

PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 20, 2020 @ 8:30 AM

Mark Flint
Jeff Nelson
Ryan Coleman

The meeting was called to order with all Commissioners present in addition to County Attorney Val Fleig, Commissioners' Assistant Kristi Dischinger, and Auditor Judith Gumbel. Also in attendance were Sheriff Kent Johnson, Recorder Jeff Harting, County Highway Superintendent Roger Ham, Pike County Health Nurse Amy Gladish, EMS Director Chris Young, SWCD Office Manager Kyla Estey, John Sickman, Steve and Sara Neal, David Howell, Rich Luker, Pamela Cosby, Kyler Henry, and Press Dispatch Editor Andy Heuring.

REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 5, 2020

Commissioner Mark Flint called for approval or correction of the minutes of the June 5th Commissioner's Meeting. Commissioner Ryan Coleman seconded by Commissioner Jeff Nelson moved to approve the minutes. Motion passed 3 – 0.

REGARDING APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR JULY 6 & 20, 2020

Commissioner Flint called for an examination of claims and asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman moved to approve the claims for July 6th and July 20th. Motion passed 3 – 0.

REGARDING OLD BUSINESS

Health Department Ordinance

Ms. Dischinger explained that the increase in fees for the Health Department was approved at the last meeting, but she did not understand that it should be classified as an ordinance and amend existing Ordinance # 2005-02. The new ordinance is Ordinance No. 2020-02.

REGARDING NEW BUSINESS

Petition to Vacate Public Way

Ritchie Luker explained that there is an alley that goes through Pikeville that has not been used for some time. He thought that when he purchased the property in 2004 that the alley was included in the property that was purchased. There was a fence on it etc. He requested that the Commissioners vacate the property because it is where his septic system is located and was located when he purchased the property. He stated that the adjoining property owner, Mr. Riesenbeck was agreeable to the action. County Attorney Val Fleig noted that the petition to vacate would have to be published. Commissioner Flint informed Mr. Luker that it would then be on the agenda again on August 17th.

Emergency Health Preparedness Contract 2020-2021

Health Nurse Amy Gladish presented the contract which is negotiated annually with a contractor and in this case Pamela Cosby as an independent contractor to conduct all services required to develop, direct and operate a public health awareness program of Pike County, to assist the Pike County Health Department in addressing public health emergencies including a bioterrorism attack and to serve as the Public Health Preparedness Coordinator for the Health Department. The contract is funded by a grant, Contract #43956, CFDA # 93.069 between the Indiana State Department of Health and the Pike County Health Department. The grant pays Pamela's salary, travel, and most of the expenses of the various projects.

Commissioner Flint asked if there were any questions concerning the grant. He asked if there were a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson moved to approve the contract. Motion passed 3 – 0.

K & J Insurance

Kyler Henry of K & J Insurance requested permission of the Commissioners to offer Pike County Employees a voluntary, employee paid through payroll deduction life insurance policy to employees who work a minimum of 25 hours per week on a regular basis. Auditor Gumbel asked if the plan had to be through payroll deduction explaining that it added another duty to the payroll clerk taking the same amount of time whether it was one employee or 30 employees. The Commissioners agreed to allow Kyler to contact employees sharing information about the product.

Recorder's Office-Condor

Recorder Jeff Harting shared that he would like to enter into a contract with Condor to index recorded documents in case of an emergency wherein for some reason it would be impossible for the Recorder's office to keep up with this process. The company would not be used unless an emergency such as COVID, a fire, ... would cause the Court House to be shut down. This would keep the public from experiencing a gap in service and allow him to provide continuity of service to Pike County citizens. He stated the price is \$2.70 per document up to 100 documents. There is no charge whatsoever unless it is used and he does not anticipate using it. Commissioner Coleman asked if it were a binding contract. It is not. It can be canceled with a ten-day notice. Attorney Fleig stated that the Commissioners would not have to sign the contract.

