

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018**

The Commissioners met with Larry Buzzard, Rob Miller and Tom Wall present.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)

02/19/2018 Minutes

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the minutes for 02/19/2018. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)

03/05/2018 Claims

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the claims for 03/05/2018. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)

03/02/2018 Payroll and Longevity Pay

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the payroll docket and the longevity docket for 03/02/2018. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

J. Edward Roush – “Father of 911”

On March 1, 2018 a ceremony was held at the Huntington County Sheriff’s Department, where the county’s emergency dispatch department is located, honoring the late former U. S. Congressman J. Edward Roush and marking the 50th anniversary of 911 service in the state of Indiana. State Treasurer and Chair of the Statewide 911 Board, Kelly Mitchell, represented Indiana at the ceremony, which was attended by local law enforcement and first responder agencies, as well as local politicians and officials, and Roush’s children. Roush served as Indiana’s Fourth District congressman from 1958 to 1976 and one of his greatest achievements was championing the 911 system and seeing it to fruition in 1968. On March 1, 1968 Huntington became the first American city served by AT&T owned Bell System to receive 911 service, with Roush “the Father of 911” placing the first 911 test call. At the ceremony, Melissa Taylor, Huntington County Public Safety Dispatch Director and President of the Association of Public Safety Communications, said that in 2017 the combined Huntington City and County Dispatch received 21,451 911 emergency calls and that the department is continuously updating and modernizing the system to keep up with today’s needs. U. S. Representative Jim Banks’ Senior Advisor Chris Crabtree attended the ceremony and presented the Roush family with a flag that flew over the U. S. Capitol on February 16, 2018. Crabtree said that “any honors that we’ve given the family pale in comparison to the 911 calls that happen every day that save lives”.

IN THE MATTER OF BID OPENING)

Update on 7342 S – 300 W, Warren, Indiana and Demolition Proposals

Land Use and Office Coordinator Marla Stambazze appeared before the Commissioners to update them on the current condition of the unsafe property at 7342 S – 300 W, Warren, Indiana. The parties with substantial interest in the real estate failed to appear. The structure on the property is deemed to be unsafe. The real estate is determined to have a negative effect on property values and the quality of life of the surrounding area. The Commissioners opened three proposals from contractors for demolition of the property:

Zahm Excavating - \$6,670.00,

Amor Excavating, Inc. - \$16,955.00

Dirt, Inc. - \$9,740.00

Tom Wall made a motion to proceed with demolition of the property and to accept the bid proposal of Zahm Excavating for \$6,670.00 to demolish the property. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

Frontier – 5268 W – 800 S, Huntington County, Indiana

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Frontier Permit for 5268 W – 800 S, Huntington County, Indiana. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

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IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Agreement for Prison Solutions

Tom Wall made a motion to approve and sign the Agreement for Prison Solutions between the Huntington County Sheriff's Department and LexisNexis for the online access to legal services at the Huntington County Jail for the period of June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019 and June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Data Sharing Agreement

Dathen Strine, GIS Coordinator, submitted to the Commissioners for their review and signature a Data Sharing Agreement between IU Public Policy Institute and Huntington County.

Tom Wall made a motion to enter into and sign the Data Sharing Agreement between IU Public Policy Institute and Huntington County. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Human Resource – Update

Human Resource Director Erika Devine presented the Job Classification Committee Report that sets forth the items discussed at the Job Classification meeting on February 20, 2018, along with the recommendations made by the committee.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Paid Time Off – Pay Out Request

Human Resource Director Erika Devine informed the Commissioners that a Courthouse employee that retired in January has inquired about receiving her full PTO payout that she accrued and received in December, 2017 and January, 2018.

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to allow the employee to receive her full PTO payout.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Health Insurance Report

Human Resource Director Erika Devine submitted the monthly Health Insurance Report for the month of February, 2018. Erika also presented a breakdown of the 2016 and 2017 Health Insurance Costs which highlighted the department reimbursement, employee contributions, other budgeted sources, total revenue budget figures, total expense budget figures and the reserve amount (surplus)/over budget.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Chalk Walk

Pam Burris and Katie Strass appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the Chalk Walk that they are organizing. They are requesting to hold the event outside around the Courthouse square on September 15, 2018. They are planning to showcase local music and artists. Pam discussed the success of last year's Chalk Walk and anticipates more vendors and artists to be involved in this year's event.

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to allow the use of the Courthouse square for the 2018 Chalk Walk.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

2017 Annual Operational Report for Local Roads and Streets

Highway Department Superintendent Troy Hostetler presented the 2017 Annual Operational Report for Local Roads and Streets for the Commissioners' review and signature.

