

**PORTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MAY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
10:00 A.M.**

**(The entire meeting is available to watch on the Porter County website.)**

The Regular meeting of the Porter County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Administration Center.

Those present were: Commissioners Laura Blaney, Jeff Good, Jim Biggs, County Attorney Scott McClure; and Recording Secretary Kathy Merle. The meeting was held remotely due to the Coronavirus.

**Call to Order/Pledge**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Payroll – April 17<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Approval of Claims – April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Approval of Minutes – April 14<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup>2020.**

**Treasurer's Monthly Report Filed – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Weights and Measures Monthly Reports Filed for February 16<sup>th</sup> to March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and March 16<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Board Appointment to the following Board:**

- **Airport Authority – Wes Kotys**

Com. Good, We received an application from Wes Katy's who resides in Valparaiso and also has a business here. I have spoken to Wes about the Board so he has put in an application.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the appointment of Wes Katy's to the Airport Authority Board, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Com. Good, I just have a couple of things that I want to announce. I want to let everyone know that on West Street this is Bridge 1001 which is over by the old Bridge View Theater and

Applebee's. It is the street that runs parallel to 30 behind that development. We had a bridge that was in the City of Valparaiso that spanned across Salt Creek. It was a special bridge that we only had a certain amount of time to work on because of protective tributary. The bridge is completed and I drove it yesterday and it turned out really well. The bridge is completed, the road is opened and the bridge looks great. Reith Riley was the contractor and I think they got that bridge done very quickly. Through the Redevelopment Commission the County is constructing a substation garage on 700 North up in the South Haven area. I drove by that project two days ago. It looks like most of the metal tin and brick outside is on. I spoke to the construction company and I believe that they are planning on pouring the floor in the next couple of weeks. If we could just get some dry weather so the jobsite you could dry to complete the project which should happen fairly quickly.

Com. Blaney, The compost sites have opened.

Com. Good, The compost site has seen a steady volume of people coming into that area to pick up mulch and drop off tree limbs. We were able to keep that facility open with the help of Valparaiso and the County. We're getting quite a lot of people going in and using that service. That is a good thing which has helped people do their yard work while this has been going on and prevented them from going stir crazy. Thank you for the reminder Laura.

Com. Blaney, One last thing when we reopened it we also decided to waive the fees for a few months.

Com. Good, I think it was good move by the district in trying to be helpful.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

### **NORTH COUNTY ANNEX – PAY APPS.**

**Ziolkowski Construction – Pay App #17 in the amount of \$79,932.05 for Bid Package 1. With a remaining balance of \$195,898.95.**

**Pangere Corp. – Pay App. #11 in the amount of \$56,481.30 for material and labor. With a remaining balance of \$358,736.91.**

**Kleckner Interior Systems – Pay App. #11 in the amount of \$62,977.68 for Bid Package 2. With a remaining balance of \$240,131.43.**

**Midwest Tile & Interiors – Pay App. #7 in the amount of \$9,529.26 for flooring. With a remaining balance \$99,548.04.**

**State Line Fire Systems – Pay App. #7 in the amount of \$3,420.00 for fire suppression. With a remaining balance \$16,946.15.**

**Arctic Engineering – Pay App. #9 in the amount of \$11,366.94 for plumbing. With a remaining balance of \$46,065.06.**

**Mechanical Concepts – Pay App. #2 in the amount of \$68,020.00 for HVAC. With a remaining balance \$138,621.50.**

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the above Pay Apps., Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

Com. Good, Atty. McClure I know you took a tour of the building. Can you please give us some insight on how close we are to finishing the building?

