

**Commissioners Meeting
November 15, 2022**

Present: Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Heather Gries, Auditor Melissa Bunner, Attorney Jeff Lindsey

Meeting was called to order by President Seiler at 3:00 P.M.

Minutes

Gries made a motion to approve minutes for November 1, 2022. Brown seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Claims

Brown made a motion to approve claim numbers 5095, 5096, 5097, 5098, 5099, and 5101 and Durholz Excavating from Batch 5085 Claim No. 10 from the last meeting. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Health Department

No report.

VSO / Butch Meredith

For week of October 17, 2022, the total Veterans assisted this week was 116 and phone calls totaled 143. For week of October 24, 2022, the total Veterans assisted this week was 117 and phone calls totaled 146.

Highway Department / Dale Kenney

Kenney provided updates regarding road work being done on 1200N (Rudolph doing blacktop) and 600E getting work done tomorrow.

A new Roller was delivered. **Brown motioned to release the payment for the roller which is being funded through ARPA. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

There was discussion of a federal grant to improve 100E (Old 231). One section of this road has already been done and Gries is recommending the other end be completed. The cut off to apply and get estimates for the grant is December 1, 2022. The announcement for the grant is expected to be in February 2023. This grant will go until 2028. The Commissioners will have a special meeting on Friday, November 18, 2022 to discuss in further detail.

United Consulting has announced an INDOT change in low rating signs. INDOT will help with the costs.

Indiana 15 Regional / Lisa Gelhausen

Gelhausen is asking for a letter of support for Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission's application for U.S. EPA Brownsfields Coalition Assessment Grant. There will be absolutely no cost to the county. This is only a study. Past EPA assessments triggered the cleanup of the United Energy property and assisted with the clearance of the Old Spencer County Jail in Rockport. **Gries motioned to approve the letter of support. Brown seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

QCC / Lisa Scroggins

Scroggins came to answer any questions about the catastrophic insurance. No one had any questions at this time.

PSC / Wayne Blake, Daren Brown, & Steve Seibert

All NLC1 Grants have expired. Take rate for funded locations in Spencer County is 57%.

CEO Jim Dauby will be retiring on November 30, 2022 after 29 years of service to PSC. Daren Brown will be the new CEO effective December 1, 2022.

PSC continues to promote the Indiana Connectivity Program for those Spencer County residents who are not within the Southern Indiana Power footprint or are Southern Indiana Power customers that want to ensure they will be connected in 2023. A marketing mailing to this group is planned for December 2022.

PSC is a winner of "RDOF" funding, a federal program that will allow the potential connection of an additional 389 Spencer County residents. A marketing mailing to this group is planned for January 2023.

While Indiana Connectivity Program is a good program for many "one-off" locations, it does not adequately address the remaining underserved/unserved Vectren locations in Spencer County. They are waiting to hear about the next round of NLC funding.

Auditor / Melissa Bunner

The Holiday and Pay Schedule was presented at the October 18, 2022 meeting for review. There were two (2) dates in question. Christmas Day and Christmas Eve will be celebrated on December 25th and December 26th. New Years will be celebrated on December 29th.

Gries motioned to approve the dates. Brown seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Brown motioned to approve an ordinance for the Holiday Schedule. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Bunner presented the Truscrits renewal. There were some changes in the "Reimbursement Level" section. In 2023, they are working toward having a discount card program set up. The language is being added now to prevent having to add an amendment in the future. There were two (2) changes to the "Limits & Exclusions" section. Updates to the 14b amendment and adding limitation stating "medications that are illegal under applicable law" to account for Roe v. Wade and local and state restriction on abortion. **Gries motioned to approve. Brown seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

Casey Electric provided a quote to do the electrical work for the Koorsen project previously discussed at the last meeting. The quote is for \$1,120,00 to replace eighteen (18) existing emergency exit lights for new led emergency lighting fixtures. **Brown motioned to accept this bid. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

Bunner presented the new "Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund" opportunity. First tranche will be paid within four to five business days of the application and the second tranche in calendar year 2023. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2023. The funds can be used for "any governmental purpose other than lobbying activity". **Brown motioned to approve the request to apply. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

The Courthouse Christmas dinner has been scheduled for December 16, 2022. There is a request to do a food drive where every office donates, and the winner will be announced at the dinner. All donations will be distributed to the Christian Resource Center and the Little Yellow House. **Brown motioned to approve this request. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

Legal Report

Lindsey is continuing to work on the codification project for the ordinances and resolutions through American Legal. He will provide updates as they come available.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

New Business

Brown motioned to approve \$200,000 for the Town of Chrisney's ARPA request. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Spencer County Clerk, Darrell Stephens provided an update on the election process. There were 1,400 people who participated in the early voting at the courthouse. He would like to move the voting to the first floor and is up for any suggestions to make this happen.

Stephens also discussed some challenges with the voting machines. The voting machines we have are sixteen (16) years old. Four (4) machines broke down during the election. He is going to need new machines soon.

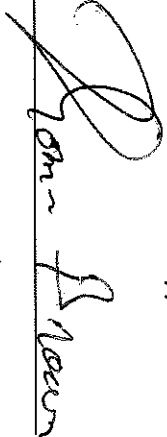
Gries motioned to adjourn the meeting. Brown seconded the motion. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 P.M.

President

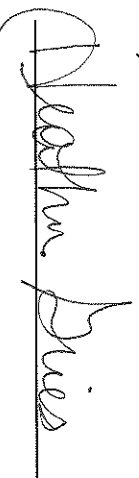
Attest:



Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner



Ron Breen



Stephen Gries