

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
April 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- Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NIPSCO PROJECT UPDATE – Project Manager Greg Harper presented power point presentation showing progress of the project over the past two weeks. To date approximately 32.2% of pipeline has been installed and project is running on schedule. Post cards have been mailed to area residents informing them of the project and to be aware when traveling within work zones.

ORDINANCE 23-03 PUBLIC ROADWAY VACATE – CANAL STREET, GEORGETOWN – Attorney John Hillis presented vacate request for approval. No objections were received from utilities companies. No response was received from the Georgetown Fire Department.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Ordinance 23-03 as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. 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.

INDOT REIMBURSEMENT CONTRACT – Jeff Smith presented for approval Indiana Department of Transportation contract for road restoration resulting from unofficial detour route of state project US Highway 24 West. County roads 600 W, 50 N, and 800 W were used as the detour route. INDOT shall reimburse the county an amount not to exceed \$734, 207 for road repair.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the INDOT Contract as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

LARGE ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICE CONTRACT – Commissioner Baker presented service contract with Crooked Creek Trails owner Luke Riley to provide shelter of at-large livestock and/or farm animals captured by county animal control officer.

Commissioner Baker entertained a motion to approve Large Animal Shelter Service Contract.

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

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – Richard Gundrum presented monthly report for March. Smoke detectors have been replaced in the Government Building. New ceiling and lights have been installed in the Recorder’s Office. New transformer unit was installed at the Government Building. Privacy film will be applied to the windows at the Jail.

Work has begun to improve the HAV systems in the High Street building that houses Family Opportunity center and Consolidated Union. Items have been ordered for office renovations at 520 High Street to create work space for County Coroner.

Richard continues to meet with building contractors regarding the punch list of the Jail Expansion project.

Richard requested approval of Pro-Tech contract for cleaning of duct work at the Jail.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Pro-Tech contract, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT – Sheriff Ed Schroder was unavailable to present monthly report. The following report for the month of March was submitted and reviewed.

PRISONER BOOKINGS	148
PRISONERS RELEASED	165
MILES TRANSPORTING PRISONERS	3,142
MEALS SERVED TO PRISONERS	20,884
OFFICER PATROL MILES	51,756
TRAFFIC WARNINGS ISSUED	121
TRAFFIC ARRESTS/CITATIONS	114
DWI/OWI ARRESTS	15
CRIMINAL ARRESTS	80
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS	42
PROPERTY DAMAGE	35
PERSONAL INJURY	6
FATALITES	1
RESERVE OFFICER HOURS	0
CIVIL PROCESS MILAGE	1,471

CIVIL PROCESS PAPERS SERVED 404

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS:

CALLS/CASE 7

PRESENTATIONS 0

TRANSPORTATION 0

ANIMAL CONTROL:

COUNTY CALLS 66

CITY CALLS 41

CONSULTS 17

WRITTEN WARNINGS 26

SHELTERED ANIMALS 9

BITE CASES 2

2022 ANNUAL JAIL REPORT – Building expansion renovation completed in 2022 increased inmate housing capacity to 387. Average daily book-in was 4.8 inmates, for the year 1,299 male and 451 female inmates were processed. County invoiced Indiana Department of Corrections \$341,709 for housing of DOC inmates. GED education program is available for inmates and work release program is available. In partnership with Community Corrections a self-improvement course is offered on-line ‘Thinking for a Change’.

Commissioner Baker presented request submitted by Sheriff Schroder to deem vehicle as surplus from his department and transfer to the Emergency Medical Service department.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the request to deem vehicle as surplus and transfer to EMS, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT – BID OPENING - Attorney Jeff Stanton opened and read aloud the bid received for the purchase of four squad cars:

Mike Anderson Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram
417 S Third Street, Logansport, Indiana

2023 Dodge per Spec’s
V8 AWD \$41,947 each
Trade in Value Total/5 vehicles: \$30,500

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to take bid under advisement, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

I.T. DEPARTMENT – Cj Gilsinger presented the monthly report for March. Connection issues at the new Health Department have been corrected. Election ballots are in the mail and process is running well.

IT assisted in removal and re-setting of equipment in the Recorder’s Office during installation of new ceiling and lights. Emergency paging system was set up within the Government Building. Dell laptops have been ordered for the deputy vehicles and should be delivered soon. Internet service hookup should be completed this week for the Indy Dive Club at France Park.

CCED – Christy Householder presented the monthly report for March. Christy made nine business retention and expansion visits, thirty-two local, eight state, and six regional projects meetings with nine business leads.

Christy attended Cass County Early Childhood Coalition Meeting and EDA Grant Meeting. A groundbreaking ceremony for Redline Equipment was held in the Ag Park.

BROADBAND AGREEMENT – Christy presented Broadband Agreement for approval. Attorney Stanton reviewed and suggest approval to include additional details to exhibits.

Commissioner Baker appreciated everyone’s efforts in creating the agreement and entertained a motion to approve agreement with exhibit details to be added.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve Broadband Agreement subject to exhibit clarifications, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PLANNING AGREEMENT – Christy presented for approval READI Subrecipient Grant Agreement with North Central Regional Planning Council to provide grant management and compliance services in relation to the READI Grant.

Attorney Stanton explained agreement provides services of grant reporting requirements. Stanton reviewed agreement and recommended it for approval.

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

BROADBAND – Matt Mavrck presented update report of Broadband Project. Eastern portion of the fiber ring is completed and customers are being served. Fiber ring has been constructed in Young America area and is currently being spliced. Cabinet will be placed at the base of wireless tower in Young America. South of the city to Young America is constructed and permits/pole attachments have been submitted to LMU and Norfolk Southern.

Matt reported 17 new hook ups for a total of 193 as of April 17th. Eighty-one miles of fiber completed with 60 miles remaining. Construction will begin on Highway 16 including the town of Lucerne.

EMS – Brady Wiles presented the monthly report for March. EMS responded to 412 calls and provided 258 transports. Average response time of 6:12.

Brady reported 1395 billable miles consisting of 151 ALS and 5 Level II ALS calls and 123 BLS calls. Total billed for February \$313,936. Department is fully staff with one employee out with injury. Currently searching for part time staff to reduce over time hours.

Brady appreciated the vehicle transfer from the Sheriff’s Department to Emergency Medical Services.

BID OPENING – AMBULANCES Attorney Jeff Stanton opened and read aloud the bid received for the purchase of 3 Ambulances:

North Central Emergency Vehicles

417 S Third Street, Logansport, Indiana	2023/24 Ambulance per Spec’s
	\$230,911.00
	2024/25 Ambulance per Spec’s
	\$235,895.00
	2025/26 Ambulance per Spec’s
	\$246,510.00

Ford GPC rebate is not available at this time – all rebates will be fully credited to the order. Bid provides estimated F 550 chassis pricing. Any Ford price changes will be passed on as a credit or increase. Production lead times are over two and a half years or 2026 delivery.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to take bid under advisement, Mike Deitrich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Dave Wegner presented monthly report for March. Department received 16 new clients and 26 clients completed the program. One client was returned and eight clients were held in the jail. Thirteen inmates were interviewed for potential participation.

CLIENTS SERVED	179
• HOME DETENTION	138
• WORK RELEASE	41

Dave reported the first SEA 9 EM report has been submitted to new Local JRAC for review. Work has begun in the green houses preparing flower baskets to be placed throughout the county.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT RENEWAL – Dave Wegner presented for approval CY24 IDOC Grant Application for approval.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the Grant Application as presented, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

COURT & PRETRIAL SERVICES – Hillary Hartoin presented 1st Quarterly Report for 2023. Department finished the first quarter with 41 clients successfully completing the program and over 30 clients completing voluntary ACCI CBT Programming Courses. Services provided have currently diverted and estimated \$3,760 per day for incarceration expenses and an estimated cost savings of \$117, 680 in the month of March.

Hillary reported the local JRAC committee holds monthly meetings and will focusing on the use of Opioid Settlement Funding. Hillary presented at the 2023 IOCS Spring Pretrial Staff Orientation.

PRETRIAL GRANT RENEWAL – Hillary Hartoin requested approval to submit Pretrial Services Grant Renewal Application for CY2024.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the submission of grant renewal application as requested, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge Kitts requested approval to create new full-time case manager position for Pretrial Services. The remaining salary of a recently retired probation officer will be used to fund the new case manager position for Pretrial Services. Case Manager position will begin July 1st.

Michael Stajduhar made a motion to approve the hiring of a full time case manager position for Pretrial Services, Mike Deitrich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DISTRICT #1 – Chief Jerry Maxson presented 1st Quarterly Report for 2023.

FIRE RESPONSE CALLS:

- 20 Fire
- 76 Medical
- 7 MVC
- 103 Response Calls

Chief Maxon reported all firefighters completed yearly physicals, two passed instructor I state testing, two passed HazMat state testing, four are enrolled in EMT class. C-Shift participated in pipeline safety hosted by LFD. Department hire full time firefighter Michael Capitanio. Truck 8 out of service for one week for cosmetic repairs and installed new hydraulic cab tilt pump on Engine 3.

Chief Maxson thanked EMA Director Rocky Buffum for his assistance in applying for ‘The Colten Howard Memorial Fund’ to receive a Grain Bin Rescue Tub. Chief Maxon and Financial Officer Bridget Enyeart recently attended a grant writing class in efforts to continue applying for grant funding.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT – Arin Shaver presented 1st Quarterly Report for 2023. Report included 1st quarterly financial budgets for both County and City. A list of 46 county permits issued for

residential, commercial, and agriculture projects. Number of permits have increased from last year of 29 to currently 46 with increase of project costs comparatively last year of \$3,613,094 to this year \$15, 595,720.

COUNCIL ON AGING – Fiscal Officer Brandon presented 2023 – 1st Quarterly Report. Cass Area Transit has provided 26,820 passengers transportation covering 133,370 miles. Passengers of all ages, including children, are provided rides to school, medical appointments, work, grocery stores, and other social service appointments. Downtown Senior Center continues to offer a wide range of program services and weekday lunch. Our agency recently participated in the Pins for Kids bowling tournament to benefit United Way and held a fundraising car wash for victims of a house fire.

Res. 23-03 AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION – TRANSIT GRANT - Brandon presented resolution authorizing submittal of CY24 Federal Transit Grant application.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES – Inspector Rich Brewer presented 2023 – 1st Quarterly Report.

<u>INSPECTIONS</u>	<u>PASSED</u>	<u>REJECTED</u>
Fuel Pump	15	
Portable Scales	8	3
Non-Commercial Scales	150	13
Lg Vehicle Scales	4	
Lg Railroad Scales	1	
Liquid Propane Gas Tanks		63
Total Inspections:	257	

Rich attended several state and regional professional training courses, receiving 31 hours of training.

EMA – Rocky Buffum presented 2023 - 1st Quarterly Report. Department offered training courses for HazMat Tech Certification, Pipeline Emergencies Course, and trainings related to public safety radio project. Cass County was recognized as a Storm Ready Community by the National Weather Service.

Rocky reported the majority of emergency responses were weather related with one response to hazardous waste fire. Annual testing of warning siren has been conducted without issues. Radio project is near completion, all radios have been programmed with the exception of LFD.

Rocky informed of upcoming projects; updating Hazardous Materials Response Plan, conducting Anhydrous Ammonia Response Workshops to fire departments, and Propane Safety Course.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION – Commissioner Baker announced next Commissioners’ meeting will be held Monday, May 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Lora Redweik, 5524 N 600 East, Twelve Mile – Appreciated the NIPSCO project information is made available on-line.

Who will be using the Sheriff’s surplus vehicle at the EMS?
Commissioner Deitrich responded, EMS Assistant Director.

Is the Broadband Agreement an amendment to the 2020 Fiber Ring Agreement?
Commissioner Baker answered, no it is a separate agreement.

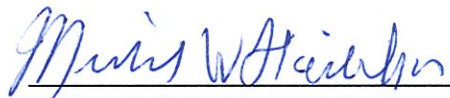
Bids for the three Ambulances will those be funded through the American Rescue Plan Funding?
Commissioner Deitrich answered, that will be decided. It is a possibility.

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