

BLACKFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S

MEETING January 21, 2020

The Blackford County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on January 21, 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, Paul Schriver, Jeff Sones, Mary Beal, Bill Smith, Dana Turner, Laura Coons, Dan Eckstein, Jeff Thomas, Kathy Bantz, Rick Anderson, Bre Adney, Mikeala Twibell, Audra Berner and Jon Oswalt.

**The minutes of the January 6, 2020 meeting** were approved as presented by a 3/0 vote after a motion by Nick Rhodes and a 2nd by John Oxley.

**Sheriff Jeff Sones** gave the Inmate count as 24 local males, 10 local females, 21 out-of-county males and 2 out-of-county female for a total of 57 inmates.

**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.

**Clerk Laura Coons** presented the annual \$12,000 Microvote Maintenance Agreement. John Oxley moved to approve the agreement and Nick Rhodes 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote was 3/0.

**The Interlocal Agreement with the Blackford County Solid Waste District for Controller services** (\$400 per year) was approved on a motion by John Oxley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Rhodes. The vote was 3/0.

Auditor Hartley requested an increase to the credit card limit for county charge cards. The Commissioners tabled the request until a revised Credit Card Policy can be drafted.

The 2019 100R payroll report was submitted to the Commissioners as required by the state.

**Highway Supervisor Bruce Edgington** reported that INDOT will begin the SR 26 and CR 200 E road project soon. The project will close both roads during work season. Commissioners signed the required approval letter.

**Surveyor Paul Schriver** presented a letter for Commissioner support for the Walnut Creek Drainage Board to apply for grant.

**Planning and Zoning Director Anne Owen** reported that Hartford City and Montpelier have both passed the revised wind ordinance. Shamrock Lakes tabled the ordinance so new board members will have time to review the document.

**Board of finance:**

Nick Rhodes moved to recess the Commissioner's meeting. John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 3/0.

John Lancaster opened the BOF meeting and asked for Election of 2020 Officers.

Nick Rhodes nominated **John Lancaster as President**. John Lancaster moved the nominations be closed. The vote was 3/0.

Nick Rhodes nominated **John Oxley as Vice-President**. John Oxley moved the nominations be closed. The vote was 3/0.

Nick Rhodes nominated **Dana Turner as Treasurer**. John Oxley moved the nominations be closed. The vote was 3/0.

Treasurer Turner asked to void \$884.18 in 2-year-old warrants. Nick Rhodes moved to void the 2-year-old warrants and John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 3/0.

Treasurer asked to stay with Citizens State Bank due to a better interest rate. John Oxley moved to stay with CSB, Nick Rhodes 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 3/0.

Turner reported interest received in 2018 was \$76,000 and in 2019 it was \$287,905 due to a change in investment.

Turner presented the 2019 ending/2020 beginning Treasurer's cash book report.

With no further business, John Oxley moved to adjourn the Board of Finance meeting.

John Oxley moved to reconvene the regular Commissioner's meeting.

Blackford Jr/Sr High School students Bre Adney, Audra Berner and Mikeala Twibell gave a presentation on the grant they have obtained for a salad bar for the school lunch. The grant purchased a refrigerated food cart and will provide healthier lunch options to students and faculty. The students are requesting funding to help purchase the food. Nick Rhodes moved to assist the program with \$500 and John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote was 3/0.

Rick Anderson with Johnson Melloh Solutions, energy conservation company gave a presentation to cut energy consumption with solar panels. He would like to do a study at the jail and highway barn at no cost to the county. John Lancaster moved to allow the study and John Oxley 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote was 3/0.

The contract for the sale of timber at the county farm, which was approved at the December 16, 2019 meeting, was signed after attorney Forcum gave his approval.

Accounts Payable Claims: Claims were approved in the amount of \$254,476.25 on a motion by Nick Rhodes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Oxley. The vote was 3/0.

The building maintenance manuals prepared by Core Facilities were given to each building department head with copies of all manuals available in the Auditor's office.

Payroll Claims:

PPE 1/10/2020 Claims for \$120,503.17 were approved on a motion by John Oxley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Rhodes. The vote was 3/0.

Public Comment:

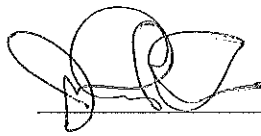
Blackford County residents Jim and Karen Gruwell voiced their opposition to a proposed wind farm in the county. Commissioners thanked them for their input.

There being no further public comment, Nick Rhodes made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

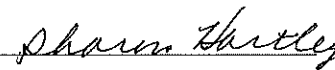
Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2020.

The Blackford County Board of Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Lancaster, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Oxley, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nick Rhodes, Member

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Auditor Sharon Hartley