite seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Tessia asked about the county moving to Stage IV. Ellie said the county has been following the time-line of the state. No ordinances need to be voted on. Tessia said the Commissioners need to vote on hiring the people that will be at the front door for screening. Matt said it was voted on at the Zoom meeting of May 14. Also will their pay be out of General or Rainy Day.

Matt said there is a huge stack of meeting minutes, most through Zoom. Matt has read and approved most of them. Bob Willhite made the motion to approve all the meeting minutes from February 27, March 12, March 18, April 2, April 9, April 14, April 23, April 30, May 14 and May 27. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Bob Willhite then made the motion to approve the meeting minutes for May 28 (Matt was not at this meeting). Dave Lane seconded. Matt was the only member at the joint Council-Commissioner meeting on May 19. Matt approved these minutes.

It was decided that the hiring of the screeners was not voted on previously. Bob Willhite made the motion to allow Nicci to hire 2 part-time people to check temperatures and pass out masks at the Government Center. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

County Commissioners

Page 5

June 4, 2020

Ellie said there was another Executive Order passed by the Governor that stated the Public Health Emergency exists until July. They are still on the same re-opening schedule. Matt asked about the fireworks that they are planning on July 4 at the Fairgrounds and if that will be ok. Ellie said that Trent Wisner said they are putting up signs, etc in reference to social distancing.

Bob Willhite made the motion to sign the payroll and claims. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Matt gave homework for everyone: go home tonight and tell your significant other you love them and kiss your kids on the head.

Bob Willhite made the motion to adjourn. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



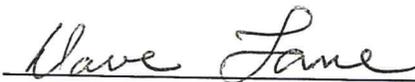
Tessia Salsman, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, President



Bob Willhite, Vice-President



Dave Lane