

## **CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

### **January 17, 2023**

The Cass County Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room. Present for the meeting were Ruth Baker, Michael Stajduhar, Mike Deitrich, Attorney Jeff Stanton and Auditor Cheryl Alcorn.

Ruth Baker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a moment of silence.

**MINUTES** – Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the minutes, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**CLAIMS & PAYROLL-** Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented, Michael Stajduhar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**CLERK** – Destry Richey requested approval to fill vacate full time position. Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request to fill full time position, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADULT PROBATION** – Terry Haney requested approval to fill full time probation position left vacate upon the retirement of Sharon Johnston. Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request to fill full time probation position, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT** – Richard Gundrum appeared before the Commissioners with monthly report. New ceiling tiles and lights are scheduled for Recorder, Treasurer, and Auditor Offices. New flooring is scheduled for Recorder, Treasurer, and second floor hallway. Assisted in the relocating and renovating of three offices in the Government Building. Meeting is scheduled for this Friday with LMU regarding storm water issues on High Street in front of the Jail. Kane safety screens will be installed in the Jail cell blocks A, B, C and D.

Cass County Solid Waste has vacated the Annex Storage Building. IT Department and Work Release are cleaning and clearing out the building. Richard assisted set up of heat and power at the new location for Cass County Solid Waste.

911 Dispatch carpet cleaning and ceiling repair have been completed as a result of roof leaks. Additional exterior lights have been installed at Staffing Resources and Cass Employer Clinic.

Richard requested approval to fill full time position that was created two years ago and never filled. Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request to fill full time position, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**SHERIFF DEPARTMENT** – Sheriff Ed Schroder appeared before the Commissioners with the December monthly and year end reports.

PRISONER BOOKINGS	116
PRISONERS RELEASED	136
MILES TRANSPORTING PRISONERS	1,008
MEALS SERVED TO PRISONERS	18,849
OFFICER PATROL MILES	39,709
TRAFFIC WARNINGS ISSUED	75
TRAFFIC ARRESTS/CITATIONS	112
DWI/OWI ARRESTS	10
CRIMINAL ARRESTS	55
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS	68
PROPERTY DAMAGE	53
PERSONAL INJURY	15
FATALITES	0
RESERVE OFFICER HOURS	31
CIVIL PROCESS MILAGE	944
CIVIL PROCESS PAPERS SERVED	321
<b><i>SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS:</i></b>	
CALLS/CASE	12
PRESENTATIONS	0
TRANSPORTATION	0
<b><i>ANIMAL CONTROL:</i></b>	
COUNTY CALLS	19
CITY CALLS	23
CONSULTS	19
WRITTEN WARNINGS	2
SHELTERED ANIMALS	9
BITE CASES	0

## **YEAR END REPORT 2022**

PRISONER BOOKINGS	1,731
PRISONERS RELEASED	1,784
MILES TRANSPORTING PRISONERS	34,055
MEALS SERVED TO PRISONERS	229,281
OFFICER PATROL MILES	390,324
TRAFFIC WARNINGS ISSUED	1,822
TRAFFIC ARRESTS/CITATIONS	1,109
DWI/OWI ARRESTS	83
CRIMINAL ARRESTS	640
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS	525
PROPERTY DAMAGE	432
PERSONAL INJURY	88
FATALITIES	5
RESERVE OFFICER HOURS	236
CIVIL PROCESS MILEAGE	12,693
CIVIL PROCESS PAPERS SERVED	3,372
<b>SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS:</b>	
CALLS/CASE	126
PRESENTATIONS	12
TRANSPORTATION	7
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL:</b>	
COUNTY CALLS	234
CITY CALLS	466
CONSULTS	283
WRITTEN WARNINGS	109
SHELTERED ANIMALS	144
BITE CASES	41
<b>GOVERNMENT BUILDING SECURITY: items confiscated at front door</b>	
KNIVES	493
FIRE ARMS	3

PEPPER SPRAY	90
SAFETY KEY CHAIN	30
MISCELLANEOUS	35

Sheriff Schroder added Jail K-9 unit completed 232 searches for the year 2022, without incident. Inmate count as of today is 222. For the month of December, 9 correction officers have been hired with 5 positions still vacant.

Sheriff Schroder requested approval to fill vacant part time office position use for finger printing. Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request for part time office position, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**I.T. DEPARTMENT** – Cj Gilsinger presented the monthly report for December. New laptops and docking stations have been installed in the Clerk’s office. Coordinated the moving of technology devices for the three offices relocating in the Government Building.

Three new ESXI servers have been deployed and tested for our virtual environment. Process has begun to change out old switches with faster network.

Cj continues to work with the three-building project manager for placement of access points and camera mounts.

**CCED** – Christy Householder appeared before the Commissioners with the Economic Development monthly report for December. Christy made nine business retention and expansion visits, fifteen local and three regional projects meetings with four business leads.

Christy reported EDA Grant application has been submitted for CR 300 S & CR 400 W for a 50/50 matching grant. Redline Equipment ground breaking will be scheduled within the next couple of months in the Ag Park.

**BROADBAND** – Matt Mavrick was not available to attend; no report was received.

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS** – Dave Wegner appeared before the Commissioners with the monthly report for December. Department received 19 new clients and 18 clients completed the program. Work Release Program had 29 participants, a 13% decrease from prior month.

