

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
25 N BROADWAY  
PERU, IN 46970  
MARCH 1, 2021

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

**OCRA GRANT PHASE 3**

Jim Tidd, MCEDA Director came before the board to present Phase 3 of the OCRA grant for COVID Funding. Director Tidd explained the categories to apply for funding have expanded, which now allows funding for childcare and mental health services. Director Tidd explained the funding would be used to staff additional therapists at the 3 county schools to help students and staff deal with the isolation, changes with virtual & live instruction and overall impacts on the family. Currently, the program is offered to students who are on already enrolled in services through Four County or on Medicaid. This would allow the opportunity for all students and staff to take advantage of the mental health services. The grant would provide 90% funding and a 10% local match, which he has recommended come from MCEDA funds. Director Tidd has presented at the February 1, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting and is now required to hold a public hearing to comply with the grant application.

Commissioner Hunt opened the public hearing. Dr. Carrie Cadwell noted current students and faculty who have commercial insurance could not receive services through the school, only in the office. The grant will allow the program to services those students and staff with mental health issues at the school, which provides an opportunity to fill the gaps where these individuals may otherwise not receive assistance.

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to authorize Commissioner Hunt to sign the letter of consent for Jenni Mykkanen to transcribe the minutes for the public hearing for the Miami County COVID Phase 3 grant application. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner Musselman approved Resolution 3/1/21 Authorizing Local Match Commitment for COVID Phase 3 grant application. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner Musselman approved Resolution 3/1/21 A Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment for COVID Phase 3 grant application. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Director Tidd presented a letter of financial commitment to be signed by Auditor Mary Brown, attesting that the funds for the local match of \$10,000.00 would come from MCEDA funding for the COVID Phase 3 grant application.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to authorize Commissioner Hunt to sign the letter of support for City of Peru to apply for funding for childcare services under the Miami County COVID Phase 3 grant application. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **5<sup>TH</sup> STREET COUNTY PARKING LOT**

Director Tidd presented a preliminary concept for parking at the current 5<sup>th</sup> Street employee parking lot owned by the county. Currently, the county owns the entire parking lot. Director Tidd stated he is working with 7 Pillars Brewery to come up with a 4-way partnership between them, the county, City of Peru, Rediscover Downtown Peru to allow 7 Pillars additional parking during business hours. The board would like to take the matter under advisement.

### **TAX SALE PROPERTY ASSIGNMENTS**

Brenda Douglass, City of Peru Building Department came before the board to request assignment of 9 parcels to the City of Peru. Ms. Douglass explained the properties either been or in the process of being condemned and part of the blight project to get the parcels back on the tax rolls. The properties are as follows:

1. 73 Thorpe Drive
2. 64 Adams
3. 496 Madison
4. 320 N. Broadway
5. 304 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
6. 351 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street
7. 165 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street
8. 322 W 13<sup>th</sup> Street
9. 504 Oak Street

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Resolution 3/1/21 B Assigning Properties to the City of Peru According to IC Code 6-1.1-24-6.2. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **FOUR COUNTY**

Dr. Carrie Cadwell, CEO 4 County came before the board with a 2020 overview of services provided by 4 County. Dr. Cadwell shared the following.

- 1366 Miami County residents were serviced in 2020. During the onset of the closures associated with the pandemic.
- 95% of their services went virtual within 48 hours. 4 County staff went above and beyond to ensure the clients were taken care of.
- The acute care within 4 County did not shut down, although they reduced their beds by 2 to accommodate any patient with COVID.

- 4 County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> out of 25 mental health facilities statewide. A huge accomplishment for rural mental health facilities.
- A new Suboxone program started in 2020, along with peer services.
- Looking to expand adult mental health services and transitional home services
- Mobile Crisis Services started in September. The team responds along with law enforcement to mental health crisis. The team is a 24/7, 365 day unit and provides 90-day after care follow-up to help in directing patients to seek proper mental health treatment.

## **HIGHWAY**

Janice Hughes, Highway Bookkeeper explained March 10, 2021 is the letting date for the Bridge #501 (Wayne Street Bridge). Bookkeeper Hughes will receive the documents and have 24-48 hours to respond. Bookkeeper Hughes requested the board be available to sign documents.

## **BID OPENING**

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent opened bids for materials and fuel for the following.

- Item #1-Hanson, IMI, Kokomo Gravel, Speedway Sand & Gravel
- Item #2-Ashpalt Materials, Pierceton Trucking & Company, Marathon Petroleum, Kling Group
- Item #3-Phend & Brown, Gaunt & Sons, E & B Paving
- Item #4-Central Paving, Phend & Brown
- Item #5-CERES Solutions

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to take the bids under advisement. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

## **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Dr. Redmon suggested the board consider looking at a regional partnership for hiring a Health Officer. Several units have started partnering with other communities to be able to pay a Health Officer a competitive salary.

Dr. Guthrie explained the vaccination efforts are going well. Grant funding have allowed the department to move the vaccination clinic from the Health Dept. to the old Firehouse. This has allowed a separation of duties. Dr. Guthrie thanked Dr. Redmon for getting the process started, as it has been a daunting task. Dr. Guthrie noted that there is about 10 weeks of funding remaining between the grant funds and the goal is to reach the 50-year and older group and those with major health issues. The hope is more doctors' offices and drug stores will start vaccinations.

## **PLAN COMMISSION**

Corey Roser, Plan Commission Administrator brought before the board information on codifying and updating ordinances within the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission Board feel the ordinances are in need of updating for easier accessibility. There are several items found missing within the ordinances, which creates delays and other issues.

In addition, the software currently used by the office is antiquated and in need of updating. Administrator Roser would like direction on how the board would like him to proceed with the project. The board feels Administrator Roser should look at the cost of updating the software. Administrator Roser will continue working on gathering quotes and bring back to the board.

### **OLD BMV REMODEL QUOTES**

The board received the following quotes for the remodel of the old BMV purchased for the Health Department.

- Hearn Construction \$752,542
- Laycock Properties \$500,000

The board had Attorney Steve Downs review the bids. Attorney Downs stated that Laycock Properties was missing the signature page for the bid. The board could make the stipulation the document be signed before proceeding with any work. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the bid from Laycock Properties for \$500,000, pending the signature of the documents. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **MINUTES**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the 2/1/21 minutes and statement of meeting cancelation for 2/16/21. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **CLAIMS**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve claims from 2/16/21. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve claims for 3/1/21. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **PAYROLL**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **COURTHOUSE QUOTE**

The board received a quote from Beyond Cleaning Services for the stripping and waxing of the Courthouse floors for \$6,530.88. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve the quote. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **BID AWARDS**

Kerry Worl, Highway Superintendent presented the bids for materials and fuel for acceptance and/or approval for the following.

- Item #1-Hanson, IMI, Kokomo Gravel, Speedway Sand & Gravel

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to accept all bids. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

- Item #2-Ashpalt Materials, Pierceton Trucking & Company, Marathon Petroleum, Kling Group

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to accept all bids. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

- Item #3-Phend & Brown, Gaunt & Sons, E & B Paving

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to accept all bids and award to E & B Paving. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

- Item #4-Central Paving, Phend & Brown

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to accept all bids. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

- Item #5-CERES Solutions

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to accept all bids. Commissioner Musselman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to take the bids under advisement. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **CIRCUS CITY FESTIVAL**

The board received a request for permission from Circus City Festival to use the sidewalk in front of the Courthouse, county parking lot, Court Street, Courthouse lawn and water for the carnival rides. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **VPN REQUESTS**

The board received VPN request for Jesse Stevens and Arin Parkman to work remotely. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the VPN requests for Jesse Stevens and Arin Parkman. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **PROBATION CARPET**

The board received 3 quotes for new carpeting for the Probation Department and Annex Lobby.

- Dawalt Flooring \$9,369
- Peru Vacuum and Flooring \$13,180
- Rhodes Flooring \$16,904.18

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve the quote from Dawalt Flooring for \$9,369.00. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

### **EXTENSION OFFICE**

Josh Wintrotte, Purdue Extension Agent provided the annual report to the board, which reflects 60% engagement increase due to online opportunities.

Extension Agent Wintrotte stated he hopes to have full staffing by May 1, 2021, which includes the full and part-time secretaries provided by the county.

Extension Agent Wintrotte noted Pancake Day was a success in serving 1600 meals.

## **EMPLOYEE CONCERN**

Kenneth Wheatley, Highway came before the board with concerns that he had to use his own accrued time while recently off for COVID. Mr. Wheatley would like the board to give him back some of his time, as he does not feel it is fair that he was not paid like those who got sick in 2020. Mr. Wheatley does not understand why other counties can offer pay or some kind of similar compensation, but Miami County cannot. Auditor Brown explained the COVID Families First Act was federally enacted and required employers to pay for those who were off with COVID or exposed in 2020 for up to 80 hours of time. In January, the federal law changed which no longer required the payment and left it up to the individual employers, who could qualify for tax credits if they offered the pay to employees. However, it was no longer federally required and the county did not qualify for those tax credits, therefore, the board chose not to continue paying employees for time off in 2021 due to COVID. Mr. Wheatley had heard the employees were paid to be off and still did not understand why something could not be given to employees now. Auditor Brown stated employees received pay only if ordered to quarantine under the Health Officer's order or if they tested positive for COVID. Employees were not "given" 2 weeks of paid time off because the law provided for it. They had to meet the criteria. Auditor Brown stated if the board made an exception, they would need to go reimburse all other employees diagnosed with COVID since January 2021 and then change the current policy they have in place. Commissioner Musselman does not feel that an exception should be made, as it is not any different if someone had any other health issue that required him or her to be off work for a period of time.

## **SHERIFF**

Captain Dave Vitek came before the board to provide a quote for the repair to the Sally Port garage doors at the jail. The one door is broken and been out of service for over two weeks now, posing a safety risk to the facility. Captain Vitek explained the Sallyport is aptly named because as in days of old at the castles the Sallyport provided a secure ingress/egress to keep people in and keep people from breaching the castle walls. These doors are of special reinforced construction, designed to resist attempts to breach or ram thru. They open and close on average 60-75 times a day each. Multiply over 12 years and they have had a workout. Rick York, Jail Maintenance was advised the cost to replace rather than repair the door would be \$17,086.72. This is the second time in 12 years the North Door needed repaired and the South door has been repaired once. Captain Vitek has maintenance exploring other long-term solutions however, one sticking point is a 6" sprinkler water main that would need moved if a different design door were installed. Captain Vitek would like to explore options for long-term solution, including checking with Mike Sisson locally; however, he is unsure due to the nature of the doors that local vendors would have the resources. Commissioner Musselman made a motion to have the door repaired for \$8,894.45 by Coffing's. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

Captain Vitek publically thanked the staff of the Miami County Sheriff's Department and Central Dispatch for their response to the tragic house fire this past weekend. Captain Vitek wanted to extend a special thanks to Sheriff Deputies James Bean and Alex Wolfe for being the 1<sup>st</sup> to respond and working to get the children out of the home during the

fire. Unfortunately, the fire resulted in the death of all 3 children, but he could not be more proud of how each person in the department conducted themselves and worked together in such a difficult situation.

**LAND USE RESOLUTION**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to approve Resolution 3/1/21 C Expressing Support for Local Control of Land Use Decisions. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Musselman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Weaver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 3-0.

**Adjourned**

**MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_, **Chairman**  
**Alan Hunt**

\_\_\_\_\_, **Vice Chairman**  
**Keith Musselman**

\_\_\_\_\_, **Member**  
**Brenda Weaver**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_, **Auditor**  
**Mary Brown**