

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 6, 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 Regular Meeting and Executive Session minutes as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL- Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented excluding claim #102765, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EXTENSION OFFICE - Jane Horner introduced Interim Director Allison Hillis and distributed the 2022 Purdue Extension Impact Statement.

Allison Hillis informed Commissioners she is currently full time Health & Human Sciences Extension Educator and Director for Howard County and filling in as part-time interim director for Cass County. Allison presented a list of ink cartridges no longer needed to be deemed surplus.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to deem items presented for surplus, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

EMS – Brady Wiles presented the monthly report for February. EMS responded to 332 calls and provided 467 transports. Average response time of 5:57.

Brady reported 1019 billable miles consisting of 129 ALS and 3 Level II ALS calls and 97 BLS calls. Total billed for January \$256,429. Department completed over 4,000 response calls last year.

Brady introduced new Assistant Director, Greg Hollingsworth. Currently the department is fully staffed. Seventy-five applications have been received for on-line EMT Certification Class scheduled to begin March 15th. Maximum enrollment is 30 students per class.

CORONER – George Franklin was not available to present monthly report. The following monthly report for February was submitted for review.

CAUSE OF DEATH

NATURAL	3
COVID	0
VEHICLE	0

SUICIDES	0
HOMICIDES	0
DRUG OVERDOSE	0
SUSPICIOUS	0
JOB SITE	0
OTHER ACCIDENT	0
INFANT	1
UNDETERMINED	0
TRANSPORTS	1
AUTOPIES	0

DISPATCH E-911 – Tara Grigsby appeared before the Commissioners with the monthly report for February.

911 Calls	1117
Admin Calls	4551
CAD Screens	2869
Overtime	34 shifts

Tara reported five new employees currently in training, department is fully staffed.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Serenity Alter presented monthly report for February. The Health Department held nine routine immunization clinics. During this report period 172 patients were seen with 402 vaccines given. Fifteen (15) TB patients receive medications from the Health Department weekly and are monitored for nine months. Continuing thirty-four full investigation lead cases with seven lead follow-up cases with lab levels.

Vital Records department received \$2,090 in document fees. The department printed 156 birth certificates, 85 certified death certificates and three paternity affidavits.

Mike Collins completed 67 restaurant inspections, issued 16 food permits, one follow-up and two complaint inspections. Three follow-up environmental inspections with one unsanitary living and one insect inspection. One lead inspection with one lead follow-up. Dan Musselman completed 5 environmental calls, 7 soil reports, 40 residential inspections, 8 residential searches and 1 residential repair, one new construction permit, and 3 OSS permits.

Serenity reported the Health Department will move to its new location the week of March 13th. The department will remain open during the transition, to continue serving the community without interruption. Plans are being made for an open house event sometime during the first couple weeks of April.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – Jeff Smith appeared before the Commissioners with the Highway Department monthly report for February. Crews continue road maintenance, brush work, and stockpiling stone for summer road program.

Adam Township bridge project is substantially complete and re-opened a month earlier than projected. Repaving of the approaches will take place sometime in April.

Jeff announced road closures in the coming months in Walton and Galveston areas as a result of NIPSCO gas line installation project to Kokomo. These roads include parts of 600 East and 800 South in Walton and 1225 South, 1000 East, and 1250 South near Galveston.

Jeff introduced Resolution 23-01 establishing a single signer authority for INDOT contracts with the county. This is an INDOT requirement for contracts involving grants and federal funds. President of the Commissioners will serve as the single signer authority. Jeff presented Resolution 23-01 Establish Single Signing Authority for INDOT Contracts for approval.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Resolution 23-01 as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jeff present the following dump trucks and equipment to be deemed surplus:

Fleet #107: 2005 International 7400, 215,789 miles

Fleet #104: 2004 International 7400, 199,488 miles

Fleet #123: 2005 International 7400, 233,736 miles

Fleet #52: 1985 Case MW24C loader, 2468 hours

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve items presented as surplus, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PARK DEPARTMENT – Dana Hildebrand presented monthly report for February. Crews are updating and relocating electrical pedestals and water lines in the long-term camping area. Firewood stock is nearly at full capacity. LMU is setting new utility poles to raise electrical lines. Estimated revenue received for the month is \$20,683.

PROSECUTOR – Noah Schafer requested approval to fill full time Victim Advocate position that will become vacant upon retirement of Debbie Sheets.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve request to fill full time position as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

INSURANCE RENEWAL – Michael Bowditch, Consolidated Union, thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to provide property and casualty insurance over the past years. Michael personally thanked the county department heads for their

cooperation in providing information when needed. Consolidated Union recommends continuation of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for the insurance needs of the county.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the insurance policy renewal for 2023, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4C HEALTH SERVICES – Dr. Carrie Cadwell presented 2022 Annual Report for Four County Counseling, now known as 4C Health Services. Cadwell reported a \$250K renovation project was completed for a residential group home and another \$250K renovations on a group home is underway both located in Logansport. Housing renovations will provide eight additional beds to the current sixteen beds in use. Local staffing of the agency provides the county approximately \$140K in local income tax. Agency served 2,145 Cass County residents and provided over 105,000 services. Ages served range from 17 to over 65 years old. As of January 2023, Cass County Medicaid/HIP enrollment was 14,656.

Nicole Hiatt Drang, Chief Clinical Officer, reported the agency offers eleven community based skilled trainers with five therapist and two interns. Programs offering peer services, wellness recovery and truancy programs are provided to schools, jail, and community corrections. Mobile crisis service has been available since 2020, Cass County averages 39 crisis service deployments per month.

ORD. 23-02 PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OCCUPATION PERMIT FEES – Ruth Baker introduced Ordinance 23-02 providing consent to install underground cables, pipelines and above-ground structures and associated equipment within public rights-of-way. Baker entertained a motion to approve Ordinance 23-02 as presented.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Ordinance 23-02 as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RES. 23-02 PROPERTY TRANSFER – Ruth Baker introduced Resolution 23-02 transfer of real estate from Cass County Redevelopment Commission to Cass County Commissioners. Property originally was titled to Commissioners and years ago was transferred to the Redevelopment Commission. This resolution will transfer the real estate back to the Commissioners to potentially sell or lease. Baker entertained a motion to approve Resolution 23-02 as presented.

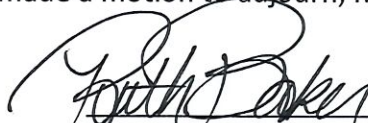
Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Resolution 23-02 as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT & RECOGNITION – Commissioner Baker recognize Jeff Stanton, Jeff Smith, Josh LeDonne, Christy Householder, and Ed Schroder for their time and efforts in preparing the recent resolutions and ordinances.


Commissioner Baker thanked the public for attending the meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

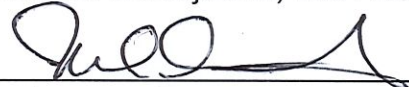
ADJOURNMENT – Michael Stajduhar made a motion to adjourn, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



Ruth Baker, President



Michael W. Stajduhar, Vice President



Mike Deitrich

ATTEST: 

Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor