
Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
February 2, 2021

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on February 2, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Prayer was led by Commissioner Montgomery followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call by Auditor Watkins:

President Warren Fleetwood – Present
Vice-President Kenneth Montgomery – Present
Commissioner Mary B. Key - Present

Also, in attendance were 1st Deputy of the Auditor’s Office Kristy York, Administrative Assistant Kay Vore, County Attorney Jason Spindler

This meeting was broadcast using Zoom. Social distancing was observed; masks were required.

Minutes: The minutes from January 19, 2021 regular meeting were approved. Commissioner Key made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Claims:

County General - \$182,640.36
Courts - \$10,276.09
Highway - \$13,774.12
Sheriff - \$5,062.42
ACH - \$94,946.79
CAW-1 - \$3,813.02
CAW-2 - \$23,229.97
CAW-3 - \$10,409.97
Wheel/Surtax and Innkeepers Distribution - \$51,705.71
Excess Refunds, Ditch Claims - \$63,551.89
Payroll for 1/29/2021 - \$348,989.73
Payroll Deductions - \$163,016.08
Insurance Billing for January and Third-Party Taxes - \$425,393.20

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to approve claims, seconded by Commissioner Key. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Department Reports:

Health Department Director Hornby presented her department reports as well as a chart graphing the Counties COVID-19 cases. January averaged 26 cases per day, with 5 deaths bringing the death total to 79. They are still very busy with contacting all positive cases, while trying to keep up the testing site and issue vaccinations. They book 300-400 vaccines per day for COVID-19 vaccine clinics; they can vaccinate only as many doses as they have been issued. They distributed 960 of the 1000 doses allowed in January. They cannot open a vial unless they know all doses can be issued. The testing site is in the same building as the vaccine clinics, and they are now rapid testing. She feels this is a great asset for the Community to use. She feels this will get people back to work more quickly, however it might not be as accurate at detection if not symptomatic at the time of the rapid test. Director Hornby expressed the importance of getting vaccinated; she feels the vaccine is safe. She also wanted the public to understand the importance of continued masking. The Department has a new phone system with additional lines. They are investigating many food complaints, in this pandemic time.

EMA Director Hedges is issuing a lot of personal protection equipment, mostly to fire and police departments in the County. He tries his best to get his supply from the State, which he receives at no cost except the travel to pick it up.

EMS Director Pond told the Commissioners, the signed contract has been forwarded to the Collection Agency. They will begin collaborating soon to boost their collections. He would like Commissioners to consider exploration of replacing the ambulance based in the Princeton area and serving the Princeton-Patoka and White River Townships. The ambulance has 136,000 miles on a 2017 chassis, with a 2007 box. The air conditioning does not work properly, the vehicle has bad workmanship, and it gets terrible gas mileage. Commissioner Key feels the search is a long process and all Commissioners feel they should look for grant opportunities while looking for an ambulance. Commissioner Fleetwood requested EMA Director Hedges help in the grant process.

Sheriff Bottoms submitted his January reports to the Commissioners and told them the January jail daily population average, was 102; today there were 98 incarcerated with 15 housed in work release. He is having issues with doors and the water softener. The water softener installation company is no longer in business. They have contacted Culligan, who will try to contact the maker directly for some resolution. Community Corrections has problems with their mixing meter wash faucets. Sheriff Bottoms gave a quote to the Commissioners with prices to replace 4, however a large price break is offered with the purchase of 10; they will also do the installation. The install will take approximately 2 hours per faucet at \$85 per hour. Sheriff Bottoms is very familiar with the Company submitting the request and would like Commissioners to approve the purchase and install of these faucets. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to purchase the set of 10 and have the installation completed, seconded by Commissioner Key. The vote passed on a 3-0 vote.

Park Board – Hopkins Park Board President Will Niederhaus was present to give a report on the park. They are working on finishing the DNR grant, it must be completed by September 2021. They received a \$200,000 matching grant; the match has been made with land donation. Mr. Niederhaus requested Commissioners allow Engineer Holden time this week to complete the

drawings so the bid can go out, work commence and complete the grant in a timely fashion. Commissioners agreed to allow Engineer Holden time to complete the plans for the grant.

County Engineer Holden told Commissioner he had submitted the Community Crossings Grant to INDOT; this should be awarded in April. As soon as this is awarded, they will need to get bids out so the paving can be completed this year and the grant closed out, allowing a new application to be filed next year. He will have a quarterly meeting tomorrow with INDOT regarding the Federal Bridge project in the Wheeling area. The I-69 Sewer Project is going well and should reach substantial completion in March. Toyota Lot 4 Project should mobilize very soon. The County paving bid and bridge replacement bids should get compiled very soon. INDOT work on Highway 41 should be completed by July. They plan to replace culverts this year and culvert orders are arriving. He told the Commissioners that bridges he constructs are 26' to accommodate the new farm equipment. Larry Michel asked that the County keep in mind the span required of two passing semis when paving roads. Engineer Holder explained that they are trying to do the best they can to widen, but they are not always able to make the extension, as it becomes unstable. They are trying to do a good job shouldering to hold the edges intact and mitigate early deterioration due to heavy equipment off the shoulder.

Public Defender Report was acknowledged by the Commissioners.

Commissioners Old Business:

Area Plan Commission (APC) Appointments – President Fleetwood nominated both Cecil Bob Allen and Marty Marginet as they both have vested interest as lifetime residents of the County. Commissioner Key nominated April Graper as she has been involved in the Commission from the beginning. Attorney Spindler asked for a roll call vote on the appointments as presented.

Commissioners will appoint 2 persons to this Area Plan Commission:

Cecil Bob Allen:	Key – Aye	Montgomery – Aye	Fleetwood – Aye	Motion passed 3-0
Marty Marginet:	Key – No	Montgomery – Aye	Fleetwood -Aye	Motion passed 2-1

Since these nominations filled the appointments, vote was not taken on Commissioner Key's nomination of April Graper.

Amendment to Rogers Group 2021 approved Rock Bid the original bid from Rogers Group quoted pickup from the Mitchel Indiana Quarry. Engineer Holden asked them to requote with pickup from the Knox County yard, south of Vincennes. The quote came in less; Engineer Holden recommended the Commissioners accept this amended bid from Rogers Group. Commissioner Key motioned to accept the amended bid, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0.

Gibson County Detention Center Update from Byron Sanders – Mr. Sanders told Commissioners that Karen Pollock, County Attorney on the lawsuit, filed a progress report with the Federal Court on 1/25/21. The Court was satisfied with the progress barring any other delays. They have identified and completed pre-qualification analysis on six Engineering/Architectural Firms. A Statements of Qualifications with added questionnaire pertaining to the County and the project has been sent to these interested firms. They would like to finalize these by the end of the week and send out a Request for Proposals next week, with hope to have a firm selected by 3/2021. A detailed project schedule was given to Attorney Pollock. He would like to get ground procured before

winter. President Fleetwood told Mr. Sanders his biggest concern was keeping the change orders to a minimum or nonexistent. Commissioner Key has concerns with this Committee, as she does not know who is on the Committee, and she does not like the way this committee is conducting business. President Fleetwood told her the committee was established in a prior meeting, consisting of Attorney Spindler, President Fleetwood, and others from the original committee. President Fleetwood feels they are doing their best to get that core group together to make this project a success. President Fleetwood explained the pre-existing committee (including the Sheriff, Judges, Prosecutor, Councilman McGraw, and others) is still a part of this process. The Committee will help decide what happens after the firm is selected, where the building will be built, etc. The six engineering firms were attained from previous jail projects from around the state.

Commissioners New Business:

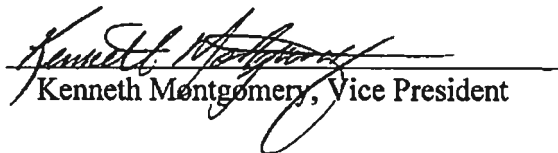
Hopkins Park Bid - Engineer Holden reviewed the IDNR, ADA Compliant Grant plans. They intend to build a 2.25-acre lake with a fishing pier, sidewalks, and a restroom facility with solar power panels on roof. He intends to use 1 contractor and let one bid. Engineer Holden asked permission to move forward with bid advertisement as soon as he completes the plan, hopefully next week. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve bid advertisement, seconded by Commissioner Key. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

With no further business, Commissioner Montgomery motioned to adjourn meeting, seconded by Commissioner Key. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

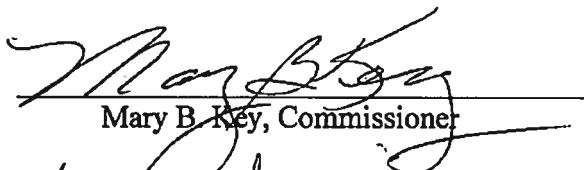
Minutes from the February 2, 2021 Meeting.



Warren Fleetwood, President



Kenneth Montgomery, Vice President



Mary B. Key, Commissioner



ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor