

BLACKFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S

MEETING June 15, 2020

The Blackford County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on June 15, 2020 in the Commissioner's office on the first floor of the Blackford County Courthouse, Hartford City IN. The meeting was available on Zoom as well.

President John Lancaster called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll with Commissioners Nick Rhodes, John Oxley and John Lancaster present. **Others in attendance in person** were Anne Owen, Bruce Edgington, Jon Oswalt, Jeff Sones, Warren Brown, Bill Smith, Cheri Brown, Sam Swenson, Steven Holman, Esteban Briz (OOMA) and Tim Stanley. **Attending on Zoom** were Jack Beckley, Kelly Cale, Karen Mealy, Jimmy Brock (OOMA), Mary Beal and attorney Jim Forcum.

The minutes of the June 1, 2020 meeting were approved as presented by a 3/0 vote after a motion by Nick Rhodes and a 2nd by John Oxley.

Highway Supervisor Bruce Edgington reported \$297 was collected at the Container Collection Site. Also, the new mower arrived last week but is not ready to be put to work yet.

Veteran's Affairs Officer Jon Oswalt reported the VA Clinic has reopened.

EMA Director Bill Smith stated the travel advisory has been set to "Green". More PPE for first responder units will be available soon.

P&Z Director Anne Owen asked for the Solar Amendment portion of the Zoning Ordinance be moved along to the APC. **John Oxley moved to send the solar amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on to the APC. Nick Rhodes 2nd and the vote was 3/0.**

Sheriff Jeff Sones gave the Inmate count at 26 inmates. This includes 22 males and 4 females, of those, 5 level 6 and 3 DOC. Restrictions at the Jail due to COVID-19 are slowly being lifted so more inmates may be coming in soon.

Courthouse Custodian Tim Stanley 1. The windows on the 3rd floor have been sealed where they were leaking. **2.)** The air conditioning in the annex is fixed. **3.)** The elevator parts should ship the week of July 9-11. Repairs will begin shortly after that.

BCEDC Director Warren Brown reported 1) the TIF District at 3M and surrounding will be completed on June 29. **2.)** A student entrepreneurial program called "Spark Indiana" is being looked at for Blackford County. **3.)** Abatement paperwork for Montpelier is finished and Hartford City is in the works. **4.)** The OCRA Grant is finished. **5.)** A company has been hired to find holes in the broadband coverage in the county. They are gathering data now.

Purdue Extension's Cheri Brown reported 1) There will be a virtual animal show for the 4H Fair this year. Details to come. **2.)** They are working on a lunch program to fill in where the school program leaves off. It will be a drive thru at the fairgrounds.

Community Corrections Kelly Cale reported staff is attending supervised release training.

Steven Holman from Cyberian Technologies presented a one-year contract for IT support services for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$44,602. **Nick Rhodes moved to accept the contract and John Oxley 2nd. The vote was 3/0.**

Esteban Briz and Jimmy Brock (via Zoom) from OOMA presented a phone and internet plan that could save the county \$45,468 a year. The plan is cloud based with an office in Carmel. **Nick Rhodes moved to take the proposal under advisement and John Oxley 2nd. The vote was 3/0.**

As the 2021 Budget season begins, the Commissioners recommended a 5% raise for county employees. This will be presented to the Council at budget meetings.

Accounts Payable Claims: Claims were approved in the amount of \$321,197.97 on a motion by Nick Rhodes and 2nd by John Oxley. The vote was 3/0.

Payroll Claims:

PPE 5/29/2020 Claims for \$124,338.33 were approved on a motion by John Oxley and 2nd by Nick Rhodes. The vote was 3/0.

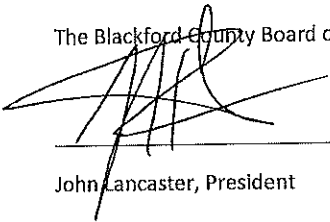
Public Comment: President Lancaster reported a traffic count is being done at the railroad crossings on 400 E and 550 N and 600 N.

A visitor to Blackford County sent an email to complimented the flags out around the courthouse for Flag Day. They loved the patriotism of the display.

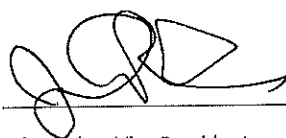
There being no further public comment, John Oxley made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Approved this 7th day of July, 2020.

The Blackford County Board of Commissioners .



John Lancaster, President



John Oxley, Vice President

Nick Rhodes, Member

Attest:



Auditor Sharon Hartley