

**Commissioners Meeting
December 15, 2020**

Present: Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Jeff Lindsey, and Auditor Melissa L. Bunner. Al Logsdon was not present.

Meeting was called to order by President Jim Seiler at 2:00 P.M.

Minutes

Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from Commissioner meeting December 1, 2020 as presented. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Claims

Brown made a motion to approve Claims #4507, 4510, 4511, 4512, 4514, 4516, 4518, 4520, and 4521. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Health Department / Kim Hay

Hay reported 1236 Cases. 134 in current isolation. 7 hospitalized. Deaths increased to 7. Over 1,000 have recovered. They have formed a COVID Immunization Committee and they are starting to plan how they will roll out the immunizations in our county. They are looking at February or March. Right now, we are in Orange zone.

Health Department / Barb Ninke

Ninke presented the Immunization Grant which is a reimbursable grant awarded by the IDOH. It runs July 1st through June 30th every year. This grant allows for one (1) part time clerical assistant working 14.5 hours a week at \$15.00/hour and \$10,920.00/year. This position is partially paid for with 1159-000-4114 Temporary Clerical Assistant working 22 hours a week at \$11.00/hour (as of 2021) and \$14,000.00/year. This position is currently filled by Kim Seiler who is leaving December 31, 2020. Ninke is asking to make this a permanent full-time position at the current county full time pay and benefits prior to advertising for this position. The position assists nurses with vaccine clinics, scheduling, clinics, billing, those duties are required throughout the year.

This grant allows for one (1) part time billing assistant working 14.5 hours a week at \$15.00/hour and \$10,920.00/year. To date, this position has not been filled. Duties for this position include assisting with vaccine clinics, scheduling, clinics, and bookkeeping.

Ninke currently has two (2) part time door screeners each working up to 28.5 hours a week at \$11.00/hour (as of 2021). These positions are temporary but will be necessary for the duration of the pandemic. Duties for these two (2) positions include screening all patrons entering the Courthouse, assisting with COVID tracing, assisting with vaccine filing / paperwork.

Ninke is requesting two (2) additional part time positions each working up to 28.5 hours a week at \$11.00/hour (as of 2021). These positions would assist with COVID tracing and vaccine clinics as needed. A request to the Council for an Additional will be required to fund these positions. These positions are temporary but for the duration of the pandemic. At 28.5 hours a week that totals \$313.50 a week per person. That totals approximately \$16,302.00 a year per person.

Ninke has been notified there is a Vaccine Clinic grant in the works from IDOH. This grant is for \$40,320.00 and is based on population. This grant is intended to pay for COVID vaccine clinic staffing. Hours and pay rate to be determined as further grant requirements become available.

PHPC Grant is an existing grant for the planning and implementation of emergency preparedness policies and procedures. We are currently looking at options of utilizing a portion of this grant funding to pay for COVID tracing and COVID vaccine clinic assistance. Hours and pay rate to be determined.

In regards to the full-time staff, this does not include any future overtime hours worked by both Public Health Nurses and Health Inspectors assisting with COVID tracing and COVID vaccine clinics for the duration of the pandemic.

Lindsey prepared Ordinance 2020-06 which amends section 4.1.1 section C which states "Vacation leave must be used in the twelve (12) month period after it is earned; time shall not be carried forward to the next twelve (12) month period without approval of the County Commissioners. No employee will be compensated for vacation leave in lieu of taking his or her vacation." The ordinance reads: "For 2020 only, the staff of the Spencer County Health Department that has unused vacation at the end of December 2020 shall be compensated for that vacation in 2020 in lieu of taking the time off."

Brown motioned to approve ordinance 2020-06. Seiler seconded. Motion approved.

VSO / Butch Meredith

Meredith presented his progress. For week of November 30, 2020 the total Veterans assisted this week was 82 and total phone calls totaled 107. For week of December 7, 2020 the total Veterans assisted this week was 57 and total phone calls totaled 83.

Meredith provided an update on some of the building maintenance projects. K & K will begin work on December 21, 2020 to trim the remaining trees on premises plus remove stump from tree removed during last project. The work is expected to be done December 22, 2020.

Robinson is currently working on the landscaping project. The rain delayed his progress.