CLIENTS SERVED	174
• HOME DETENTION	150
• WORK RELEASE	24

Dave reported analysis shows 31% of offenses are drug and alcohol related. Out of 139 drug screens for the month of December, 5% were positive. Majority of positive screens were for THC, alcohol, and methamphetamine.

**FIRE DISTRICT #1** – Chief Jerry Maxson presented Fire District – 4th Quarterly Report for 2022.

FIRE RESPONSE CALLS:

- 35 Fire
- 61 Medical
- 11 MVC

Chief Maxson reported 10 SCBA bottles were replaced. Alignment and 6 batteries were replaced on Engine 3. New workstations with four new computers were installed in the office.

Chief Maxson thanked Washington Township Trustee for donation of three thermal imaging cameras.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT** – Arin Shaver presented Planning Department, 2022 Annual Report. Report included unsafe building enforcement issues with location descriptions and the following petitions reviewed.

2022 PETITION REVIEWS:

BZA	34
Development Plan Review	25
Architectural Review	6
RDC Use Approval	3

2022 IMPROVEMENT PERMITS:

Logansport	514
Walton	20
Cass County	457

Logansport rezone request was approved along the bank of the Eel River where the old LMU coal and water plants were located. Two subdivisions were created on the east end of the city. Planning Department has been involved with many special projects over the past year, including completion of seven downtown building façade improvements, and development of city and county joint grant projects.

**COUNCIL ON AGING** – Director Becki Harris presented 2022 - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Report. Cass County Council on Aging consist of two programs; Downtown Senior Center and Cass Area Transit. Provides services to all ages, primarily residents age 60 and over. Agency also provides City Bus program through funding from City of Logansport. With a fleet of 30 vehicles the agency provided transportation for over 92,000 passengers traveling over 528,000 miles.

Becki announced the agency received a grant through the Cass County Community Foundation for installation of a gazebo. Senior Center offers activities and special events throughout the year. Daily lunch for senior citizens is provided through Area Five Agency.

**WEIGHTS & MEASURES** – Inspector Rich Brewer presented for the first time a Quarterly Report of Weights & Measures. Report includes the third and fourth quarters of 2022.

INSPECTIONS 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Qrts – 2022

Fuel Pump	216
Portable Scales	103
Mass Flow Meter	40
Vehicle Scales	14
Non-Commercial Scales	14
Hopper Scales	6
Livestock Scales	8
Vehicle Truck Meters	8
High Flow Diesel	8
Firewood	2
Railroad Scales	1
Total Inspections:	420

Rich appreciated the support received from Commissioners and Council to update equipment and status of inspector position.

**EMA** – Rocky Buffum presented 2022 End of Year Report. Department offered multiple certification programs consisting of 2,951 training hours for EMA personnel, public safety departments, and community members. Program training included; Fire Instructor I & II, HAZMAT, Incident Safety Officer, Rail Car Response, Weather Spotter, and Landing Zone Operations.

INCIDENT RESPONSES: 130

Assist Agency	65
HAZMAT	27
Weather	38

Rocky reported infrastructure and equipment upgrades including; warning siren maintenance, county wide radio program, HAZMAT detection, and emergency operations plan. Department received \$59,952 in grant revenue to offset costs and \$13,730 was billed to spillers of hazardous materials for costs of response and clean up.

Rocky requested approval to submit a federal grant proposal. The grant award is through FEMA for \$20,304 and requires a 25% local match. Purpose of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant is to update the county hazard mitigation plan.

Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve the request for grant proposal as presented, Michael Stajduhar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**COURT & PRETRIAL SERVICES** – Hillary Hartoin presented year-end report for 2022. Department finished the year serving 228 clients, 21% increase from previous year.

CLIENTS SERVED: 97

Misdemeanors	49
Level 6 Felonies	36
High Level Felonies	12

Hillary reported the local JRAC committee is reviewing proposals for the best use of county allocated funding in the fight against opioids in Cass County. JRAC will meet with County Commissioners later this month to present proposals.

Hillary expressed gratitude to the Commissioners for relocation of the department. Location and office size is more suited to the services provided.

**APPOINTMENTS** – The following individuals were appointed:

**EMA Advisory Council**

Tracy Williamson  
Mike Deitrich  
Gary Chambers  
Tim Minnick  
Steven Martin  
Nick Bowyer  
Rick Lee  
Ed Schroder  
Brady Wiles  
Terry Dixson  
Rick Bair

**EMS Board**

Brent Ahrens  
Rick Bair  
Ryan Browning  
Mike Deitrich  
Dave Morris  
Brian Reed  
Ed Schroder

**Redevelopment Commission**

Ruth Baker  
Dean Davenport  
Bruce Ide  
Ryan Zeck  
Ryan Browning  
Michele Starkey non-voting member

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the appointments as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried 2 in favor and 1 abstain. Mike Deitrich abstained.

Ruth Baker encouraged everyone to check the county website for appointment updates. Appointments are subject to change throughout the year.

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION** – Commissioner Baker recognized Washington Township Trustee for the gracious donation of three thermal imaging cameras to Fire District #1.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Lora Redweik, 5524 N 600 East, Twelve Mile - Ordinance establishing the EMS Board states membership shall terminate if individual no longer represents the category chosen to represent. Brian Reed is no longer a member of County Council.


Commissioner Baker will review the Ordinance regarding EMS appointments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mike Deitrich made a motion to adjourn, Michael Stajduhar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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Ruth Baker, President

  
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Michael W. Stajduhar, Vice President

  
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Mike Deitrich

ATTEST:   
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Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor