

CASS COUNTY COUNCIL

March 17, 2023

The Cass County Council met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Hearing Room. Present were; Shawn Shoemaker, Bruce Ide, Dean Davenport, Tracy Williamson, Damon Foreman, Dave Redweik, Derek Pullen, Attorney Jeff Stanton, and Auditor Cheryl Alcorn.

Tracy Williamson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence following.

MEETING MINUTES – Dave Redweik made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented, Bruce Ide seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS –

- Noah Schafer requested additional appropriation from User Fee Fund 2529 in the amount of \$18,200 for Pre-Trial Division costs.

Bruce Ide made a motion to approve additional appropriation from User Fee Fund 2529 in the amount of \$18,200, Dave Redweik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Serenity Alter requested additional appropriation from Health Maintenance Fund 1168 in the amount of \$34,401 for new nurse position salary.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation from Health Maintenance Fund 1168 in the amount of \$34,401, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Christy Householder requested additional appropriation from LIT Economic Development Fund 1112 in the amount of \$32,500 for Ridlen Park feasibility study Phase II and the remaining portion of Phase I that was not paid last year.

Dean Davenport made a motion to approve additional appropriation from LIT Economic Development Fund 1112 in the amount of \$32,500, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously

- Terry Haney requested additional appropriation from Adult Probation User Fee Fund 2541 in the amount of \$45,000 for costs of scanning and indexing of probation files.

Bruce Ide made a motion to approve additional appropriation from Adult Probation User Fee Fund 2541 in the amount of \$45,000, Dave Redweik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Rich Brewer requested additional appropriation from General Fund 1000 in the amount of \$14,637 for new full-time salary.

Derek Pullen made a motion to approve additional appropriation from General Fund 1000 in the amount of \$14,637, Dave Redweik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

LOGANSPOUR/CASS COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

- Molly Long requested approval of additional appropriation for the Airport Authority Budget in Debt Service Fund 180 in the amount of \$3,717 to cover shortfall.

Bruce Ide made a motion to approve additional appropriation from Debt Service Fund 180 in the Airport Authority Budget, Dave Redweik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – Leah Walthery distributed programs from recent Annual Meeting held at the 4-H Fairgrounds on February 21st. Program included the 2022 financial report and information of upcoming events and programs offered to the public. Sale of flags, platbooks, and tree saplings provide additional revenue to offer free educational events for the community.

Leah explained she is hired by the county. Soil & Water receives both county and state funding to promote and encourage soil and water conservation, habitat and wildlife stewardship, and use of natural resources. Program services are directed by a five-member board.


Leah introduced Kory Wilson, SWCD board member and supervisor. Kory added Leah is a tremendous hire and very knowledgeable in her job.

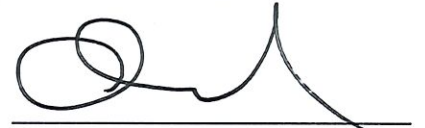
SHERIFF DEPARTMENT STAFFING & SALARIES – Sheriff Schroder presented salary increase proposals for consideration. Indiana Legislators are currenting entertaining a bill to increase first year State Trooper salary of \$52,000 to \$70,000. Sheriff suggested county salary increases of \$10,000 for Correctional Officer and \$15,000 for Deputy positions in efforts to retain current employees. The state will have approximately 300 positions open next hiring cycle. We have potentially ten deputies that would qualify to apply for those openings in the next three years.

Judge Kitts added the departments turn over rate is a public safety problem. The constant training of new employees leads to issues when dealing with felony inmates.

PUBLIC COMMENT- Paula Copenhaver, Outreach Representative from the office of Attorney General Todd Rokita, distributed information about unclaimed property and how to search and claim those monies.

ADJOURNMENT – Dave Redweik made a motion to adjourn, Bruce Ide seconded. The motion carried unanimously.


Tracy Williamson, President

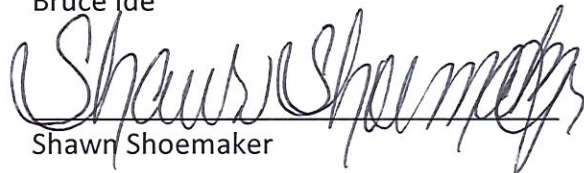

Dave Redweik, Vice President


Dean Davenport


Damon Foreman


Bruce Ide


Derek Pullen


Shawn Shoemaker

ATTEST:


Cheryl Mcorn, Auditor