

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2020**

Pursuant to the State of Indiana Executive Order 20-04, all governing bodies of public agencies may suspend the requirement of explicitly adopting a policy for electronic participation and reduce the number of members required to be physically present to one member only. All votes of the governing body during the electronic meeting must be taken by roll call vote.

The Commissioners met with Larry Buzzard present. Tom Wall and Rob Miller were absent from the meeting but participated and voted via teleconference.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)

04/13/2020 Minutes

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the minutes for 04/13/2020. Larry Buzzard seconded and the motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)

04/27/2020 Claims

Larry Buzzard made a motion to approve the claims for 04/27/2020. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)

04/24/2020 – Payroll

Larry Buzzard made a motion to approve the payroll docket for 04/24/2020. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Auction Marketing Sheet

Steve Ness from Ness Bros. Realtors & Auctioneers presented an Auction Marketing Sheet that sets forth the description of advertising for County surplus items that they will be selling for the Huntington County Courthouse, Huntington County Jail and Sheriff's Department, and the Huntington County Highway Department.

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to enter into and sign the Auction Marketing Sheet, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Letter in Support of Grant Application – City of Huntington Fire Department

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to send a letter in support of the grant application submitted on behalf of the City of Huntington's Fire Department and the Huntington County volunteer fire stations for the purchase of communication devices, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Huntington County Sewer District Regionalization – Update

BCS Management CEO Lana Beregszazi appeared before the Commissioners via teleconference to update them on the progress of the Huntington County Sewer District Reorganization. Lana explained that due to the current global pandemic, federal funding of \$3.2 billion for economic aid and infrastructure will be made available to municipalities throughout Indiana. Huntington County intends to apply through the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership for funding of \$5-7 million through this program to be allocated to various entities within the county. The Commissioners believe that the new combined sewer districts will be able to join with the County in applying for these dollars much more effectively than each of them individually with limited resources. The Commissioners agree to commit the following to the new, combined Huntington County Regional Water and Sewer District, which includes those who elect to combine now:

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Allocation of Huntington County Federal Infrastructure Disaster Funding;
Assistance with grant applications or costs associated with refinancing debt;
Contribution of \$50,000.00 in 2020 to a “maintenance fund” for future maintenance requirements, and,
Contribution of \$50,000.00 in 2021 to a “maintenance fund” for future maintenance requirements, for a total of \$100,000.00 over a two-year period.

By consensus, the Commissioners agree to send out a letter to the four sewer districts in Huntington County outlining the above and asking that they consider the regionalization.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Award of Bid – Huntington County Jail Expansion and Maintenance Building

DLZ Project Manager Scott Carnegie submitted a Bid Conformance Letter to the Commissioners, which provides, in part, that DLZ has reviewed Weigand Construction Co., Inc.’s submitted bid for the Huntington County Jail Expansion and Maintenance Building and it appears to be compliant with bidding requirements. Therefore, DLZ recommends that the Commissioners award the Base Bid, Alternate No. 2, No. 3, No. 5 and No. 6, for a total amount of \$17,057,900.00. DLZ does not recommend awarding the Maintenance Building, Optional Combined Bid, Alternate No. 1 or Alternate No. 4.

Larry Buzzard made a motion to accept the Base Bid of \$17,062,000.00, Alternate No. 2 of \$31,500.00, Alternate No. 3 of (deduct) \$65,200.00, Alternate No. 5 of \$3,100.00 and Alternate No. 6 of \$26,500.00 from Weigand Construction Co., Inc. for a total amount of \$17,057,900.00, based upon the County’s ability to secure financing for the project. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

Rob Miller made a motion to not award the bid for the Maintenance Building, the Optional Combined Bid, Alternate No. 1 and Alternate No. 4. Larry Buzzard seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

Rob Miller made a motion authorizing DLZ to send a Notice to Proceed letter to Weigand Construction Co., Inc. Larry Buzzard seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Huntington County Public Safety Dispatch – Update on Communication Tower

Huntington County Dispatch Director Tim Allen appeared before the Commissioners to give them an update on the progress of the planning and design of the communication tower. Tim has been in contact with the Federal Communication Commission concerning their rules and guidelines about the height and wattage allowed for the tower. Further, Tim has been informed that the proposed site on Flaxmill Road may be in an historic district due to its proximity to the Victory Noll Center and the St. Felix Catholic Center. Tim will continue working with the FCC and will look further into whether the proposed site is in an historic district. Tim will also consider an alternate site, if necessary.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

IT Department – Update

IT Director Joakim Abrahamsson updated the Commissioners on several items that he is working on for the IT Department.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Community Harvest Food Bank

Rob Miller made a motion to install a blacktop pad at the Huntington County Annex building parking lot to accommodate the unloading and distributing of food items from the Community Harvest Food Bank Wagon to citizens of Huntington County, the cost of the installation to be paid from the Cumulative Courthouse fund. Larry Buzzard seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Lighting Around the Courthouse

Larry Buzzard made a motion to install exterior lighting around the Courthouse, to be paid from the Cumulative Courthouse fund. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Complete Appraisal Services

Complete Appraisal Services presented a Real Property Appraisal Report for the former worship facility located at 246 East Franklin Street, Huntington, Indiana, along with an Invoice in the sum of \$2,000.00 for services rendered in connection with the appraisal services.

