

JANUARY 16, 2024

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday January 16, 2024 8:30AM (due to Monday January 15th being Martin Luther King Day). Commissioners present were Charles Mellon, Maurice Loehmer, Michael McClure with County Auditor Laura Wheeler and County Attorney Kevin Tankersley.

Also present were Karla Redweik, Teresa Bryant, JoLynn Behny, Gary Kruger, Dave Olds, Edwina Guffey, Kyle Conrad, Pam Bolen, D.r Rex Allman, Dr. Timothy Day, Nathan Origer, Megan Galbreath, and Chris Schramm.

President Mellon opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Regular meeting recessed and Board of Finance meeting opened.

IN RE: BOARD OF FINANCE

Michael McClure motioned to retain Maurice Loehmer as President of the Board of Finance, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously with Maurice Loehmer abstaining. Charles Mellon motioned to appoint Teresa Bryant, County Treasurer, as Secretary of the Board of Finance, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously. Charles Mellon made a motion to approve "Report of Current Investments and Investments and Interest Earned in Calendar Year 2023", Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the Investment Policy, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously. Charles Mellon made a motion to receipt back in 2-year old outstanding warrants from 2021, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, Michael McClure made a motion to adjourn the Board of Finance meeting at 8:38AM, Charles Mellon seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Regular Commissioners meeting reconvened.

IN RE: TREASURER

The possibility of collecting property taxes at the County Highway garage discussed with early voting and regular election at the same time. There were no objections. This will eliminate having to walk the stairs at Annex and would start at the end of March. Notification expected to be put in the tax bills. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve tax collection at the County Highway for both spring and fall taxes 2024, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: HEALTH

Dr. Tim Day is recommended as the County Health Officer effective February 1, 2024. Charles Mellon motioned to approve Dr. Tim Day as recommended pending approval from the Health Board, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: BZA/APC

Derrick Stalbaum and Matt Kelsey recommended as Citizen-member Appointees to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Maurice Loehmer made the motion to approve the appointment as recommended, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Tyler Bridegroom recommended as Citizen-member appointee to the Advisory Planning Commission (APC). Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the appointment as recommended, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously. Other vacancies discussed briefly.

Later in the meeting Karla Redweik corrected the recommendation as Tyler Gutwein for the APC appointment. Charles Mellon made a motion to rescind the Tyler Bridegroom appointment, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the appointment of Tyler Gutwein as the Citizen-member appointee to the Advisory Planning Commission (APC), Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

Community Xing project bids to be published with February 3, 2024 as the due date and will be opened at the February 5, 2024 Commissioners meeting. An application for the 2024-1 Community Xing grant submitted for bridge 249.

IN RE: CLERK/ELECTION BOARD

A quote from DeGroot Technology to provide IT services to the Election Board during primary and general 2024 elections presented for review and approval. The cost is \$3,500.00 for each election.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the contract as presented, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Permission requested to hold early voting at the Highway garage for each election. Early voting for primary will start April 9, 2024. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve the use of the County Highway facility for early voting and elections, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Cass Township Trustee submitted a letter of resignation in July 2023. That opened a 30-day window for the party chair appointment but they could not find anyone who was interested. After the 30 days is over, per IC Code, it becomes a Commissioners’ appointment. Pamela Bolen of Cass Township recently expressed an interest to be Trustee. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to appoint Pamela Bolen as Cass Township Trustee, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: CDC

“Simply Home”, the housing-related addendum to the County’s strategic plan presented for review and approval. This document reflects a combination of the results of the Pulaski County Housing taskforce’s work, the market study performed by the Housing Resource Hub, and the housing strategy developed by the Hub. Charles Mellon made motion to adopt the Strategic Plan amendment as presented, Maurice Loehmer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Sullivan Development, LLC has proposed to construct a multifamily housing development east of Winamac Plaza supported by Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority general set-aside tax credits. County Council and Town of Winamac have provided Letters of Support and now requesting that Commissioners do the same. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the support letter, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

CDC’s Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Review Committee approved a number of proposed changes to the program’s guidelines which were discussed briefly.

Sheriff’s sale has been scheduled for the IBC Thermoplastics property.

IN RE: INSURANCE

The Commissioners were presented with the December 31, 2023 renewal of their liability/property and workers’ comp insurance. Loss ratio on Workers Comp (thru IPEP) has substantially dropped, resulting in approximately \$30,000.00 premium reduction. Ambulance service was of concern but County purchased motorized gurney which helped reduced claims. Property and casualty went up 7%. Property used to be written with Chub but was transferred to Trident several years ago and has now gone back to Chub for premium savings. Maurice Loehmer made a motion to accept the renewal as presented, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign claims and payroll #1, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Maurice Loehmer made a motion to approve and sign the following bonds, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Building: Karla Redweik	\$30,000.00
Treasurer: Teresa Bryant	\$300,000.00

A “Resolution of Deputy Coroner’s Pay #2024-01” presented for Commissioners approval. This is needed for Deputy Coroner training requirements. Pulaski County Deputy coroner completed training on January 15, 2024. Charles Mellon made a motion to approve and sign Resolution #2024-01 as presented, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

With no other business to discuss nor any public comment, Maurice Loehmer made a motion to adjourn at 09:13AM, Michael McClure seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 5th day of February 2024 by the **PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.**