Atty. McClure, Things are coming along very nicely. The driveway and the whole parking lot has the topcoat on. The parking lot has been striped. When I was out there they were looking at those pesky low spots that water may sit in so they were going to take care of those. The

additional building that was added in this project for all intents and purposes is completed. The Courthouse itself, the Sally port and the secure parking lot are finished. The new courtroom is finished and I think we're about 2 to 3 weeks away from the majority of the building being completed which would allow us to start and schedule us to moving people back in their places. The original D03 or Superior 3 Courtroom once that is completed the same timeline would have the Prosecutor's office, the Clerk's office, several of the offices completed within North County's complex completed which would allow us to move people back to their final locations. Then we would probably still have another 6 weeks or so for that third courtroom to be completed as it is currently being utilized as it is for Superior Court 3. So as soon as their original court is done we can move the back their space and then we can finish the remodel of that courtroom. So basically I think the only department that would be left will be that 3<sup>rd</sup> courtroom which will be not manned on a daily basis and a couple of offices before the Probation as they are close to that courtroom on the same space that they are being expanded into, but the rest of the building and the out building will be complete in the next 2 to 3 weeks. So things are coming along very nicely.

**157 FRANKLIN ST. – CHANGE ORDERS & PAY APPS. & ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZATIONS**

**Pangere Corp. – Change Order #3 in the amount of \$47,259.00 to provide wall revision in 911 Center, 1 hour fire rating for room 021, materials to repair damaged parts for both elevators and drywall repairs for areas removed during remediation.**

Com. Good, When we took over the building there was some drywall and work that had already been done prior to just shelling out the building. When we took over the building and started looking at the drywall some of it was not done properly. We had some moisture get in so we had get rid of some of the drywall on several of the floors. Basically what this is through the job Pangere went in cut out a lot of drywall and repaired a lot of drywall. They got the fire rating corrected in the rooms. This was just the difference between what we bought and what we were building. They felt it was best to cut this out now and do it right. This is what the change order is for which was approved by Skillman.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve Pangere's change order, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**E. C. Babilla – Change Order #1 in the amount of \$14,547.00 to provide wood blocking for metal cap and cover board for roof installation.**

Com. Good, When we first bought the building and we did our analysis on it we thought we wouldn't need to do much work on the roof. Once we got into the building and started looking at where the roof top units and other things needed to go we could have probably patched a lot of things but we felt that since we were spending so much on renovating this building that it would be sort of penny wise and pound foolish to not put a new roof on it and start at the beginning. We were afraid that we would be chasing water leaks forever on an older roof. So we decided to fit a new roof into the budget for this building. One of the things that needed to be done is around the outside area of the roof there is a metal cap that goes around. That metal cap has to be fastened to some sub-straight structure wood or whatever. They did not have that up there at the time. When we put a new metal cap on and new roof this was the price to go around the entire building and to put wood backing on as well. Basically now we have a whole new roof and new metal cap. That is what the difference is for that dollar amount.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve change order #1 for E. C. Babilla, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**Continental Electric – Change Order #2 in the amount of \$37,683.00 to provide 911 power revisions, temporary power to existing furnaces, revised breakers for condensing units & revised wiring to elevators.**

Com. Good, This was so we could have construction heat during the project and keep heat in the building. This was to take care of a lot of the wiring in the 911 Center because obviously there is a lot of unique power situations going on in the 911 Center and we are still working through a lot of those things on that floor.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve change order #2 for Continental Electric, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**Midwest Tile & Interiors – Pay App. #8 in the amount of \$10,041.50 for flooring. With a remaining balance \$14,051.50.**

**Circle “R” Mechanical – Pay App. #9 in the amount of \$6,645.72 for plumbing. With a remaining balance of \$20,919.35.**

**Continental Electric – Pay App. #11 in the amount of \$77,887.66 for electrical work. With a remaining balance of \$151,215.44.**

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the above Pay Apps., Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**E. C. Babilla – Allowance Authorization #1 in the amount of \$4,877.00 to modify roofing over sally port to allow for proper drainage.**

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the allowance authorization for E.C. Babilla, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

**EMA – LANCE BELLA, DIRECTOR**

**Porter County Shoreline Disaster Emergency Declaration & Travel Restriction - Update.**

Com. Good, The County had declared this some time ago for the Shoreline Disaster and Travel Restrictions. These declarations only last 30 days at one time so we are basically coming

in our monthly meeting and we're going to be acting on the next 30 days to keep this in place for the shoreline.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the Declaration, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

