

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

June 3, 2020

The Blackford County Council met at 6:00 p.m. on the first floor of the Blackford County Courthouse located at 110 W Washington Street, Hartford City, Indiana for the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 2020. The meeting was also available on Zoom

President Dan Borgenheimer called the meeting to order.

Those members answering roll were Dan Borgenheimer, Kyle Lechien, Ryan Goodspeed, Jack Beckley and Patrick Cale, Fred Tobey and Karen Mealy.

Also present were: in person were Auditor Sharon Hartley, Sheriff Jeff Sones, Paul Schriver, Bill Hughes, Anne Owen, Kevin Hamilton, Tyler Hunt, John Oxley and Bruce Edgington. **Joining on Zoom** were Warren Brown, Cheri Brown, Mary Beal, Jacki Clamme and Kevin Brown.

The minutes of the March 4, 2020 Regular Council meeting were approved as Amended on a motion by Jack Beckley and 2nd by Karen Mealy. The vote was 7/0.

Committee Reports:

Community Corrections – Tyler Hunt reported that electronic monitoring and day reporting are holding steady. Drug screens showed 39% positive which is lower than usual. Employment of clients is at 70% which is down 14% from January due to COVID-19. Community Corrections work with 50-60 clients.

Solid Waste – No meeting.

Economic Development – Warren Brown reported 1) the OCRA grant funding will start soon. 2) The Wylar lot renovation has begun. It will include an amphitheater. 3) Gilman Home Store project is moving along. 4) Blackford Development Corporation can now do construction and not just destruction. Jack Beckley remarked that he appreciates all he and Blackford County Economic Development Corporation have done and are doing for the county.

Blackford Development - Fred Tobey has resigned from the board. Kathy Bantz will be a new board member with her focus on Montpelier.

LEPC – no report

Clarification as to the part-time to full-time start date for the 2nd Health Nurse was given as 4/1/2020.

Planning and Zoning Director Anne Owen and Commissioner John Oxley have been working to have a building inspector for the county. There are online classes Owen can take to become licensed. This includes 80 hours of instruction and 12 hours shadowing a licensed inspector. Jack Beckley would like to have an Ordinance of authority and contractor rules along with fees in place before she starts inspections. The commissioners approved the plan at their 6/1/2020 meeting. Karen Mealy moved to approve the training and Patrick Cale 2nd. The vote was 7/0.

Surveyor Paul Schriver's request for a Cum Ditch fund was discussed. The next step is to hold the public hearing by June 30 or stop the process and rethink the matter for 2021. After much discussion, Jack Beckley moved to not approve holding a public hearing and Ryan Goodspeed 2nd. The vote was 5/2 with Dan Borgenheimer and Patrick Cale voting nay. This may be revisited next year.

The Hiring Freeze discussed and passed at the last meeting was signed with the approved changes made.

Highway Supervisor Bruce Edgington reported that reduced travel will impact MVH and LRS (Local Roads & Streets) funding. The state is projecting a 40-45% decrease in revenue. Community Crossings funds will be down as well. Paving a mile of road costs approximately \$100,000 and chip and seal costs approximately \$10,000 per mile. These reductions will make some projects impossible for the near future.

Auditor Hartley gave an update on the financial situation counties will face in the next year of two due to COVID-19. Riverboat funding which the county uses for Sheriff Pensions will be unavailable or greatly reduced. LIT funds (Certified Shares, EDIT and Public Safety) money will be reduced as well. This will last until at least 2021.

The Health Department received a \$3,000 donation from EDP Renewables, the wind farm company to help with COVID-19 costs.

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL

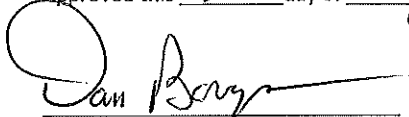
| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Ending Cash Balance as of 5/31/2020 | \$ 1,865,885.42 |
| Total Expenditures for May 2020 | \$ 425,589.29 |
| Total Revenue for May 2020 | \$ 116,014.93 |


Transfers: none

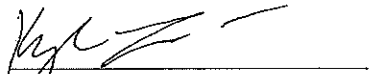
Purdue Extensions Cheri Brown 1) reported on Getting Dirty agronomy class the extension office has been holding. 2) they have delivered 110 activity kits to homes for children to have activities. 3) the roundtable zoom meetings are still being held every two weeks to keep up on developments due to COVID-19. 4) Brown work with AEP Foundation to receive a \$10,000 grant for the food pantry to purchase freezers and refrigerators. That and the \$20,000 OCRA grant have been a tremendous help. The pantry is now looking for a forklift.

There being no further comment Patrick Cale made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

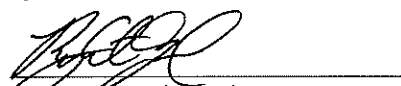
Approved this 8th day of July, 2020.


Dan Borgenhelmer, President

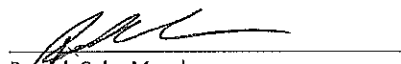

Karen Mealy, Vice President

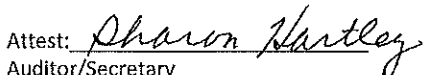

Kyle Lechlen, Member


Jack Beckley, Member


Ryan Goodspeed, Member


Fred Tobey, Member


Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: 
Auditor/Secretary