

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE
February 8, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.
Absent: None
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Linda Curtin, Bryan Sharp, Cliff Frye, Vince Harris,
Tom Latonis, Maureen Maple, Mardel Pizzoferrato and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff Frye indicated that we have two (2) bridge projects with lettings tentative for April. These are federally funded projects requiring standard joint agreements with IDOT. Pana Bridge #66 (Section 19-11115-00-BR) and Pana Bridge #71 (Section 19-11116-00-BR). County costs for these projects were approved at the January 2022 meeting. Pana Township will be required to pay 20% of the project.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Pana Bridge #66 Section Number 19-11115-00-BR. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Pana Bridge #71 Section number 19-11116-00-BR. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Cliff reported that the old animal control truck brought \$5550.00 on GovDeals and was purchased from an individual from Tennessee. He also reported that through GovDeals (6) old typewriters as well as various printer cartridges brought a total of \$500.02 with some other miscellaneous items bringing \$1.00. There are some miscellaneous items, chairs, metal desks, bookcases, etc. that haven't received bids. They will be posted one more time but wanted to know if the items could be disposed of after the expiration of the bid should there be no bidders. Chairman Wells advised he will put that on the Board agenda for the Board to decide.

Cliff also mentioned that putting the sale of the old Case CX90 tractor on GovDeals was missed last month and he would like to post that equipment. Chairman Wells advised his office will check the minutes and if needed will add it to the Board agenda.

BATTERY STORAGE

Chairman Wells wanted the Committee to be aware that he received information about possible storage of batteries at Commonwealth. This could be another project coming to the County and wanted everyone to think about this and prepare.

SOLID WASTE

Vince Harris noted that he was surprised at how much went on at the Solid Waste Department. He has been working with Joe Stepping and they have been to the landfill. He advised the Education Officer will be leaving on February 22nd. A meeting was held with IEPA regarding a scheduled household hazardous waste drop off scheduled for June 25, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Christian County Fairgrounds. It is hopeful that this will become an annual event.

ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING BUSINESS

Vince has been in contact with Mr. Brokaw, who represents the owner of the elevator at Willies Station that is leaning towards the road. The owner is getting bids to tear this down. Vince will keep the Committee updated.

Vince advised that Mr. Brokaw can assist the County with the underground power issue but cannot provide assistance with carbon storage because of a conflict of interest but is willing to help in locating a legal source for the County.

Cat Room Bids

Committee Chairman Livingston asked the Committee what they would like to do with the matter of the cat room and bids received as it has been referred back to this Committee.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to refer the matter of cat room bid back to the full Board. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay, Motion carried.

Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control

Chairman Wells advised that a couple of Mayors have asked for help with animal control. The States Attorney has made recommendations and it has come back to this Committee to decide if they agree with fees, etc. and want to make a recommendation to the full Board.

Numerous questions about whether or not we can meet the demands should other municipalities contacted us and we entered into agreements were discussed. It was felt that if too many contacted the County for assistance that it would have to be reviewed again. Increasing the hourly rate was felt to be needed for sure based on for safety reasons having 2 individuals on a call. This agreement isn't to "patrol" an area it is to assist on a call.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to increase the hourly rate on the Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control from \$25 per hour to \$50 per hour. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Before a contract is recommended to the Board, Vince would like to discuss and review staffing and ability to handle additional calls with his office assistant, Dwanna.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to refer this item back to the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Zoning and Welfare Committee after Vince and Dwanna have reviewed the status. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Chairman Wells advised that he has been approached about the idea of replacing the windows in the court house with ARPA funds. ARPA is a onetime deal and if we can use this money for improvements that also could save the County money, the Chairman feels it would be a good idea.

Motion by Chuck Smedley and second by Dale Livingston to recommend to the full Board to look into replacing the windows in the court house using ARPA funds. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

Bev Graham asked about the status of working on the wiring in the County Clerk's office. Chairman Wells advised everything is exposed and work is being done but wire nest is still present.

She also inquired about whether or not the Environmental Educator for Solid Waste will be replaced. The Chairman hasn't seen a resignation in his office yet and understands the individual provided notice last Friday which did not allow time for the issue to be placed on a Committee agenda. Bev asked if this could be placed on the full Board agenda.

Bev asked if the Mayors could be notified about the number to call after hours for animal control. She also asked for an update on BLH.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning
Welfare Chairman
02/08/2022