### **E911 – TONY STUA, DIRECTOR**

**An Additional Appropriation Fund #1222 in the amount of \$80,792.38 for Bartronics to purchase and install a Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) for the Porter County Courthouse and the Juvenile Detention Center located in Valparaiso.**

**An Additional Appropriation Fund #1222 in the amount of \$186,343.46 for Motorola NICE Analog NRX, IP Logging Recorder, Upgrade of (2) 1700's and out-years of Lifecycle. The cost of the contract is \$141,073.00 plus the first of (5) years of post-warranty maintenance is \$45,270.46.**

Atty. McClure, Ironically we addressed this several months ago also with the Valparaiso Courthouse. Unfortunately due to the installation date and the invoice date along with the end of the year appropriation that had already been done with the Council and Commissioners expired. The first additional appropriation from Fund #1222 we had already done once it's just that this time it is a little bit less because the Valpo Courthouse was included the first time around. The second additional and both of these are coming from non-general funds, it is coming from the 911 fee based fund from the home phones and the cellular phones which are the fees that come to 911 for that. Both of these would be coming from that particular fund of money. The second request is for the analog logging recorder that was out of life and had to be replaced. Those are the 2 requests for the additional which would then be put on the next Council meeting in June.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve both additional for 911, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, So the \$80,792 are for the bi-directionals at the Courthouse and the Juvenile Detention Center?

Atty. McClure, This might be for both and they just didn't get paid because of the invoice date being at the end of the year.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, (Technical difficulty)

Ms. Urbanik, 2 to 0.

### **FACILITIES – RAY CLOYD, DIRECTOR**

**Homewood Disposal Service Agreements for the following County buildings:**

- **Juvenile Detention Center in the amount of \$225.00 per month.**
- **Memorial Opera House in the amount of \$68.00 per month.**
- **Sheriff's Dept. and Jail in the amount of \$434.00 per month.**
- **North County Annex in the amount of \$96.00 per month.**

- **EMA/Hazmat in the amount of \$42.00 per month.**

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the Homewood Disposal Service Agreement, Com. Good, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

### **F.E. Moran Fire Protection – Life Safety System Inspection & Testing for the County Government buildings for 3 years.**

Com. Good, I'm glad to see we were finally able to get all of our fire protection and testing under one contract. I know that had taken us a while to work through a lot of our different services agreements, but this is the best way to go and it gives us the best pricing along with the best accountability for a fire protection service provider for us. Atty. McClure have you reviewed this contract?

Atty. McClure, Yes I have and it's in good form.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve F.E. Moran Fire Protection agreement, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

Com. Good, I would like to take the time to give a shout out to our Facilities Dept. They have been spectacular through all of this. I can't even begin to tell the citizens of this county about the amount of work that these gentlemen have done over this time period. They are making Plexiglas. When we open up this building people are going to be surprised the building has been painted on the inside. We have some new signage and other things. They've been out at the Jail even with all of the situation that has been happening. They are at the epicenter for all of us. I can certainly say without this department they have made things easier for us to implement. They are self-thinkers, they are smart. I just really appreciate what they've done through all of this. Not one complaint. Ray Cloyd and the gang thank you so much for everything you have done and everything you continue to do.

Com. Blaney, I will echo that phrase. I saw a couple of the custodial staff, the women yesterday in the building. They are just chipper and positive as always and the building was spotless. I know they really had to up their game and I appreciate it.

Com Biggs, I agree with both Laura and Jeff's statements. That was and all female crew that painted the interior of the building. Needless to say they didn't leave a mess.

Com. Blaney, That answers everything.

Com. Good, Thank you again Ray and everyone. This has just been a herculean task. It is great when a team comes together. It is just heartwarming at least from the world that I come from and I'm sure everyone in the government building feels the same way.

### **DEVELOPMENT & STORM WATER MNGMNT. – BOB THOMPSON, DIRECTOR**

#### **INDOT – Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement.**

Atty. McClure, This is the paperwork for the State local roads matching grant for half a million dollars. This is the formal part of approving that agreement. This is something that we're all aware of and excited for.

