

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
MARCH 2, 2020

Commissioner Hunt called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order. All Commissioners are present.

4 COUNTY

Nicole Hiatt-Drang, Vice President of Miami County Operations came before the board to provide an update on services for 4 County. Ms. Drang stated Miami County had 42,033 client care contacts in 2019. 4 County has increased school treatment service and now has 6 therapists working in the county schools, with the exception of Maconaquah. 4 County has been able to increase wages of the staff and offer retention bonuses, which has been beneficial in keeping services in the county. Ms. Drang also mentioned they would add a Suboxone program & 23-hour crisis stabilization unit, which will them to house inmates on an emergency detention order who need the services of 4 County. Ms. Drang also noted that 4 County would be hosting support groups for family members of people with addiction. There will also be an 8-week education program offered at the jail to assist those who need help to find treatment after their release.

MIAMI COUNTY CHILD ABUSE COUNCIL

Susan Morris came before the board to request permission to place the pinwheel garden on the Courthouse lawn the month of April for child abuse prevention month. Ms. Morris also shared about an upcoming event called the 2020 Celebration of Children on March 12, 2020. The guest speaker is Herb Stepherson, a recovering addict who now is a recovery coach and intervention coordinator. Ms. Morris heard Mr. Stepherson speak and he offers a very good presentation. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the request to place the pinwheel garden on the Courthouse lawn child abuse prevention month. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

LIGHT UP! PERU/CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Paul Forman, President of Light Up! Peru, came before the board to request closure of Court Street, use of both employee parking lots and electricity if needed. Mr. Foreman explained he is putting together a Christmas in July event, which will include a Chili Cook Off type setting, only all things smoked and grilled, vendors and car/truck/bike show. All proceeds will go to lighting up Maconaquah Park at Christmas where people can drive through and look at lights. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the request to close Court Street and allow use of the 2 employee parking lots and electricity if needed for the Christmas in July event. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

LIBRARY CONTRACT

Commissioner Hunt shared that he is not opposed to the program, but does not agree with how it is being operated. Commissioner Hunt went on to note that he spoke with several people and a few shared they received a free card, but did not use it. Commissioner Hunt feels the cards should be offered on some kind of lottery system or the county residents pay \$25.00. Commissioner Musselman feels there is a misconception with \$75,000.00 covering the free cards. Some people he spoke with shared they had a free card and when asked how many times they used it, Commissioner Musselman was told 1 or 2 times. The county residents using the free card 1 or 2 times however would not pay the \$25.00 fee. Commissioner West feels those who need the free cards should be moved to the front of the line or offer a lottery system or other method. Commissioner West noted the Library feels they could not take the \$25.00 fee, but he believes there could be a work around to be able to accommodate handling of the funds. Anna Jo McKaig explained the steps to putting a referendum on the ballot for creating a county library. Commissioner Musselman expressed concern over the Library not wanting to negotiate at all with the county. The board is trying to help more residents, but the Library refuses to do anything to work with the county in finding a reasonable solution.

AT & T

Brandon Schaaf, AT & T First Net came before the board to present their wireless program offered to Sheriff, Police, Fire, First Responders, Government and schools. Mr. Schaaf explained that during 9/11, the wireless network experienced such heavy volume of traffic that it made it impossible for First Responders to communicate with those inside the World Trade Center. Since then, the 9/11 Commission decided something needed to change to avoid an issue like that happening. It took the 9/11 Commissioner 10 years to come up with a plan to help those in the specific services in times of crisis. The 9/11 Commission came up with a plan to provide a separate network for emergency personnel. The plan also allows anyone on the plan would also have priority on the consumer network. If at any time there were a crisis, AT & T has the ability to flip a switch only allowing emergency personnel to communicate. The program allows AT & T to offer discounted services to these in roles within these particular agencies. Governor Holcomb signed an order where the program would cost \$39.99 per device with unlimited text, data and messaging. Currently, the Sheriff's Department utilizes the program. Mr. Schaaf wanted the board to be aware of the program and that several departments/individuals within county government would qualify for an agency or subscriber pay application. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to allow First Net services to all qualifying personnel, offering an agency or subscriber plan. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

EMA

Director Marks presented a quote of \$5,125.00 from Steve Allen Construction for repairs to the restroom at the EOC building. Director Marks attempted to obtain other quotes as requested by the board, but could not get contractors to return calls or were too busy. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the renovation to the EOC restrooms for \$5,125.00 with Steve Allen Construction to be paid from Cum Courthouse. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

MORE FOR MIAMI

Kathy Brehmer and Jen Yates, More For Miami came before the board to request permission to host the Easter Parade on April 12, 2020 from 3-5pm. More for Miami is requesting closure of Court Street, use of the Courthouse lawn and permission to hang the banner on the Courthouse. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the request from More For Miami for the closure of Court Street, use of the Courthouse lawn and permission to hang the banner on the Courthouse. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

IV-D

Peter Diedrichs, Deputy Prosecutor came before the board to request permission to use IV-D incentive funds for IRS background checks. Deputy Prosecutor Diedrichs explained all employees working in IV-D must now have background checks through Barada Inc. All new hires will be required to go through the background check process. There are different costs depending on how long you have worked for the county and past work history within an IV-D office. Deputy Prosecutor Diedrichs would like to use IV-D incentive funds to pay \$11,671.00 for the background checks. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the request from Deputy Prosecutor Diedrichs to use \$11,671.00 from IV-D Incentive funds for background checks. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

BUILDING #14 FORMER BASE OPS BUILDING GRANT

Steven Ray came before the board to present resolutions for the grant application for the demo of building #14 former Base Ops Building. There is a resolution authorizing the application submission and local match commitment. The 2nd resolution is authorizing the local grant match from MCEDA funds. Mr. Ray noted the required public hearing was advertised and held on February 28, 2020. Commissioner West made a motion to approve Resolution 3/2/2020 authorizing the application submission and local match commitment. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0. Commissioner West made a motion to approve Resolution 3/2/2020B authorizing the local match commitment. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

BROADBAND ACCESS

Jim Tidd, MCEDA Director came before the board to present a proposal from Pyramid Consulting to do a needs assessment in Miami County for broadband services. Pyramid Consulting sent a quote of \$10,000.00 for the service with an additional \$1,000.00 for reimbursable. Pyramid Consulting would review the service territories, locate current broadband companies in the area and review delivery capability. Pyramid Consulting would present a recommendation. Charles Smith, county resident stated Miami Cass-REMC would be offering similar services and suggested the board contact them before doing anything further. The board asked Mr. Tidd to contact Rob Schwartz with Miami Cass-REMC to come to the next meeting and provide further information on the project.

HIGHWAY

Ken Einselen, Highway Engineer presented a request from BSM Group to place buried fiber optic facilities at CR 200 W South of CR 800 South. A section of aerial utilities would be moved underground. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the request from BSM Group to place buried fiber optic facilities at CR 200 W South of CR 800 South. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Engineer Einselen presented supplemental agreement 2 from Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc. for right-of-way acquisition on the Wayne Street bridge project. Engineer Einselen explained they are having trouble determining the owners of 2 properties, which will require petitioning the courts to determine the true right-of-way. The amendment would cover the cost of the right-of-way acquisition is \$23,900.00. Currently, there are not federal funds being used for acquisition, but the county would use the guidelines to obtain federal funding in the future on the rehabilitation of the bridge. Commissioner West made a motion to approve supplemental agreement 2 Fairman & Seufert, Inc. for \$23,900.00, covering the right-of-way acquisition on the Wayne Street bridge project. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Engineer Einselen presented information to the board regarding Disability Awareness Month. Engineer Einselen will have posters and other materials specific to voting available.

HOLIDAY PAY POLICY

Auditor Brown requested the board provide a final decision on the holiday pay policy. The current policy allows for vacation and comp time only to be used. After the New Year holiday, there were additional question of use of sick time and personal time the day prior and/or after a holiday. Commissioner West made a motion to allow vacation, comp time and personal days to be used the day before and/or after a holiday to earn pay for the holiday day. Sick time in any increments is not allowed to be used the day prior and/or the day after a holiday. Any employee who uses sick time in any increments the day before or the day after a holiday will lose their pay for that holiday. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

If an employee has an extenuating circumstance and sick time is the only accrued time available to use the day before and/or after a holiday, the Department Head will need to meet with the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners will review the request, which should also include a doctor's note, and then determine if they will allow the exception. If Department Head does not make the request to the Board of Commissioners within the pay period, the employee will not earn their holiday pay. If the Board of Commissioners denies the request, the employee will not earn their holiday pay. If the Board of Commissioners do not meet until after the pay period and they approve the request for exception to allow sick time to be used, the employee will receive their holiday pay on the following pay period.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Hunter came before the board to discuss the snow removal for the Courthouse. Sheriff Hunter explained Maintenance hand shoveled the sidewalks around the Courthouse and that could not continue. The snow blower works for certain kinds of snow, but cannot handle the heavy snow and ice. Sheriff Hunter noted that we cannot expect Maintenance to hand shovel the entire facility. Sheriff Hunter obtained a quote for

a compact tractor with blade, loader and weights for \$15,000.00. Commissioner West suggested a 4-wheeler with a blade. The board would like to continue looking for options.

CLAIMS

Commissioner West made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PAYROLL

Commissioner West made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

MINUTES

Commissioner West made a motion to approve the 2/3/20 minutes. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

LETTER

The board received a letter from Liz Flaherty expressing concern over the county not doing the subsidized library cards.

WABASH RIVER HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION

The board received the minutes from the 1/8/2020 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission.

EMPLOYEE LEAVE

The board received a letter from Taylour Stewart regarding her time off for maternity leave. Ms. Stewart will take 6 weeks maternity leave in June 2020.

IRS AUDIT

Auditor Brown presented the engagement letter from Barnes & Thornburg for assistance on the IRS audit of the jail bonds. The fee will range between \$7,500.00 and \$10,000.00. Attorney Downs noted the funds for the audit are in the bond pool. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the engagement letter with Barnes & Thornburg for assistance on the IRS audit of the jail bonds. Commissioner Musselman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

CLEANING QUOTE

The board received quotes for Courthouse/Annex cleaning from the following:
The Maintenance Crew \$7,020.55 per month and Beyond Cleaning Service \$2050.00 per month and mowing of \$1,200.00 for 5 mowings per month and lawn treatment.
Commissioner West made a motion to accept the bid from Beyond Cleaning Services, effective April 1, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brenda Weaver suggested to the board they not provide the \$75,000.00 funding to the Library for the subsidized cards. Ms. Weaver stated that the Library does not need the money to function and the loss of financial support would not hurt their operations.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Adjourned

MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

_____, **Chairman**
Alan Hunt

_____, **Vice Chairman**
Larry West

_____, Member
Keith Musselman

Attest: _____, Auditor
Mary Brown