Meredith also updated the Commissioner's about a water leak in the basement in the Surveyor's office. On Thursday, December 17, 2020, the water will be shut off to the Courthouse beginning at 4:00 pm to replace the water line. Eric Winkler will be here to oversee the work being done and it is expected to be done the same night.

HWY Report / Gina Mullen

Mullen brought information requested by the Commissioner's in regard to County Road 2100N. On December 14, 2020 Jeffrey Langebrake sent an email addressed to the Commissioner's reporting a problem with County Road 2100N near Monte Casino Facility. Mullen presented a past complaint from Spencer County resident Jeffrey Langebrake from 2018 reporting the same issue. Presently it is a rock road in need of repair. Rains have eroded portions of this county road. He is asking when it will be paved. It is located between 1360 E and 1250 E. There are ten (10) houses on this strip of road. It totals approximately 2.1 miles. Mullen provided GIS maps of the road. The Commissioners will review the information provided.

Mullen has provided a work order report regarding Kyla Weiss. Weiss has purchased parcel 74-01-35-200-007.001-011 (3.18 acres). This is from 1300 E and the Long Johnnytown Road which was removed from inventory at the December 1, 2020 meeting. The work order states Weiss wants to know how far we maintained 1615N and how much road frontage did she have. The area between 1615 N and the 1300 E there is a little section she is asking about. This part is considered the driveway of a neighboring property. This area has not been maintained in at least 20 years and the driveway is maintained by the property owner. The Commissioners are going to look into this further and discuss again at the next Commissioners meeting.

Spencer County Visitors Bureau / Melissa Arnold

Arnold provided an update to the tourism budget. She provided a list of the 2021 budget summary. She also let us know that both Commissioner appointments to the Tourism Board are not interested in re-appointment so she will be providing letters of recommendation for other candidates.

Amenity Insurance / Danita Grosvenor

Grosvenor provided a description of the current coverage on the Spencer County Inmate Medical. The insurance plan is based on Quality Care negotiated rates Medicare + 4%. This is a catastrophic insurance plan that would cover eligible charges (at the Medicare + 4%) above the assigned deductible. The chosen deductible has been \$10,000 since 2012. For 2021 renewal offer, she is providing an additional option of \$12,500 deductible and a broadened coverage to outpatient and eligible physician services (not restricted to only COVID 19).

Brown is asking who tracks these claims and is there a list of claims to review. Per Grosvenor, we have had no claims since 2016. Based on the information provided, the Commissioners would like to get the reports requested and then evaluate the best option for the County.

Legal Report

Lindsey has already addressed the legal issues.

New Business

The Commissioners recognized Sara Arnold for her many years of service with the County. Judge Dart presented her with a plaque and spoke of her many accomplishments throughout her tenure. Commissioner Al Logsdon was not present at this meeting so he will be recognized at a future date.

Brown presented an update on It Takes a Village. They give us quarterly updates. September through November they have had 51 adoptions, intakes they had 24 dogs and 16 cats, 5 are deceased, and currently in care are 15 animals. Superior Ag made a very generous donation to them and it is greatly appreciated.

Brown discussed the Coroner moving out of the Highway Department and he thinks the County needs to approach AEP and get a lease agreement for her to move there. He asked if Jeff could check into it.

Stephanie Melton is following up to an email she sent in regard to message boards. The State has announced the allocation of an additional \$20 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund for local governments to financially support public awareness and education. Spencer County is eligible for \$65,949.00. Since there is a short window of time to get this done (December 31, 2020), she has discussed this with Gina Mullen in Highway, and she will pay for it out of LIT and then be reimbursed from Cares Act. The signs are approximately \$32,000 each. Brown made a motion to approve this expense. Seiler seconded. Motion approved.

Sheriff Reinke informed the Commissioners of the Union Negotiations coming up on December 22, 2020 at 9:00 am. The Commissioners suggested using the Commissioners Meeting Room and are planning on attending.

Bunner asked the Commissioners to appoint Trustees for the Spencer County Employee Benefit Trust. The recommendation from SIHO was to appoint positions such as Auditor, President of Commissioners and President of County Council. Brown approved these appointments. Seiler seconded. Motion approved.

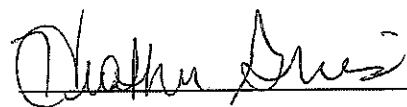
Old Business

No Report.

Brown motioned to adjourn. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:16 P.M.



President



Attest:


Auditor, Melissa Bunner