Com. Blaney, Always happy to approve grants that are coming our way.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the INDOT Grant, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

### **Interlocal Agreement with the City of Hobart for reconstruction in right-of-way along County Line Road (US 6 to just south of County's 700 North).**

Atty. McClure, The City of Hobart regarding County Line Rd. is doing a significant drainage project. Part of the right-of-way that they will be accessing is on our side of County Line Rd. which is why we need to do an interlocal agreement with the City of Hobart on the reconstruction of the right-of-way along the County road. We are not at this point participating in the project but because it is our right-of-way on our side this the type of agreement that needs to be approved so that that can continue on.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Hobart, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Ms. Urbanik, Roll Call:

Com. Good, Yes.

Com. Blaney, Yes.

Com. Biggs, Yes.

Ms. Urbanik, 3 to 0.

Com. Good, We're going to be sending out a press release after this meeting today that will be giving instructions as to when we will be reopening. Right now it appears that the testing of all of our county employees will be completed by this Friday. We plan on the county employees coming back to work on Tuesday after Memorial Day. The County building will stay closed one additional week while we're getting all of the employees back into the office. Getting them familiar with the work and Covid rules. A lot of the departments have Plexiglas. The building will stay closed to the public. We will take appointments for that week so if you do want to meet with someone you can set up an appointment during that week. We will have masks in common areas and it will all be outline in the email coming. We will also have enhanced cleaning protocols. I know the Building Facility Dept. has been getting a lot of the products which are needed for cleaning along with new cleaning instructions. We will also have thermometers and logs that the employees will be tested when they come back to work. If you are a County employee and you are watching this you will be called back to work on Tuesday the day after Memorial Day. It's good that we were able to test our employees so we have a new testing point. I want to make it very clear to the public that the building will be closed the week of Memorial Day. We need a few days to do a trial run until things can get back to normal. Is there anything that the other Commissioners would like to add to that?

Com. Blaney, I appreciate all of the work that everyone has done from home and on the skeleton crews. We really have still managed to crank a lot of work out which has taken a lot of extra effort from everyone and I appreciate that. I think all of the Commissioners do I can speak for them when I say that. Also I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone. It has been a long couple of months.

Com. Good, A lot of work has gone into this but we just want to thank everyone. Those workers that were coming in, the skeleton crews that I know have done a yeomen's job. I saw

one of the employees from the Recorder's office the other day and they said they are busier than ever because of the low interest rates from the refinancing. The tax bills need to be paid. A lot of other things that are going on in the County. I'm glad that we're able to slowly roll this thing back and do it cautiously. I think we're going to come back as organized as we went out. Again I appreciate everyone's help. Atty. McClure have we missed anything.

Atty. McClure, No we are currently testing as we said Tuesday will be when the employees return to a normal work schedule. We will continue the employee testing. It is going to happen all week long. We're looking very close to 90 a day happening. I think we're on a good plan for next week. This has been quite a herculean effort to get this done in the time period and realistically how smooth it has been with the employees to get this done. Everyone knows it's not fun and everyone knows at this point it's something that we're doing to protect everybody. I just appreciate everyone's cooperation and how well the testing got put together and how organized. I appreciate all of the hard work that went into that.

Com. Blaney, Yes and I would like to add a special shout out to Rhonda Young in our H.R. Dept. She largely put the schedule together and everything came together quick. She had a lot of work to do. It just seemed almost seamless. It's very much appreciated and also appreciate all of the employees going over there. It wasn't a fund test but it was quick. We can all go back feeling reasonably secure and safe.

Com. Good, I know Laura and I tested were last week. I came out negative so for me it was a refreshing point in my life. Now as I go forward I know it's on me. Accountability was what this is all about. I would also like to make another shout out to the Man behind the Curtain and that is Curt Ellis. Curt is the one that has been doing a lot of the messaging along with our press releases. This is not easy to put in a fashion that makes sense and we're very fortunate that we have a guy like Curt here helping us. He gets calls at all times of the day and night. So thank you Curt. Rhonda and Curt have just been wonderful through all of this. I can't say enough about them so thank you. Let's keep the numbers down and thank you for tuning in today.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

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Jeffrey J. Good

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Laura M. Blaney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Biggs

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor