



FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
December 1, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL MEETING ROOM, #203

The Franklin County Commissioners met on December 1, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners/Council meeting room. Those present were Tom Linkel, Gerald Wendel, Tom Wilson, Faye Hay and Karla Bauman, deputy auditor.

Open: The meeting was called to order and the pledge of allegiance was led by Tom Linkel.

COVID-19 Health Department Update:

784 cases since March
Age group – ages 2 to 92
27 deaths
672 cases recovered
85 active cases being monitored
17 hospitalized

There are no known hotspots in the County. Commissioner Linkel stated that he was told this morning that the County will be going Red later today or tomorrow. He also stated that we all need to keep on doing what we are doing and stay safe.

Proposed Amendments to Franklin County Indiana Zoning Ordinance: Commissioners received a favorable recommendation to amend Section 80.06.06 Conditional Uses Commercial & Intermediate Alternate Energy Systems. A copy of said recommendations filed with Commissioners by the Area Plan Commission are attached to these minutes. Commissioners discussed with those present various conditional uses, requirements, etc. and several members from the audience presented their views. Commissioner Linkel is all for preserving farmland in Franklin County but also believes that a landowner has rights to do what they want with their property. Ed Derickson spoke as a member of APC and expressed that the recommendation to require a zoning change of AI to I1 or I2, is so that the property would then be taxed as a commercial use. Paul Cummings representing the solar company spoke to the commissioners and audience about their alternate energy system. Commissioners discussed with their attorney, Grant Reeves, that they were fine with the favorable recommendations of 2, 3 & 4. **Motion for our attorney, Grant Reeves, to come up with wording for first section and to use**

Ag Alternative Energy as the zone by Tom Linkel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried. A public hearing on this matter will be scheduled in January, 2021.

Cummins Road – Mr. Reeves also discussed the Cummins Road dispute and the issue with the gate. Commissioners will need to decide what the road is going to be. Presently there is not turn-around on that section. If a turn-around is constructed, the gate could go on the other side of that. Commissioners will review the information.

County Line Road – Commissioner Linkel stated that it might just be best at this time to take the matter to court and let the judge decide. Mr. Reeves stated it could either be a declaratory judgment or quiet title action. **Motion for Grant Reeves to file in the court system and let the court decide whether or not it is a county road, by Tom Wilson, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.**

Resolution 2020-29(b) – A Resolution Requiring Commissioners Approval of Hires: Tom Linkel read Resolution 2020-29(b), a resolution requiring commissioners’ approval of hires. This resolution does not apply to Election Officials and the employees they hire in their offices. **Motion to approve Resolution with Auditor adding the resolution number for a resolution that requires approval of hiring within their area of supervision by Tom Linkel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.**

REMC/Economic Development Zone: Grant Reeves informed Commissioners that there would need to be a public hearing before the proposed agreement with REMC could be approved. A public hearing is scheduled for December 29, 2020.

Official Bonds Insurance Quotes: At this time the Commissioners are not accepting any quotes. **Motion for new quotes for official bonds to be turned in by December 17, 2020 by Tom Linkel, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.**

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING: **Motion to recess the commissioners’ meeting and open the board of finance meeting by Tom Linkel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.** **Motion to close Board of Finance meeting and re-open Commissioner meeting by Tom Linkel, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.**

GIS – Dan Chaddon Contract: Commissioners reviewed a contract for GIS services for the Assessor’s office. The contracted amount is \$350.00 per month. **Motion to approve the GIS contract for the Assessor’s office at \$350.00 per month by Tom Wilson, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.**

Continuity Planning Contract – EMA: Commissioners had reviewed the continuity planning contract with Resilient Strategies at a previous meeting. Amy Lindsey, EMA Directory stated that the contract was now ready for approval. The full contract price is \$25,000.00 to be paid in three phases. **Motion to approve the contract with Resilient Strategies for the county’s**

continuity plan for \$25,000.00 by Tom Wilson, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.

Franklin County Convention, Recreation and Visitors Commission Appointment: Motion to appoint Catrina Campbell and Beverly Spurlin to the Franklin County Convention, Recreation and Visitor's Commission by Tom Linkel, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2020: Motion to approve the November 17, 2020 minutes by Tom Linkel, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.

Claims: Motion to approve claims in the amount of \$444,311.36 by Tom Linkel, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.

Payroll and Payroll Deductions: Motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$237,032.90 and payroll deductions in the sum of \$104,664.43 by Tom Linkel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.

Perry Knox was in attendance and reminded Commissioners that the ADA annual report needs to be completed.

Larry Smith, Highway Engineer – Larry Smith, Highway Engineer spoke with Commissioners about applying for Federal funding for Bridge 41, 42 and 49. He needs a letter of financial commitment from the Commissioners. Our share will be approximately \$228,000.00 with a maximum of \$302,000.00. **Motion for financial commitment for federal aid for construction of the three bridge projects by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.**

Doug Graf with USI Consultants reported that Goble's Creek is still on schedule. Commissioner Linkel stated that a determination of whether or not land needs to be purchased will need to be made. The project will be monitored for three years.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Tom Wilson, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.

Others Present: Perry Knox, Mildred I. Simmermeyer, Mark R. Simmermeyer, Paul Cummings, Aaron Harvey, Sean Berns, Susan Moster, R. Teufel, Rob Seig, David Rosenberger, David Bear, Glenn Bailey, Bridget Hayes, Doug Graf, Veronica Voelker, Amy Lindsey and Darrell Harvey.

Minutes approved December 15, 2020.


AYES:

NAYS:



Tom Linkel

Tom Linkel



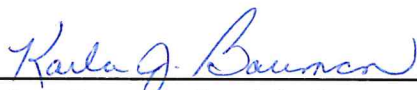
Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson



Gerald Wendel

Gerald Wendel

Attested By: 

Karla J. Bauman, Franklin County Auditor