

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD December 19, 2022**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 am. on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022 in the Commissioners Room in the Noble County Annex building, Albion, Indiana, being the time, date and place set for a regular session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County, Indiana.

Present were:

Gary Leatherman, President  
Anita Hess, Vice President  
Gary Timmerman, Member

Also present were:

Jacqueline L Knafel, County Coordinator  
Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney  
Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent  
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer

Gary Leatherman, Commissioner President, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30am.

**FIBER OPTIC**

Representatives from the EDC and Ligtel were present to discuss the designation of an Infrastructure Development Zone for the unincorporated areas in Noble County. The representative from Ligtel informed the commissioners that this is in preparation for a personal property abatement that they will be requesting of the county council. There will be no jobs created however the fiber optic is providing the next level of connection for the Noble County residents. Ligtel is currently working in the Southern part of Noble County which is where the greater need is at this time. Gary Timmerman moved to proceed with advertisement of this ordinance for Notice of Public Hearing. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- IDEM – Forest River Air Quality permit
- Monthly Treasurers Report – November

**CLAIMS**

The commissioners reviewed claims dated 12/19/2022. This was a 11-page report totaling \$24,479,072.79. NOTE: these claims included settlement claims which totaled \$23,985,300.77. Motion to pay claims was made by Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jackie Knafel, County Coordinator, asked the commissioners about the Roscoe Drainage Claim. The commissioners had earlier approved \$35,000.00 to be paid from the ARP funds and Jackie has received claims in excess of that amount. Anita Hess then moved to increase the funding out of ARP funds to \$50,000.00. Gary Timmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**PAYROLL**

A 4-page report for payroll dated 12/15/2022 was reviewed by the commissioners. This reported totaled \$464,513.56 and was approved with a motion from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

**HIGHWAY**

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent, had the following construction report for the commissioners:

- Richard reported that the department had worked some on Saturday due to the slick condition of the roads.
- Patching and berming work continues in preparation for Spring.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, has the engineering update for the commissioners:

- Zack has reviewed the annual bids and is reporting that all are in order. He is recommending that the commissioners accept them as received. Gary Timmerman moved to accept the 2023 annual bids as received. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

- Zack has received the INDOT contract for the CCMG project awarded. Motion to sign the contract came from Anita Hess with a second coming from Gary Timmerman. Motion carried 3-0
- Zack has prepared a Financial Commitment letter for the 2023 -2 CCMG matching grant for overlay projects for the commissioner's consideration, Motion to sign the agreement came from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- 2023-01 HMA Project is currently out for bids with bid opening set for February 10.
- 400 N – January Letting
- Bridge 134- there is a right of way contract with INDOT to be considered. Motion to sign the contract came from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0. This bridge is an historical bridge and Noble Trails has shown some interest in using the bridge within the trail system. Zack has met with the organization to work out details of the transition.
- Bridge 59 – notice to proceed has been issued for this project.
- The Call for Projects FY 28 has set January 19 as the date for presentations. Zack has submitted Baseline Road from 600 E to 800 E, Bridge 61 and for the safety project 100 N at 50W.
- Bridge 73 - set for February start
- Zack is discussing with the commissioners "mobile mapping" and is in hopes that this will eliminate field work in special incidents. He also feels that the surveyor, assessor and GIS will find this helpful in certain situations. The first year costs would be \$54,150 with year 2 and 3 being \$40,550.00. Anita Hess moved to allow this project pending council approval of an additional. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

#### ANNEX

Zack Smith, Project Manager, is hoping to get the closeout invoice for this project very soon. He is reporting that there are still some missing tables and a desk for the Prosecutors office is still on back order. The warranty work on the panel divider in the conference room is complete and the water softener will be installed in January. Zack is working on a memorial plaque for Dave Dolezal and is wanting feedback on what to do.

#### REGION III-A

Sandra Tumez, Region III-A was present to conduct the close out for Community Connections Disability Grant. Anita Hess moved to allow the recording of the meeting for Region III-A and Gary Timmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Sandra conducted the meeting and with there being no public comments either in person or written, the grant was closed.

In some reporting that was made by the Region III-A there was an issue with coding and a letter was needed – signed by the commissioners to that affect. Anita Hess moved to sign the letter and Gary Timmerman seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

#### Recess

#### Back in session

Findings of Facts for the Gilbert vacation was signed as approved at the previous meeting.

A contract was entered into with Randy Sexton as the project manager for the 100 N drainage project on an unregulated drain. Motion to sign the contract came from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

Zack met with the commissioners concerning cost saving measurers that might work for the Courthouse renovation. New figures have come in at just over \$6,000,000.00. That figure is the bottom for a renovation on an unoccupied courthouse. This causes other issues as to where the clerk and courts would be relocated and the cost involved with rental space etc.... There is a meeting set for January 18 with the judges to discuss this option further.

#### CONSULTANT SELECTION

The commissioners and Zack went through the "Letters of Interest" for the bridge inspection. Once the factoring was complete, Zack will take calculate the totals and bring the results to the next meeting.

OPIOID USES

Dennis Graft, County Attorney has provided a copy of the allowable uses for Opioid Settlement Money. Jackie distributed that list to the Commissioners for their review.

ENCUMBRANCES

Jackie Knafel, County Coordinator, presented the following requests for encumbrances:

- HIGHWAY – CCD FUND 1135-43987.107 BRIDGE 73 \$432,881.66
- HIGHWAY – CCD FUND 1135-43300-107 BRIDGE 44 \$109,589.32
- HIGHWAY – CCD FUND 1135-43871-107 400 N \$ 63,305.02
- HIGHWAY – CCD FUND 1135-43600-107 BASELINE RD \$ 15,652.31

These were approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Seconded by Gary Leatherman and carried 2-0.

- HIGHWAY – MVH FUND 1176-33301-201 BALL RD \$83,424.91
- HIGHWAY – MVH FUND 1176-45001-103 SIGNAGE \$22,072.53

Gary Timmerman moved to approve. Gary Leatherman seconded and motion carried 2-0.

- HIGHWAY – LRS 1169-44101-202 EQUIPMENT \$220,000.00

This encumbrance was approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0 an. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

- HIGHWAY - MVH RESTRICTED 1173-36101-107 REPAIR MAINT \$134,195.15

Gary Timmerman moved to approve the encumbrance. Gary Leatherman seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

- CEDIT – GIS 1112-47803-312 PICTOMETRY \$ 25,000.00

Motion to approve came from Gary Timmerman with a second from Gary Leatherman and the motion carried 2-0.


- GENERAL FUND
  1. Treasurer 1000-13301-005 Newly elected training \$ 507.60
  2. Plan Comm 1000-32202-027 planning services \$2,675.00
  3. Building Dept 1000-33100-028 printing \$ 109.56
  4. Prosecutor 1000-13301-010 education \$1,300.00

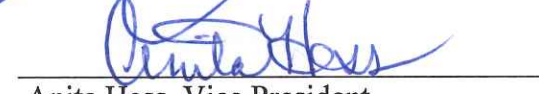
General fund encumbrances were approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Gary Leatherman seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 3:30 pm recessed from day to day until January 12, 2023

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of Jan., 2023

  
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Gary D. Leatherman, President

  
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Anita Hess, Vice President

  
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Gary Timmerman Member

ATTESTED: Michelle Mawhorter  
Michelle Mawhorter, Auditor