

MARCH 17TH 2025

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Monday March 17th 2025 8:30AM at the Pulaski County Highway Garage training room. Commissioners present were Donald Street Jr., Michael McClure, Jennifer Knebel with First Deputy Auditor Mary Mays and County Attorney Jacob Ahler.

Also present were Brian Young, Jerry Locke, Leeann Wright, Brandi Larkin, Jeff Larrison, Chris Dyer, Joe Moyer, Randy Davis, Connie Ehrlich, Al Breyfogle, Josh Stamper, Sherry Fagner, Karen Gudeman, Darrel Gudeman, Jake Ballah, Karla Redweik, Mike Craft, Jake Dammarell, Jake Wetzel, Gary Kruger, Nathan Origer, Chris Schramm and Megan Galbreath.

President Street opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: PULASKI COUNTY TRIBE, BRANDI LARKIN

Brandi invited Commissioners and public to an "Art & Culture Creative Concept Celebration" March 20th 6-8 PM at One-Eyed Jack's Celebration Station. This is an opportunity to shape what is coming next for arts and culture in Pulaski County.

IN RE: COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF PULASKI COUNTY, LEEANN WRIGHT

Leeann provided an update on the Family and Social Services Administration Department of Mental Health and Addictions Matching Opioid Grant. The grant cycle runs from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025. At a Joint Session in February 2023, the Community Foundation and the local coordinating Pulaski County Drug Free Council presented a Community Action Plan on potential courses of action the county could take to address substance misuse. Commissioners gave permission to apply for the FSSA DMHA Matching Opioid Grant and was awarded \$402,800 to continue this work.

- + Prevent Pricks program implemented with 3 collection kiosks installed in the County.
- + Community Navigator position in March 2023 and she has connected over 1600 individuals to prevention, treatment and recovery services.
- + School Liaison Officer Position has made a more moderate progress, as it took some time to coordinate stakeholders and develop the job description.
- + The newest problem solving court was established. The Drug Treatment Court is fully certified and opened as of January 1, 2025.
- + Family Support Services are beginning to increase. A NarAnon program is offered and a new "Parents of Addicted Loved Ones" program is in process. Both programs are 100% volunteer organized and unfunded.
- + Recovery programming increased in the jail, including yoga and wellbeing program. In September 2024, The Commissioners approved one full year of funding from National Opioid Settlement funds.
- + The Recovery Cafe' of Pulaski County marked one year December 2024 and offers group meetings Monday and Friday nights.
- + Intrepid Phoenix, a workout and wellness program for those in recovery, has expended services through additional gym membership and an app that helps maintain their recovery journey.
- + The number of trained and certified peer recovery coaches have increased.

IN RE: HIGHWAY, GARY KRUGER

Jeff Larrison and Chris Dyer of United Consulting went over Pulaski County's Bridge Inventory for 2024. Federal Highway Administration and Indiana Department of Transportation require these on a maximum of a 2-yr inspection cycle. Pulaski County is in full compliance with state and federal regulations.

- + Number of Bridges: 145 all counties average, 73 Pulaski County (PC)
- + Average daily traffic: 1615 All, 160 PC
- + Average Age: 47 All, 49 PC

- + Load posted bridges: 13.1% All, 8.2% PC
- + Bridges older than 50 years: 35.8% All, 60.3% PC
- + Bridges with increased frequency inspections: 6.0) All, 2.7% PC

Gary presented information on analytics through CSI Consultants. This offers road assessment and road control using AI & digital image collection. He will learn more at road school this week. Cost runs around \$35,000 annually.

IN RE: APC/BZA, KARLA REDWEIK

Karla presented information on possible APC alternates for Commissioners' appointment. Jennifer asked about Jaime Murray, who was appointed to the APC board last year (maybe). Karla said she only was approved by APC not by the Commissioners. Jennifer questioned if something needs to be done about Jamie before any alternates appointed. Jennifer wanted to look up the appointment in APC meetings but there have been no minutes posted since 2022. Jennifer asked who is responsible for posting minutes. Karla sends the minutes to Nathan and he puts them out on County's website. None have been posted in recent years since County is having website revamped. Drainage Board has no minutes on website as Surveyor does not want them posted and prefers people come into her office. Jacob mentioned APC not having an attorney and could be very helpful to the board on these matters. Jennifer questioned Council not approving attorney that APC voted on. Jacob said Council cannot deny APC their appointed attorney but they can choose not to fund the position. Jennifer is uncomfortable that Council told Karla to find another attorney. Commissioners nor APC cannot compel Council to fund a position. Donald thinks a joint session should discuss having one attorney to represent the entire County. Jennifer wanted to go on record that what Council did is wrong.

Karla presented information on Darrel Gudeman, John Williams, Ron DeSabatine, Jason Potthoff, and Scott Becker and Commissioners pick 2 alternates. Michael recommended Scott Becker and Jason Potthoff. Nathan said that Jason is not eligible as he already serves on Industrial Park board. Michael then recommended John Williams and Scott Becker, Donald seconded. Under discussion, Jennifer feels Scott Becker has many conflicts of interest regarding solar and his Dad has ground leased for solar so she does not feel Scott is the best representative. Don pointed out that not just solar goes before the APC and Karla said representatives with conflicts have abstained. Michael and Donald approved the recommendations with Jennifer opposed. BZA appointments will be forthcoming.

