BLACKFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER’S

MEETING January 22, 2019

The Blackford County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on January 22, 2019 at the Blackford County 4H Building, 310 E. Park Ave., Hartford City IN.

**President John Lancaster called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance** and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll with Commissioners Nick Rhodes, John Lancaster and John Oxley present. **Others in attendance** were Lisa Simmons, Mary Beal, Anne Owen, Bruce Edgington, Tim Stanley, Jeff Sones, Paul Schriver, Kathy Bantz, Laura Coons, Kyle Lechien, Joyce Gearheart, Colton Bickel and approximately 75-80 residents interested in the rezoning issue. Commissioner Attorney Jim Forcum was also in attendance.

**The minutes of the January 7, 2019 meeting** were approved as presented by a 3/0 vote after a motion by John Oxley and a 2nd by Nick Rhodes.

**Sheriff Jeff Sones** gave the inmate count as 34 local males, 9 local females, 14 out-of-county males and 7 out-of-county females for a total of 64. Sones also reported the remodeling work at the jail is going slow.

**Planning/Zoning Director Anne Owen** read a letter certifying the results of the January 8, 2019 Area Plan Commission meeting on the rezoning of 80 acres in Harrison Township belonging to Joyce Gearheart from A1 to I2. The APC voted 7-1 giving a Non-Favorable recommendation with 2 board members abstaining. The matter now comes to the Commissioners.

**Rezoning of 80 acres in Harrison Township from A1 to I2 –** those speaking **against** the rezoning were: Betsy Needler, Ryan McCall, Gary Verona, Terry Raver, Kevin Love, Shirley Feltt and Carla Trible.

Those speaking **in favor** of the rezoning were: Harry Pearson, Kathy Bantz and Colton Bickel.

The Commissioners, all of whom had attended the APC public hearing on the rezoning, answered questions from the audience.

President Lancaster noted that all letters and emails received will be entered in the minutes of this meeting (see attached).

**John Oxley made a motion to approve the rezoning of 80 acres located at CR 500 N and CR 500 E in Harrison Township belonging to Joyce Gearheart from A1 to I2. Nick Rhodes 2nd and the vote was 3/0.**

**Bids for Bridge #75,** which is located on Old 303 over the Salamonie River at the North edge of Montpelier were opened.

 Hoosier Pride Excavating, Inc $251,139.00

 Duncan Robertson, Inc $342,090.50

 R. A. Myers Construction Co. $236,288.22

 HIS Constructors, Inc $303,577.55

John Oxley moved to take the bids under advisement so they could be reviewed. Nick Rhodes 2nd and the vote was 3/0.

Highway Supervisor Bruce Edgington and Butler, Fairman and Seufert’s Mike Matel reviewed all bids and returned to make the recommendation to accept the bid from R. A. Myers Construction Co. for $236,288.22.

**John Oxley moved to accept the bid from R. A. Myers Construction Co. for $236,288.22 and Nick Rhodes 2nd. The vote was 3/0.**

**The East Central Indiana Regional Planning District** asked for three (3) appointments to the group. John Oxley moved to appoint Bill Hess, Nick Rhodes and John Oxley to ECIRPD. Nick Rhodes 2nd and the vote was 3/0.

The **Christian Outdoor Ministry** group has filed their proof of insurance with the county for 2019. The Commissioners granted the group permission to conduct hunts for area youth at the former Transfer Station site. The group must provide proof of insurance every year.

The **National Association of Counties** dues of $450.00 was approved for payment on a motion by Nick Rhodes and 2nd by John Oxley. The vote was 3/0. NACO provides local residents with a prescription discount card at no cost among other assistance to counties.

The **Dog and Cat Ordinance** was taken under advisement so the Animal Shelter can be contacted for any input they might have.

**Accounts Payable Claims:** **Claims were approved in the amount of $267,748.17** on a motion by Nick Rhodes and 2nd by John Oxley. The vote was 3/0.

**Public Comment –** John Lancaster thanked the 4H for use of the building for this meeting. Anne Owen stated she likes the new county website.

There being no further public comment, John Oxley made a motion to adjourn. **The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 a.m.**

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

The Blackford County Board of Commissioners

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John Lancaster, President John Oxley, Vice President

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Nick Rhodes, Member Auditor Sharon Hartley