REGARDING BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS

Eck Mundy Agreement-Amendment

Ms. Dischinger presented an amended annual contract offered by Eck-Mundy for the county's E-Management Services. It is \$20,664 less than the original agreement due to the fact that the Sheriff's Department chose to stay with Lieberman their current service provider. Another factor existed that allowed Eck-Mundy to install proposed internet router at a reduced cost.

Commissioner Flint stated that was certainly nice. He asked for a motion regarding acceptance of the amended contract. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motion to approve the amended agreement. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Solid Waste Employee Status (Ratify firing & hiring of employee)

Ms. Dischinger stated that a situation existed that required her to fire an employee and that she had conducted interviews and had hired Kelly Fears to fill in for the position. She asked the Commissioners to ratify the firing and to hire the new employee Kelly Fears.

Commissioner Flint called for a motion as requested. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson moved to ratify the firing of the employee and to hire Kelly Fears for the position. The motion passed 3 – 0.

Nationwide Investment Option Change

Ms. Dischinger explained that a county authorized employee paid retirement plan with Nationwide Investment has informed the county that they have identified opportunities to improve their current investment options and will be offering participants an updated investment lineup in the Pike County Plan Number 0035834001. This plan is totally voluntary on the part of the employees and they will be allowed to opt out of the change if they do not want to participate. No vote was required of the commissioners.

Local Emergency Declaration

This is for consideration by the commissioners to extend the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration passed in Pike County in March as prompted by Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-02 declaring a public health emergency for the corona virus disease on March 6, 2020.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to extend the Pike County Emergency Declaration until August 17, 2020 noting that the ending date may be extended. The motion passed 3-0.

Commissioners Transfer

Ms. Dischinger requested a transfer of monies from the Commissioner's Budget from Comprehensive Mental Health (\$2,764.00) and Insurance (\$2,000.00) to Legal Services. She also requested a transfer of \$2,000.00 from Workman's Comp to Unemployment.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve the transfers. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Courthouse Status-COVID

County Health Nurse Amy Gladish reported there have now been 22 cases of COVID-19 virus in Pike County with 11 of those cases still active. She stated that the patients have either mild symptoms or are asymptomatic. She also said that hospitalizations statewide due to the virus are going down. She said that the states positivity rate is 9% and Pike County's rate is 2.7% so Pike County is doing well. She also said that she hopes that people will get their flu vaccines so as not to add further complications to the existing situation. She also shared that on July 23rd the Governor has stated that any event having over 250 people will have to submit a plan to the county Health Department for approval.

EMS Director Chris Young stated that there had been no changes in his department.

Sheriff Kent Johnson stated that people are becoming more active and are reacting from being cooped up so long. The department has made 45 recent arrests.

REGARDING BUSINESS BY PUBLIC

Sara Neal speaking on behalf of she and her husband Steve Neal, requested that the Commissioners consider paving 600 N in front of her residence. She said that it is semi-graveled and quite dusty. She has concerns that it will get worse if the solar panels project occurs. Commissioner Flint stated that they would take her request under consideration.

John Sickman asked that the commissioners give serious consideration to the need for paving, chip & seal, of a portion of 950 E in Lockhart Township. He stated that most of this road is black topped but a small portion is not. He stated that the road between old 64 and state 64 is very busy and serves 17 residences. He also stated that an agreement existed with Sun Energy after they completed their business to pave this road. However, for some reason, this 0.2 miles was not paved. For some reason this stretch of road has never been paved. David Howell also reinforced Mr. Sickman's concerns.

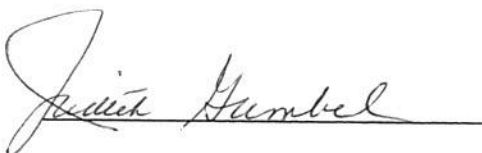
Commissioner Flint asked if there were any other public concerns.

REGARDING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Flint called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Pike County Board of Commissioners





Auditor, Judith Gumbel Attest