

PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 20, 2021 @ 8:30 AM

Mark Flint  
Jeff Nelson  
Ryan Coleman

**REGARDING CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Commissioners' President Mark Flint called the meeting to order. All Commissioners were present plus County Attorney Val Fleig, County Auditor Judith Gumbel, and Commissioners' Assistant Kristi Dischinger. Others in attendance included EMS Director Chris Young, Pike County Sheriff Kent Johnson, County Assessor Mike Goodpaster, Executive Director Pike County EDC, County Highway Superintendent Josh Byrd, TRIAD Mines Representative Scott Partenheimer, and Press Dispatch Editor Andy Heuring.

**REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR December 6, 2021**

President Flint asked if there were any questions about the minutes. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve.

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

**REGARDING APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR DECEMBER 20, 2021**

President Flint asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the claims. Hearing none he called for a motion to approve.

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

**REGARDING OLD BUSINESS**

**RATTS 1 Construction Update (Virtual)**

Project Manager Nicole Jeffers shared that what the County sees going on now is the Apollo Switch Yard is being constructed by Hoosier Energy that will allow the project to interconnect. The dirt haulage to the site has been completed. There will be some roads that need to be spot repaired. This information will be sent to County Road Superintendent Josh Byrd. Tenants will be advised and usage of the roads will be isolated from now on.

RATTS 1 Construction portion has exercised the leases on the solar portion of the projects. Their solar panel supplier is having difficulty getting the panel parts; therefore, construction is delayed. County agreements may have to be extended because of this. They decided that it was best to hold mobilization until they knew more. They told the land owners that if they have tenant farmers they should proceed with their farmers to farm the ground in 2022. They are hoping for more information by the end of January or February of 2022.

They will continue working with the ERA.

Commissioner Flint asked Ms. Jeffries if he was correct in stating that it looked like the project would be delayed about a year. She said that was true.

#### **Charter Communications Presentation & Letter of Support (Virtual)**

Elizabeth James spoke on behalf of Charter Communications in regard to their product Spectrum Internet. They are investing in Indiana's Broadband Future. They offer Legacy Whitehouse Networks and Times Warner Cable. They merged about 6-years ago.

1) Federal Funds participated in reverse auction through the FCC and were awarded 2.5 million to provide services for Pike County. This is part of an expanded footprint that will give them about 54,000 addresses in Indiana in 44 counties, about 5000 miles. The portion in Pike County is in the Spurgeon Area, North of Patoka River, White Oak, Sulphur, West Petersburg to just north of 69. The service will reasonably be 1 gig download and 540 mbps upload. It has the capacity to run 2 gig, but that is seldom done.

#### **2) State Funds**

They are participating in Indiana Next Level, Round 3 which will add an additional 167 homes in the Stendal & Holland areas. The full application is due January 20, 2022. They went for what is called the white space that is eligible for service. The fee will be \$17.99/month for low income students and seniors.

She stated that they need a letter of support.

Commissioner Flint asked for a motion to approve the Letter of Support for the state funds through OCRA.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the letter of support. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **Approve bid for CCMG 2-21-2**

County Highway Superintendent Josh Byrd stated that the two bids received came in higher than what the County proposed the project at to INDOT. This is for the 2021 – Call 2; project will occur in 2022. He stated that bid prices came in \$45,952.01 higher than the anticipated cost including oil due to an increase in material costs. This figure is a result of comparison between last year's material costs and the bids received for this project. Commissioner Flint stated that the County is committed to the project and will have to find some money. Commissioner Flint asked if there was a motion to approve the bid.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to accept the bids from Asphalt Materials and Cave Quarries.  
Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **Approve Bid for Ambulance**

Director Young explained the price fluctuation was due to metal pricing. He stated that the bid from American Response Vehicles does meet all of the County's requirements. It will take 360 to 420 days to get the ambulance built. President Flint shared that the Council did appropriate



the \$90,000 that it would actually cost from the ARP funds. The overall bid is \$229,406.82; but there is an insurance settlement that will be applied to the purchase.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the bid from American Response Vehicles for the ambulance. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **Triad Road Extension Agreements**

Scott Partenheimer represented Triad. He explained that he was requesting extension of Road Agreements that have been in place for quite a while. The roads are down near the Log Creek Facility. President Flint asked Josh Byrd for any clarification. He said there was not a problem other than what was currently owed the County for the past agreements. It was learned that Mr. Partenheimer had brought payment in full of those obligations to the meeting.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman then motioned to approve the Triad Road Extension Agreements. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **Trash Site Leases**

Commissioners' Assistant Kristi Dischinger shared that the County is now in possession of fully executed Trash Site Leases for all sites: J. Scott Norrick, Marlin R. Gray, and finally Max A Carlisle, Rex O. Carlisle, and Beth A Goeppner.

