

**JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2018 6:30 P.M.**

The meeting opened with Matt Sporleder leading the pledge to the flag.

Auditor Vance opened the meeting calling for the election of officers. Bob Willhite nominated Matt Sporleder for President; Dave Lane seconded the nomination. Vote was 2-0

Dave Lane nominated Bob Willhite for Vice-President; Matt Sporleder seconded the nomination. Vote was 2-0

Matt Sporleder and Bob Willhite accepted their positions and the meeting continued.

First on the agenda was Tyler Stock with Coldwell Banker appearing before the Commissioners concerning a strip of land on behalf of his client William Gates. The County was deeded the land from the Robert W. Wilds Trust at no cost to the county on 1/5/17. Ellie Bright, County Attorney, has contacted the attorney for the Trust and concurred with the statement of Mr. Stock. Steve Spicer owns the adjacent piece of property to this strip of land and Mr. Stock feels that he has had ample time to request the same as his client to the County.

Bob Willhite made a motion to table this request until the next meeting; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous.

Next was Jim Reeves, Highway Superintendent, with 3 INDOT Construction Contracts concerning the Community Crossing Matching Grant. The contracts are for unofficial detours for small structure replacement. The three sites all concern State Highway 3 North at various places. Mr. Reeves also had a contract for the Commissioners signature with Dave O'Mara Contractor, Inc. for the 2017-2018 Resurfacing Phase 2 project.

Next was Mark Holwager coming to the Commissioners to ask for help in updating the track at the Fairgrounds. Mr. Holwager stated that a 10 foot fence is needed in front of the grandstands and that he needed 38 six foot barriers also. Matt Sporleder stated he might be able to help out with the barriers but wanted Mr. Holwager to get 3 quotes on the fence and come back to see them at a later date.

Next Randy Shepherd had a list of names for the Commissioners to consider for the PTABOA board in the County Assessor's office. Auditor Vance informed the Commissioners that Linda Kovacich, County Assessor had given them a letter with her recommendations for this board also.

Dave Lane made a motion to appoint Cheryl Miller and Rick Martin to the PTABOA board. Bob Willhite seconded the motion. Vote was 2 Yes and 1 No Motion passed

Auditor Vance informed the Commissioners that they had failed to appoint a representative from the School board to the County TIF board in December.

Bob Willhite made a motion to appoint Travis Shepherd to the County TIF board; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Auditor Vance brought it to the Commissioners attention that two members of the Landfill Committee were deceased and two new members appointed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to appoint Jim Reeves and Howard Malcomb to the County Landfill Committee, Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to approve the Health Department Memorandum of Understanding; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Greg Wilds addressed the board about a Fire Pump at the jail that has rusted and needs to be repacked and might have to replace a 17 year old adapter. Koorsen Fire & Security has given a quote of \$1,604 for repacking and if an adapter is needed an additional \$1701.15 will need to be paid. Mr. Wilds said he hoped that the initial cost would take care of the problem.

Bob Willhite made a motion to replace the packing and if necessary the adapter; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Mr. Wilds also had a quote from Ken Neely to replace the door at the courthouse that was rotting for \$5,000. This quote is to remove the existing wood frame at the defunct door north elevation to a depth sufficient enough to allow for placement of brick, block and sheeted insulation in the entire opening, new replacement brick will match the existing surface as close as possible, a new steel lintel will be installed, the existing stone sill will be removed and salvaged for owners reuse.

Bob Willhite made a motion to replace door for the \$5,000 quote by Ken Neely; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next Auditor Vance submitted a request from FPBH, Inc. for Pay Application #3 to Bradshaw building Specialties, Inc. for \$72,197.00.

Bob Willhite made a motion to pay App #3 for Bradshaw Building Specialties, Inc. for \$72,197; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next a representative of Thrive Alliance wanting to make the Commissioners aware of a program they were hoping to start in Jennings County to help Grandparents and relatives who are raising children. On Wednesday, January 31st 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Jennings County Public Library Conference Room there will be a Focus Group meeting. A light lunch will be provided. People may RSVP by 1/29/18

by calling 812-372-6918 or emailing contact@thrive-alliance.org. Matt Sporleder asked the ladies to keep him informed as he would be interested in helping this program proceed and asked the Auditor to email the flyer out to anyone she thought could help get the word out about this meeting.

Next the Commissioners opened the meeting up to anyone attending the meeting concerning the jail.

Howard Malcomb went before the board asking about the costs to renovate the old building. Mr. Malcomb stated he was concerned about no information being released and no money figure had been discussed.

Matt Sporleder stated that there was no information to release as the Committee to which he is a member has not been able to obtain any property to build a jail and the money figure seems to be changing constantly. It started out at \$20 million then it went to \$15 million and now \$8 million is being said what can be set aside so until a figure can be nailed down as to what the County can afford, the Committee cannot go forward.

Merilee Barber was in attendance and said she could not believe the County was talking of spending millions of dollars for a new jail when the County employees do not have PERF (retirement). Ms. Barber stated that the County Council needs to state the amount the county can afford to spend without raising taxes.

Brian Hatfield, President of the City Council and Jack Kelley, a member of the City Council were also in attendance and voiced the concern of walking away from the current jail facility. Sheriff Gary Driver stated that he already has had several people interested in securing some space if and when a new jail is build. Sheriff Driver went on to say that 911 and EMS is not moving and would still be housed there.

Mr. Hatfield and Mr. Kelley stated that the City wants to help the County and would like to meet with them as soon as possible to see about some options that might help. Matt Sporleder stated he is all for that and was willing as he assured the others on the committee would be but needed to be prior to January 26th in order for him to attend. It was decided to have a joint meeting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, January 25th prior to the regular Commissioner meeting that evening.

Bob Willhite made a motion to approve prior minutes; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign claims; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

With no further business, Bob Willhite made a motion to adjourn; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Attest:

Kay Sue Vance

Kay Sue Vance, Auditor

Matt Sporleder

Matt Sporleder, President

Robert Willhite

Robert Willhite

David Lane

David Lane