Rob Miller made a motion to pay the Invoice in the sum of \$2,000.00 to Complete Appraisal Services from the Miscellaneous Contractual fund. Larry Buzzard seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Legal – Update

County Attorney Bob Garrett updated the Commissioners on several items that he is working on for the County.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

Frontier Communications - CR W Bracken Road Between: CR N 600 W and CR IN-5, Huntington County, Indiana

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the Frontier Communications Application for Permit for CR W Bracken Road Between: CR N 600 W and CR IN-5, Huntington County, Indiana. Larry Buzzard seconded and the motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

County Clerk's Report

County Clerk Shelley Septer submitted the monthly County Clerk's Report for the month of March, 2020.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

County Treasurer's Report

County Treasurer Paula Farley submitted the monthly County Treasurer's Report for the month of March, 2020.

IN THE MATTER OF INVESTMENTS)

Cumulative Courthouse Investment and Courthouse Improvement Bond Investment

The Commissioners discussed the renewal of the monthly Cumulative Courthouse Investment and the Courthouse Improvement Bond Investment. They discussed the current budget status for the funds.

Larry Buzzard made a motion to invest \$450,000.00 in the Cumulative Courthouse fund for thirty (30) days. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

Larry Buzzard made a motion to invest \$250,000.00 in the Courthouse Improvement Bond Investment for thirty (30) days. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Removal of Brush/Small Trees/Debris – 349 East State Street, Huntington, Indiana

Facilities Manager Greg Ricker informed the Commissioners that he requested bids from Dirt, Inc., Amor Excavating and Zahm Excavating for removal of brush/small trees/debris, and then to fill and compact the area with soil, and seeding of the area located at 349 East State Street, Huntington, Indiana. Greg indicated that he received one quote from Dirt, Inc. in the sum of \$3,500.00 for those services.

Rob Miller made a motion to accept the quote of Dirt, Inc. for removal of brush/small trees/debris, and to fill and compact area with soil, and seeding of the area located at 349 East State Street, Huntington, Indiana in the sum of \$3,500.00, to be paid from the Huntington County Jail Expansion fund. Larry Buzzard seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Huntington County Courthouse – Cleaning Expense

On the Spot Cleaning presented an Invoice for subcontract cleaning of the Huntington County Courthouse in the sum of \$1,275.00.

Larry Buzzard made a motion to pay On the Spot Cleaning the sum of \$1,275.00 for subcontract cleaning of the Huntington County Courthouse, to be paid from the Miscellaneous Contractual Services fund. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Huntington County Courthouse Security – Protective Guards

Indiana Signworks presented an Invoice for protective guards for the Huntington County Security Department in the sum of \$234.66.

Larry Buzzard made a motion to pay Indiana Signworks the sum of \$234.66 for protective guards for the Huntington County Security Department, to be paid from the Cumulative Courthouse fund. Rob Miller seconded and motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Huntington Area Transportation Quarterly Report

Huntington County Council on Aging Director Holly Saunders appeared before the Commissioners to submit the first quarter, 2020 Huntington Area Transportation Quarterly Report.

Larry Buzzard made a motion to accept and sign the first quarter, 2020 Huntington Area Transportation Quarterly Report. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund 2020-1 Award Letter and Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement Contract #LG200212

Huntington County Highway Superintendent Troy Hostetler presented the Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund 2020-1 Award Letter and Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement Contract #LG200212 for the Commissioners' review and consideration.

Rob Miller made a motion to sign the Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund 2020-1 Award Letter and Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement Contract #LG200212 and authorizes Larry Buzzard to sign the paperwork on behalf of the Huntington County Board of Commissioners. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Letter of Understanding/Unofficial Detour – Bridge Deck Overlay, SR 218 over Morrison Ditch, 0.92 Miles West of SR 3, Contract: B-41824, Des. No.: 1701355

Huntington County Highway Superintendent Troy Hostetler presented a Letter of Understanding/Unofficial Detour – Bridge Deck Overlay, SR 218 over Morrison Ditch, 0.92 Miles West of SR 3, Contract: B-41824, Des. No.: 1701355 for the Commissioners’ review and consideration.

By consensus, the Commissioners made a motion to sign the Letter of Understanding/Unofficial Detour – Bridge Deck Overlay, SR 218 over Morrison Ditch, 0.92 Miles West of SR 3, Contract: B-41824, Des. No.: 1701355, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Level One Design Exception Request for Lane Width, Des. No.: 1702814 – CR 900 S Over Salamonie River

Huntington County Highway Superintendent Troy Hostetler presented a Level One Design Exception Request for Lane Width, Des. No.: 1702814 – CR 900 S Over Salamonie River for the Commissioners’ review and consideration.

By consensus, the Commissioners made a motion to sign the Level One Design Exception Request for Lane Width, Des. No.: 1702814 – CR 900 S Over Salamonie River, with Larry Buzzard voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Human Resource – Update

Human Resource Director Stefanie Rogers updated the Commissioners on several items that she is working on for the County.

Stefanie said that she would be sending out a revised 2020 Holiday Schedule to reflect a change in the Primary Election Day holiday from Tuesday, May 4, 2020 to Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

Commissioner Larry Buzzard left the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

LIT Distribution – Huntington County Public Safety Dispatch

Tom Wall made a motion to approve a LIT distribution to Huntington County Public Safety Dispatch in a sum not to exceed \$12,000.00 for the purchase of chairs to be used by dispatch employees, to be paid from LIT Economic Development Funds Project 4. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 2-0, with Tom Wall voting yea and Rob Miller voting yea.

The Commissioners recessed at 12:35 p.m.

Tom Wall

Rob Miller

Larry Buzzard

ATTEST:

Jill M. Landrum, Auditor

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