

**MINUTES
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JULY 6, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting: Brenda Hardy, Andrew Hall and Tim Shumaker.

PUBLIC COMMENT - none

MINUTES

A motion was made by Andrew Hall and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2021 meeting as presented. Vote: 3-0

Claims 1-173 (\$441,815.38), Unpublished Claims & Payroll Claims

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to approve the Claims. Vote: 3-0

ROB ROY ROAD CLOSURE

Jerry and Mary Watson are requesting to close Foster Ave and Pike Street in Rob Roy. The streets were originally platted roads in Rob Roy. The roads were never formed but are still on the plat. The roads go right through their property. The County Attorney reviewed the process with the Watsons. He will review the paperwork and report back to the Auditor and Commissioners.

COVERED BRIDGE CERTIFICATION – 3 Bridges

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to approve the 2021 Covered Bridge Certification as required by the State Auditor's Office. Vote: 3-0

RESOLUTION 2021-14

A Resolution Establishing the Policy by Which Members of the Board of Commissioners of Fountain County May Participate by Electronic Means of Communication

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to approve Resolution 2021-14. Vote: 3-0

COMMUNITY ROOM – Coat Drive

Barb Philips is requesting to use the Community Room for 4 days around Columbus Day for the Coat Drive.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to allow the use of the Community room for a Coat Drive in October if Garth Kagels cannot make it work for the use of the Covington Fire Department Building. Vote: 3-0

EMPOWER RETIREMENT – Agreement & Services

A motion was made by Andrew Hall and seconded by Tim Shumaker to sign the Agreement and Services document for the Fountain County Indiana Employees Retirement Plan with Empower Retirement for 2021. Vote: 3-0

Valley Oaks BEYOND THE VIOLENCE – Donation Request

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to approve the request of \$2,000 for Valley Oaks-Beyond the Violence program. Vote: 3-0

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Letter of Approval for submission of grant January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

A motion was made by Andrew Hall and seconded by Tim Shumaker to sign the letter of approval for the submission of the grant for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Vote: 3-0

BARNES & THORNBURG – Jake German

A contract to assist with the American Rescue Plan Act Funds.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to execute the contract/agreement with Barnes & Thornburg for assistance with the American Rescue Plan Act Funds in the amount of \$2,500.

Vote: 3-0

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR AN ASSET UTILIZATION PROGRAM/ENERGY CONTRACTING SERVICES

The commissioners opened the sealed bid from Ameresco and took it under advisement. It was the only bid received. Two other bidders did not submit a bid due to the council's vote at their last meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Ambulance – Garth Kagels

There have been over 200 more runs so far this year than last year. The mileage is racking up on the trucks. He should be receiving the new truck that he purchased last year by September. He is really in need of another truck. He would like to do a remount of the Lifeline box in 2022.

He is also working with Terminix to get the birds out of the bay area of the EMS building. They are creating a mess in there.

Highway – Rusty Peevler

C R 1400 (sink hole) should be opened back up in the morning. They believe the cause of the hole was due from cable being laid and it created an air pocket, which created suction.

The 7.5 + inches of rain that the County has gotten has really destroyed a lot of the roads. They are going to apply to the State for Disaster funds to help with fixing them. Twenty-nine truckloads of material have been brought in so far. There is also a sink hole in Stringtown that came when the 3.8 earthquake hit. There are several old mines in that area.

Rusty reported that 100 years ago they used to do oil shots in front of houses to help with the dust. People are requesting that this be done again. There is no man power to do that and it's costly for the oil.

Rob Roy Covered Bridge will need to have shims put in. It was suggested that Randy Slider put them in, since he is the one that did the roof at Cades Hollow Covered Bridge. Tim will be calling him and ask him about the repair. The new secretary at the Highway Department is Stacy Galloway and she is working out well. She replaces Ura Carpenter.

The tanks will be taken out this month by IDEM. There is an agreement with Mark Carr to have driveway access during construction of the tanks starting July 26th, 2021.

EMA – Joe Whitaker

A Declaration will need to be signed for Emergency Situations between the EMA and County Highway for grant purposes.

Health – Erich Haley

A letter was sent to the land owner on 234. Penalties will accrue there every day in the amount of \$500 (each day) until the property is cleaned up.

Rabb School has been sold and will be cleaned up.

Custodian – Rick Beck

The old Jail needs to be dealt with. There is still a lot of things that could be given to other departments. The water softener is broken/leaking causing issues. The building needs to be torn down and shouldn't be used for another purpose.

Any departments that want something out of the Jail needs to take a look and submit a letter to the Commissioners asking for it. The kitchen equipment is going to be looked at by the 4H council to see what they could use at the fairgrounds.

Sheriff – Terry Holt

There are 86 inmates currently at the Jail. Vermillion County inmates are now being housed at our jail during their remodel.

The Jail has an extensive program that is funded by JCAP, which stands for Jail Chemical Addiction Program. The program is a 90 in 90 out program.

This means the inmate spends 90 days in jail and continues 90 days outside in this program. The program focuses on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Substance Abuse Counseling.

A garden was put in at the Jail that is a part of this program. It teaches responsibility. Carol Owens was kind enough to participate in giving her time showing the inmates how to grow the vegetables and take care of the garden.

A female program will be funded by the beginning of 2022. Other Counties are asking about the program and what they have been doing with the garden.

Sheriff Holt has been complimented on being so proactive.

Those involved in this program are Fountain County Judge Campbell, Warren County Judge Hunter Reece, Fountain County Prosecutor Daniel Askren, Warren County Prosecutor Jon Larson, Kaela Allen, Sheriff Terry Holt and Dani Snyder.

Landfill – Greg Robison

In April, the sample levels were rising. He is still waiting on a response from IDEM to see if it needs to be retested. The results have also been sent to Roger Azar for his review.

Judge – Stephanie Campbell

The air conditioners are not working properly in the courtroom and it is in the 80s up there.

It will need to be bid out. If it is less than \$50,000, 3 phone call quotes can be used in an emergency situation. The Commissioners need to declare that it is an emergency. They can act on the quotes as early as Monday, if the meeting is a joint meeting with the Council. The bid has to be awarded to the lowest, responsible and responsive party. It will be advertised for a joint meeting on July 12, 2021 at 9 a.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE
Monday, July 12, 2021 9:00 A.M.
Jointly with the Council**

Couper Chambers

ATTEST

Brenda Hardy
[Signature]
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