### **REGARDING NEW BUSINESS**

#### **EMS New Hire**

Director Young stated that he would like to hire Kyle McGibben, Basic EMT and Nathan Hargus Basic EMT and currently in Paramedic training for the ARP Team for the new ARPA funded positions. They will both be full-time positions and will be effective January 2, 2022.

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

#### **Ambulance Rate for SCT**

Director Young recommended a base rate of \$1750.00 for Sealed Care Transport plus mileage. These rates are acceptable to Medicare/Medicaid. This particular type of transport requires more technical skills than other transports.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to accept the recommended rate of \$1750.00 plus mileage for SCT. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **Approval to Advertise for Bids-Wrecked Ambulance**

Director Young stated that there were entities who had expressed interest in purchasing the box from the ambulance that was wrecked. GAB told the County to just keep it when they settled with us. He stated that he believed a fair price would be from \$2,500 to \$3,000.

President Flint called for a motion in regard to the sale of the wrecked ambulance.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to allow Director Young to advertise for bids for the ambulance. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **EMS Transfer**

Director Young stated that he was requesting a \$500.00 transfer from Official Bonds/Insurance to Fuel due to the increase in fuel prices.

Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve the transfer request. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **E911 Transfer**

The FICA line in Fund 1222 has a shortfall. Director Benner requested a transfer of \$300.00 from the Old Director Salary line item to FICA.

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

#### **Retirements**

President Flint shared that past Treasurer Marta Query and longtime Auditor Deputy Cathy Traylor had presented letters of resignation due to retirement. He stated that they would both be missed and congratulated them on their retirement.

### **REGARDING BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS**

#### **INDOT Signatory Ordinance**

Correspondence has been received from INDOT requesting that the County adopt an Ordinance allowing approval of agreements to be signed by one individual. This is specifically in regard to CCMG REG LPA Agreements. The entire BOC would continue to approve the agreements, but there would be only one signing authority. She presented County Ordinance 2021-12 stating the same.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman Motioned to approve the Ordinance indicating that the President of the BOC would be the designated signer. Motion passed 3 – 0.

#### **Approval of 2022 Bonds**

Commissioners' Assistant Ms Dischinger informed the BOC that statute states that the appropriate group to approve the elected Officials who would need to be bonded is actually the County Council as well as the amount that the officials would be bonded. However, their decision would be approved by the BOC. The officials designated by the Council to be bonded are as follows: Clerk, Jeff Harting - \$30,000, Auditor, Judith Gumbel - \$30,000, Prosecutor Darrin McDonald - \$8,500, Surveyor, Rich Williams - \$15,000, Assessor, Mike Goodpaster - \$15,000, Sheriff, Kent Johnson - \$30,000, Coroner, Ray Brooks - \$15,000, Clerk, Lana Griffith - \$90,000, and Treasurer, Susan Brittain - \$300,000. The Council also approved a Faithful Performance Schedule Bond of \$250,000 for the Loan Administration Board signed by Commissioners and City Council as well as a Public Employees Blanket Bond in the amount of \$15,000.

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

**Frost Ordinance 2021 - 13**

The Ordinance concerns the prohibition or weight restriction for highway vehicles from January 1, 2022 to March 31, 2022 on certain Pike County Roads to the posted weight limits.

Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve the Frost Ordinance. Motion passed.

**Solid Waste Transfer**

The cost of the Contract Haul for 2021 increased for 2021. \$371.00 is need to pay the last claim of the year, \$4,663.76. Ms. Dischinger requested a transfer of \$371 from Utilities to Contract Haul.

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

**Commissioners' Transfer**

Ms. Dischinger explained that she has had a standing order for a standup computer desk for two years, and it is her hope that it can finally be delivered now. It is not listed in the budget.

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

**Courthouse Status – COVID**

Ms. Dischinger reported for Health Nurse Amy Gladish. Active cases -107, total cases to date 2,708, Positivity rate – 21.5 and fully vaccinated 5,021. She stated that the County is now in the red zone.

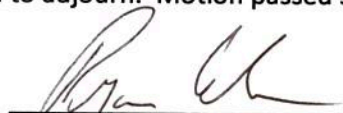
**REGARDING BUSINESS BY PUBLIC – there was none**

**REGARDING ADJOURNMENT**

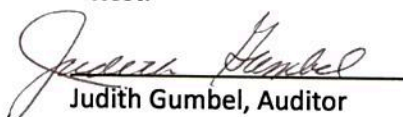
Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to adjourn. Motion passed 3 – 0.

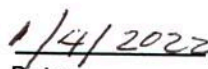
  
Mark Flint, President

  
Jeff Nelson, member

  
Ryan Coleman, member

Attest:

  
Judith Gumbel, Auditor

  
Date