IN RE: CDC, NATHAN ORIGER

1. Courthouse project

A. Project Finances: Owner's contingency's balance is \$169,108.64. Tonn & Blank will cover the sidewalk costs out of their construction contingency, which will save us the design-fee mark-up that comes with a change order.

B. Change Orders: Last week Nathan signed off on the carpet-underlayment change order that the Board had previously approved. This came in a little over \$27,000 which is around \$2700 less than expected. Order #68 in the amount of \$15,518.88 plus \$1,446.09 in design fees is for the completion of gutter repairs.

C. Project Progress: H&T Electrical Services was able to shut down the power and switch out the main distribution panel on Saturday without any issues. Tile work has continued, including closing-up of the fireplaces. The tiling of the basement-hall floors has not yet begun. The hearths have been re-stained and 2 of 3 service window counters have been stained, installed and topped. The departmental mailbox system is installed in the west wall of the Auditor's Office. Sinks and light fixtures are installed, new baseboard heater covers installed and scaffolding over the main stairway has been removed.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

Michael made a motion to approve and sign regular session minutes from February 18th 2025 and March 3rd 2025, Jennifer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Michael made a motion to approve and sign Claims and Payroll #6 and Jennifer seconded. Jennifer asked for an explanation of \$48,000 claim of Pulaski Memorial Hospital. This is for the MRI Building. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer made a motion to approved 2 submitted Conference Requests, Michael seconded and motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH: Maggie Czech, Child Passenger Safety tech training, New Carlisle, March 24-27
RECORDER: Marsha Tetzloff, Indiana Recorders Conference, Indianapolis, April 22-24

IN RE: VS ENGINEERING

Ginny Munroe of VS Engineering presented activity log. Construction is active at south Mammoth. She was told that signs have been ordered and received and will check after meeting to see if installed. Right now only doing soil stripping and tree removal. Gary Kruger of Highway wants 35 loads of gravel #53 down before heavy usage. She has received citizen emails and phone calls which she is documenting but not releasing their names to protect their privacy. Tree removal at 2 locations will cease April 1st thru September 30th due to Federal and Indiana protections for bats. Ginny said a stop sign might be needed and would require an ordinance. A protocol needs to be established for notifying the public of issues that occur between Commissioners' meetings. Donald asked to make sure that tree removal is not against any contract and that road usage agreement needs to be signed before any heavy equipment is moved in. Jennifer asked if Commissioners should sign the decommissioning agreement as only Karla, prior County Attorney Tankersley and Mammoth's attorney signed it. Jacob said it depends if permission was given in the minutes. Jennifer asked who is responsible for surety bonds, which is the companies. Multiple bonds have been issued. Total project is \$64,206,092 and Jennifer has only seen a \$25,000,000 bond. Ginny thinks the \$25,000,000 is for road use only. Jennifer asked if the bond shouldn't be issued for the entire project. Jacob said Mammoth originally wanted to deposit a sum of money for the County to draw on but changed their mind. Ginny and Jacob are to be given an update on the decommission agreement at the next Commissioners' meeting. Jennifer asked if it was possible to get parcel numbers attached to the projects. Karla will send her the information. Jennifer also asked about leases being recorded as Indiana law calls for recording within 45 days of agreement. She would also like to see a risk assessment done. Agreement states that County may be added to company's liability policy.

Donald made a motion for Jacob to issue a Formal Breach of Contract notice, Michael seconded and motion carried unanimously. Ginny recently attended road school at Purdue.

IN RE: DISCUSSION

Donald reported that Pulaski Memorial Hospital will help pay for a consultant to study EMS and look for ways to be more efficient.

Donald is keeping an eye on Senate Bill 1, which will limit assessments. This will create budget issues for local government, which may cause cuts.

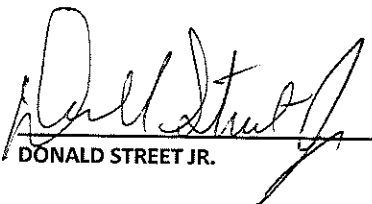
Jacob is preparing a proposed Fined Violations Ordinance that needs to be advertised. Ordinance will allow either County Sheriff's Department or VS Engineering to issue violations. Both have authority but only one will be fine.

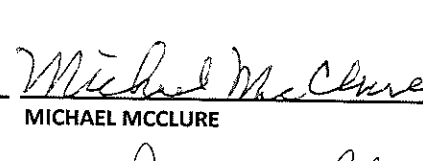
IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENT

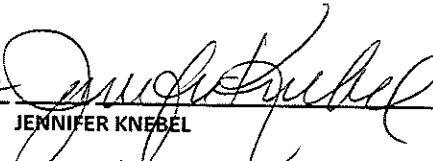
Was asked if heavy equipment is allowed before Road Use Agreement signed, which is no.

With no other business to discuss nor public comment, Michael made a motion to adjourn at 10:02 AM, Jennifer seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 7th day of April by the PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.


DONALD STREET JR.


MICHAEL MCCLURE


JENNIFER KNEBEL

ATTEST: 
TERESA BYANT, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN