

BLACKFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S

MEETING January 6, 2020

The Blackford County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on January 6, 2020 in the Commissioner's Office located on the first floor of the Blackford County Courthouse, Hartford City IN.

President John Lancaster called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll with Commissioners John Lancaster, Nick Rhodes and John Oxley present. **Others in attendance** were Anne Owen, Bruce Edgington, Tyler Hunt, Tim Stanley, Sam Swenson, Paul Schriver, Warren Brown, Cheri Brown, Jeff Sones, Mary Beal, Bill Smith, Judy Smith and Jon Oswalt.

The minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting were approved as presented by a 3/0 vote after a motion by Nick Rhodes and a 2nd by John Oxley.

**2020 Election of Officers:** Nick Rhodes nominated John Lancaster as President and John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rhodes moved nominations be closed. The vote was 3/0. Nick Rhodes nominated John Oxley as Vice-President and John Lancaster 2nd. Rhodes moved nominations be closed. The vote was 3/0.

Sheriff Jeff Sones gave the inmate count as 21 local males, 9 local females, 16 out-of-county males and 3 out-of-county female for a total of 49 inmates.

P&Z Director Anne Owen will present the proposed Wind Ordinance to Hartford City tonight, Shamrock Lakes on Sunday and Montpelier on Monday.

Veteran's Affairs Officer Jon Oswalt now has the Federal computer program for Veteran's Affairs.

Purdue Extension Office Director Cheri Brown told of two opportunities for groups and businesses to sign up for the **What's Up 24/7 community calendar** the Commissioners are funding for the first two years. January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Courthouse Annex, 121 N High, Hartford City from 9 am – 4 pm and January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Montpelier Civic Center, 339 S Main, Montpelier from 9 am – 4 pm, groups and business can sign up to have their events/meetings listed for local and surrounding areas to see.

EMA Director Bill Smith will hold a **Skywarn Spotter Training class** at the Montpelier Police Department on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 6:00 pm for anyone interested.

BCEDC Director Warren Brown reported there is only one more hurdle to overcome before Gilman Home Centers can move forward with building on the site of the former bowling alley on SR3 north of Hartford City.

Surveyor Paul Schriver reported that Don Farr is resigning as a Walnut Creek Ditch Commissioner. He recommended Joe Aulbach as a replacement. Nick Rhodes moved to accept Don Farr's resignation and John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 3/0. John Oxley moved to **appoint Joe Aulbach as Walnut Creek Ditch Commissioner** and Nick Rhodes 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 3/0.

**Bids for stone were opened:**

Rock Creek	#11 stone \$12.45 ton	#73 stone \$6.45 ton
IMI	#11 stone \$12.90 ton	#73 stone \$9.30 ton
US Aggregates	#11 stone \$12.70 ton	#73 stone \$9.50 ton

Highway Supervisor Bruce Edgington reviewed all bids and recommended the board go with IMI. Nick Rhodes moved to **approve the bid from IMI as primary** and accept the other bids as contingent in case of unforeseen circumstances for stone and John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote was 3/0.

The contract for **timber cutting** at the county farm is pending the posting of a performance bond per the county attorney.

The Board approved **work to be done at the jail by Comcast**. The work request was submitted by Sheriff Sones and Chief Dispatcher Crystal Hall and is part of the upgrade to the E911 system. John Oxley moved to approve the work as requested and Nick Rhodes 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote was 3/0.

Courthouse Custodian Tim Stanley reported the **phone in the elevator has been repaired**. When the phone receiver is lifted it will automatically call 911.

2020 Appointments the Commissioners appointed the following:

Veteran's Affairs Officer – Jon Oswalt – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
Alcohol Beverage Board – Troy Batten – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
Community Family Services – Tyler Hunt – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
Animal Control Board – Nick Rhodes – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
BCEDC – John Lancaster – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
PTABOA – Judy Trees – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
PTABOA – Leslie Willmann – 1-year term ending 12/31/2020  
Melvin Weaver Drain – Jim Rhoton – 3-year term ending 12/31/2022  
Virgil Rogers Drain – Craig Gillis – 3-year term ending 12/31/2022  
Walnut Creek Drain – Dan Spencer – 3-year term ending 12/31/2022  
Prairie Creek Drain – Mike Mackey – 3-year term ending 12/31/2022  
Public Defender Board – Gene Henderson – 3-year term ending 12/31/2022  
Area Plan Commission – Eron Ferrell – 4-year term ending 12/31/2023

Accounts Payable Claims: Claims were approved in the amount of \$375,349.68 on a motion by John Oxley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Rhodes. The vote was 3/0.

Payroll Claims:

PPE 12/13/2019 Claims for \$119,944.27 were approved on a motion by Nick Rhodes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Oxley. The vote was 3/0.

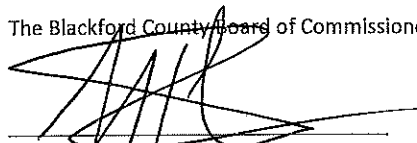
PPE 12/27/2019 Claims for \$117,866.93 were approved on a motion by John Oxley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Rhodes. The vote was 3/0.

Public Comment:


There being no further public comment, Nick Rhodes made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

Approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2020.

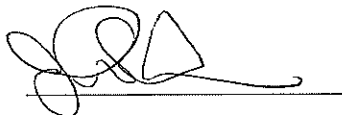
The Blackford County Board of Commissioners



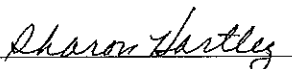
John Lancaster, President



Nick Rhodes, Member



John Oxley, Vice President

Attest: 

Auditor Sharon Hartley