

**Commissioners Meeting
October 19, 2021**

Present: Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Heather Gries, Auditor Melissa L. Bunner

Meeting was called to order by President Brown at 1:59 P.M.

Minutes

Seiler made a motion to approve the minutes for October 5, 2021. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Claims

Gries made a motion to approve claim numbers 4746, 4749, and 4756. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Health Department / Kim Hay

Currently seeing approximately 10-15 cases per day. There are 48 in isolation and 3 in the hospital. The case count is 3,615 with 3,525 recovered. There have been 42 deaths. Effective tomorrow, Spencer County will be in the "Red".

Health Department / Mindy Spinks & Bill Young

Spinks presented a Cares Request for \$39,684.28 to cover OT for the nurses and wages for the contact tracers and door screeners. The purpose of this request is due to the grant used to pay these hours has been exhausted. Seiler is requesting budget information and an opportunity to review.

Seiler motioned to table this request. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Young discussed the resignation of Dr. Kleeman as the Health Officer and the appointment request for Mr. Glenn Sherman.

Seiler motioned to approve this appointment. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

VSO / Burch Meredith

For week of September 27, 2021, total Veterans assisted this week was 89 and the phone calls totaled 148. For week of October 4, 2021, total Veterans assisted this week was 79 and the phone calls totaled 103.

There were two (2) Veterans pass away. They are Mr. Larry Chambers (Army Veteran) and Mr. Charles (Charlie) Meece (Army Veteran).

Meredith discussed having signs made to get the word out of his services. He had ten (10) yard signs made and will be placing them throughout Spencer County. He will have more made next year.

EMA / Bid Opening Ambulance

There was one (1) bid received. It was from Phillips Scrap Metal and the bid was \$2,700.00 for all three EMA ambulances.

Seiler motioned to accept the bid. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Hwy Report / Dale Kenney

There was a bid opening at the last meeting for the sale of equipment.

Seiler motioned to award the equipment to the highest bidders. In the case of the two (2) pieces of equipment with the same bid, Lindsey suggested offering one to each. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

The next bid opening is for the Highway Department supplies for 2022. There are eight (8) bid packages.

Bid Package #1 was for fuel

Bid Package #2 was for rock

Bid Package #3 was for gravel

Bid Package #4 was for bituminous concrete mixtures

Bid Package #5 was for AEP prime

Bid Package #6 was for pipe

Bid Package #7 was for all steel bridge materials

Bid Package #8 was for ready mix concrete

Seiler motioned to accept all bids. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Brown motioned to lock in the firm gas prices. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Chris Middleton

Middleton discussed the IPEP (Indiana Public Employer's Plan). It offers free OSHA 10-hour outreach classes and a grant program as well as seasonal trainings and online services. Middleton requested the approval for her to act as the Agent of Record for EMC/VFS/IPEP Insurance Companies.

Gries motioned to accept this request. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Brown requested the Auditor advertise for requests for work comp bids.

Logan Day

Day is the President of the Ohio Valley Scenic Railway. He is asking for permission to operate Christmas trains right at 162 and 231. There is one road that crosses the tracks at E County Road 1475 N. Day is asking to block

that dead end road for the duration of the train rides. The train rides will be Monday through Friday from 4:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. starting November 29, 2021 through December 23, 2021. It is approximately two (2) miles up and two (2) miles back.

Gries motioned to approve his requests. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Day also discussed the concerns over railroad crossing signs, yield signs and stop signs. There does not seem to be adequate signage when approaching a railroad crossing. The Port Authority is willing to discuss and address the options.

Broadband Project / Wayne Blake, Darren Brown, and Steve Siebert

Blake provided an update on the broadband project.

Southern Indiana Power has completed the make-ready work on 743 poles which means the infrastructure is in place to support the aerial build in all phases of the project.

Expect most funded residences requesting service in phases 2,3 and 5 to be installed by EOY 2021. These areas include Evanston, New Boston, Mariah Hill, and Dale.

PSC has formally requested a one (1) year extension for funded project completion due to delays caused by COVID lockdown, supply chain issues, and labor availability.

Blake discussed the Indiana Connectivity Program. This is offered through OCRA (Office of Community & Rural Affairs). This is for locations that currently lack broadband service or have actual broadband speeds of less than 25/3Mbps. The Next Level Connections Broadband Programs have been allocated \$270 million in total and it will include this program. The Indiana Connectivity Program and Next Level Connections online portal opened on September 27, 2021.

Planning Commission / Kay Erwin

Erwin presented a copy of the most current Comprehensive Plan. The public hearings are done, and she needs approval to move forward.

Seiler motioned to accept the Comprehensive Plan. There was no second.

Gries would like time to review it.

Auditor / Melissa Bunner

Bunner presented a request from Transfinder. The agreement is between Spencer County and Transfinder Corporation. The County has certain GIS information that may be of use by Transfinder to provide local geographic data for its school transportation software to be used by the South Spencer School Corporation.

Gries motioned to accept this agreement. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Bunner presented a request from Leadership Spencer County. Traditionally the class meets at the Courthouse for a tour. This is scheduled for November 9, 2021 from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Gries motioned to approve this request. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Bunner presented a request from the Alzheimer Support.com. Alzheimer's Support is a free service that assists Spencer County families who have loved ones with Alzheimer's or Dementia. They are asking if we could put a link on our website to let our residents know about the service.

Gries motioned to approve this request. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Legal Report

Lindsey is following up on discussions of property maintenance. He referenced Ordinance 2008-14 Property Maintenance which was adopted December 1, 2008. Regarding the property by the blue bridge, the only thing it covers is "trash and junk". If it is visible from the road, we can address it.

Lindsey discussed the letter from United Consulting letter dated October 12, 2021. There is a thirty-day window to respond if a response is needed.

Old Business

No Report.

New Business

No Report.

Seiler motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.



President

Attest:



Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner

