

The Adams County Board of Commissioners met October 8, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in the Adams County Service Complex. Present were Commissioners: Kim Fruechte and Rex Moore; County Attorney, Mark Burry; and County Auditor, Mary Beery. Commissioner, Doug Bauman, was not present.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the Adams County Board of Commissioners' Minutes for October 1, 2019 were approved. Motion carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

**Health Insurance**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for Allied Health Insurance funding request for October 7, 2019, in the amount of \$13,814.39 (Medical \$13,814.39 & Pharmacy \$0.00). Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept into record the September 2019 report from the Treasurer of Adams County. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

**Cumulative Bridge**

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, was not in attendance.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

**Roads**

Highway Superintendent, Lonnie Caffee, reported the work continues on 850 S & 750 S which are being chip and sealed for road conversion. There is a great deal of work (pipe, dirt, stone) necessary to complete the work. He has two pipe crews out and the department are berming the State line from 300 S to 300 W. The crew has moved over to 350 S due to traffic causing stone wash out which prevents water from getting off of the road. The crew is heading to 300 E today and doing seasonal berming due to the road edge. The department is also working on 350 S from 300 W to 300 E.

Mr. Caffee received a call from a gentleman who lives on a gravel road in the north part of the county. He has 8 to 10 cars on his road per day and he would like his road chip and sealed. The outer perimeter of the county does not have a lot of traffic. Mr. Caffee stated that these roads will be on the back burner. Most of the traffic is on the inner boundaries of the county and these roads are first priority.

IN RE: BUILDING MAINTENANCE

**Service Complex**

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Stimpson, reported last Friday there was vandalism on the alley door closest to 4<sup>th</sup> street. A police report was made and Joe H Construction is doing the repairs.

A soil pipe from the men's second floor restroom broke last Friday and ran to the food bank.

**General**

The windows in all three buildings were cleaned and they are substandard. Mr. Stimpson informed the board that the claim will not be turned in until the job is done satisfactory. Rick Burkhalter is working on the third and first floor windows on the inside. Mike will have John Whitright come in on the weekends to do the second floor.

Mike Stimpson attended the AIC conference last week at French Lick. He reported that Tom Krueckeberg was awarded the treasurer of the year.

IN RE: ANCILLARY INSURANCES

Benefits Consultant with USI, Jody Kinsey, presented the renewals for the ancillary insurances for 2020 (life, vision, long term disability, and dental). Each year they complete a market review. Of the companies contacted Lincoln Financial offers the best rates for life and long term disability. Eye Med has agreed to hold the same rates as the current agreement until 2023. The dental plan with Sun Life has a substantial increase in premiums of 24%. They were willing to taper if they could do the vision insurance. Ms. Kinsey recommended the board approve moving the dental benefit from Sun Life to Delta Dental. Delta Dental is in the area and a very well-known company and network access. USI will a draft of the termination letter submitted to the county to put on letterhead and send to Sun Life. Delta Dental has guaranteed the rates for one year.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of contracting with Delta Dental for dental benefits. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the vision rate guarantee until 2023 and keep and hold steady on numbers with Eye Med for vision benefits. Motion carried.

The life insurance and long term disability is with Mutual of Omaha currently and their renewal rate came in at 15.7% higher in premiums. Mutual of Omaha is willing to negotiate down to 6.9% if the county offers supplemental live.

Lincoln Financial is providing the same service for a 2-year rate guarantee on life insurance at the same benefit level as Mutual of Omaha. The annual cost for long term disability insurance with Mutual of Omaha came in at \$22,632. Lincoln Financial proposed \$19,680 with a total savings of \$4,122. Lincoln Financial offers 6 months on the waiver of premium and Mutual of Omaha offers 9 months which is a savings of \$1,170. The rates are guaranteed for 2 years with Lincoln Financial.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, for approval of switching from Mutual of Omaha and contracting with Lincoln Financial for long term disability and life insurance benefits, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

IN RE: SAVE ON ENERGY COSTS

Rick Anderson, of Johnson-Melloh Family of Companies, met with the board to present a solution to help save on energy costs. His company works with counties, cities, and towns. The program is put together first with preliminary assessment of utilities. He will walk the buildings to see how we utilize the utilities. They come back to us and share their results and guarantee the results of the program. If they say they are going to save us a \$1.00 and they only save \$0.90; they write us a check for the difference. They will look into anything that we can utilize to pay for the solar panel system such as grants. Solar locks in utility rates for 20 to 25 years and require low maintenance on the solar panels as long as it does not get damaged. Solar panels will take care of electricity demands. Mr. Anderson will report back with information on funding and to make recommendations. The cost of the solar panels will be recouped in 10 to 12 years. The assessment will show all of the necessary information. Utility bills take a lot of time to assess and it will take 1 to 2 ½ months to gather data. His company is doing a study for Wabash and DeKalb Counties and will be meeting with Wells County in the next month.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, to approve the Johnson-Melloh Family of Companies completing the report to enter into an agreement for an assessment at no cost to the county, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried.

IN RE: GOLDEN MEADOWS HOME

**Monthly Report**

Golden Meadows Home Administrator, Kris Nichols, presented the September 2019 Golden Meadows monthly report stating that there were currently 30 residents at Golden Meadows. The report shows \$34,159.16 was received in room and board funds. There was one admission and no discharge and currently 19 males and 11 females at the home.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the Golden Meadows report for September 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

**Application for Admission**

Golden Meadows Home Administrator, Kris Nichols, submitted an application for emergency admission to the home of 2 Adams County females. She received 2 referrals from the Bowen Center. The mother and daughter (age 17) are homeless in our community. The daughter attends Belmont school and has a part-time job and the mother does not have a job. She is not sure how much the mother can do as far as work. There is a grant working to help high school students with housing which has helped with their subsidized housing. Mrs. Nichols will apply for ARCH to receive funding while they are at the home. There is no reason why they should not receive it. Kris has checked with insurance due to the daughters age and it was determined that she is considered an adult. They should only need housing for approximately 6 months. They are afraid they will be separated and they are guaranteed housing through the weekend. The mother cannot use the resources without guidance. The home could offer skills to the mother on what she needs along with Bowen.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the admittance of 2 Adams County females based on the recommendation of Kris Nichols. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nichols, submitted an application for emergency admission to the home of an Adams County male. The male was adopted by a local resident when he was 6 and is 24-year-old now. She will apply for ARCH for this person.

Upon a motion Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the admittance of an Adams County male based on the recommendation of Kris Nichols. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nichols is looking for nursing home placement for another male resident.

IN RE: PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Prosecuting Attorney, Jeremy Brown, requested permission to replace the retiring Child Support Caseworker. Karen Fouts will be retiring effective October 31, 2019.

Upon a motion Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, approval to replace the retiring Child Support Caseworker. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT

County Attorney, Mark Burry, requested a motion to renew the lease with Doug Fosnaugh on 82 tillable acres of farm ground for one additional year. Mr. Fosnaugh will pay \$175 per acre payable in 2 installments and the lease will expire next year. There will be one more renewal next year.

Upon a motion Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of a one-year lease with Doug Fosnaugh on 82 tillable acres of farm ground. Motion carried.

IN RE: COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner, Rex Moore, reported the City of Decatur will do the ground work at the Judicial Center if the Sheriff maintains the lawn after it has been completed.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, the meeting for October 8, 2019 was adjourned. Motion carried.

ATTEST: Mary B. Beery  
Mary B. Beery, Adams County Auditor

Kim A. Fruechte  
Kim A. Fruechte, Commissioner

Rex Moore  
Rex Moore, Commissioner

Douglas L. Bauman, Chairman

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