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to sign the 2017 Annual Operational Report for Local Roads and Streets.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Highway Department – Update

Highway Department Superintendent Troy Hostetler discussed several items that he is working on at the highway department.

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Troy told the Commissioners that United Consulting will be coming to the next Commissioners' meeting on March 19, 2018 to discuss bridge inspections.

Troy informed the Commissioners that the City has annexed some property along 200 N and he inquired about what to do about the walking path, that had been previously discussed to construct, along that part of the road that leads up to the Industrial Park. The Commissioners suggested that Troy contact the City to discuss the situation.

Troy has, once again, been contacted by the property owners at Bracken Road and Highway 105 inquiring about vacating the platted road that runs between their house and garage and deeding that property to them. He indicated that the property owners also requested that the County maintain the unused road. The Commissioners indicated that they will talk with County Attorney Bob Garrett to help determine what course of action to take.

Troy updated the Commissioners on various pieces of equipment that he is looking at and pricing for the highway department.

Tom Wall informed Troy that the drainage board has determined that the culvert located near 7395 W – 900 N, Huntington is set too high and that they felt that the ditch needed to be dipped again. Troy said that he would see that the matter was taken care of.

Tom Wall told Troy that the Huntington County Saddle Club has chosen to clean up the ditches along Salamonie Avenue from Waterworks Road up to Division Road. Tom said that the club will do the clean-up approximately three times per year, the next time being on April 28th. Tom asked if Troy could put up a sign along that roadway to inform citizens of the clean-up effort. Troy said that he would get the proper signs in place along the roadway.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Building Update

Facilities Manager Greg Ricker gave an update on the building repairs that will be done over the next few months. He indicated that there had been a roofing change suggestion and that he will have a discussion with Scott Carnegie about the necessity of the change and whether or not it would give more longevity to the roof. Greg further discussed the construction of the tunnel at the Jefferson Street entrance and the progress of the heating units being installed. There will be a project meeting on March 8, 2018 to discuss the second floor restrooms, the exterior, roof and the HVAC unit. Larry Buzzard said that he was available to attend that meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION)

The Commissioners met in executive session at 11:15 a.m. to discuss interviews and negotiations with industrial or commercial prospects or agents of industrial or commercial prospects by the Indiana economic development corporation, the office of tourism development, the Indiana finance authority, the ports of Indiana, an economic development commission, the Indiana state department of agriculture, a local economic development organization or a governing body of a political subdivision as authorized under I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(4) as provided in the public notice of executive session. No other subject matter was discussed in executive session other than that authorized under I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(4). No official decisions were made in executive session.

The Executive Session was closed.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

LIT – Economic Development – Project Formaggio

Huntington County Economic Development Executive Director Mark Wickersham requested that the Commissioners approve a LIT grant request in the sum of \$150,000.00 for Project Formaggio.

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the LIT grant request in the sum of \$150,000.00 for Project Formaggio to be paid from LIT Economic Development Funds Project 6. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

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IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Huntington County Economic Development - 2017 Annual Report

Executive Director Mark Wickersham submitted the Huntington County Economic Development 2017 Annual Report to the Commissioners for their review.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Brightpoint - Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG) – Internship Request

Brightpoint JAG Work Experience Coordinator Demetria Pettie appeared before the Commissioners to request an internship placement for one student currently attending Huntington North High School who would like to pursue a career in law enforcement. Demetria explained that the JAG program is a 35 year old, national, non-profit organization dedicated to drop-out prevention by helping students with barriers succeed in high school and beyond. She discussed the process and details involved with the 12 week internship program. The student intern would be available to begin as soon as possible and would work approximately 20 hours per week.

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to allow for a student intern and asked Emergency Management Agency Director Bob Jeffers to assist with the process. The Commissioners suggested that the intern be exposed to various other departments such as the Sheriff’s Department, Huntington County Public Dispatch and Courthouse Security. The Commissioners also asked that County Attorney Bob Garrett review the paperwork involved and to make any recommendations and/or changes he deemed necessary.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Huntington County Bridge Inventory – Draft Report

Highway Superintendent Troy Hostetler and Jeff Larrison from United Consulting presented the Huntington County Inventory, Phase I 2017, Draft Report for the Commissioners’ review. Jeff will appear at the next Commissioners’ meeting to discuss the details of the report.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Gasoline User Fee Cooperation Agreement

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Gasoline User Fee Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Huntington, Indiana. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

Larry Buzzard

Rob Miller

Tom Wall

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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Attest:

Cindy Yeiter, Auditor