

**PORTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2022
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, October 4th, 2022 in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Administration Center.

Those present were: Commissioners Laura Blaney, Jim Biggs and County Attorney Scott McClure; Executive Administrative Asst. Melanie Massey and Recording Secretary Kathy Merle. Com. Jeff Good was not in attendance.

Com. Good, Good Morning this is the Porter County Board of Commissioners' meeting Tuesday, October 4th, 2022.

Call to Order/Pledge

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Payroll – September 16th, and September 30th, 2022.

Approval of Claims – September 8th, September 15th, September 22nd and September 29th, 2022.

Approval of Minutes for September 6th, 2022.

Treasurer's Monthly Report – August 31st, 2022 – Filed.

Weights and Measures Monthly Reports – August 16th to September 15th, 2022 – Filed.

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

MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE – SCOT MACDONALD, DIRECTOR

ARTISTIC SERVICES AGREEMENT

VENUE RENTAL AGREEMENT

1. South Shore Orchestra

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the South Shore Orchestra, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

COMMISSIONERS

A Resolution to Approve the Commissioners' Meeting Schedule for 2023.

Com. Biggs, You know we're going to change that we always do.

Com. Blaney, Yes we do.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Commissioners' Meeting Schedule for 2023.

Approval of Holiday Schedule for 2023.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Holiday Schedule for 2023, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

An Upgrade to CivicPlus – Civic Media Contract in the amount of \$27,317.26.

An Upgrade to CivicPlus – Civic Optimize Contract in the amount of \$78,358.21.

Mr. Ellis, These are the two that we have been talking about for a long time. The Civic Media contract is one half of the pieces that we need to be able to do live streaming. Had we had all of that in place today Com. Good could have participated in the meeting but we don't have those capabilities yet. The Civic Media upgrade would allow us to do that. Part 1 of that is the actual tech that we need to upgrade the Chambers with that Lee will be presenting later in the agenda on this item. The Civic Optimize is the module that we have talked a lot about enabling our citizens to access County services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on line. It is going to make their interaction with County government easier and better. It will save them time. I think I told you this before that I think over 60% of the people that access our website do it after hours. This will give them a way to interact without having to come down and do it. Both of those costs include all of the fees up to December 2025.

Com. Biggs, Curt is this a one-time cost or is this an annual cost?

Mr. Ellis, It is both. There is a setup fee and then there is an annual fee. That includes all of it including the annual fee through the end of 2025 on both of those.

Com. Biggs, We have money in our, wherever?

Ms. Massey, It goes up to 2025 so we won't have to worry about that until then.

Com. Biggs, Okay.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the CivicPlus Media Contract, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the CivicPlus Optimize Contract, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

An Amendment to Ordinance 19-04 Creating a Non-Reverting Fund #4923 for Receipt of Reimbursement for School Resource Officers – 1st Reading.

Atty. McClure, When this fund was originally setup the Sheriff's Dept. was dealing with one school corporation within the County and now we are dealing with several. This is just to take the designation off for the specific school corporation and just allow for reimbursement for any school resource officer.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Com. Blaney, Is there anyone wishing to speak in favor of this ordinance? Anyone wishing to speak in favor of this ordinance? Third and final call anyone wishing to speak in favor of the ordinance? Is there anyone wishing to speak against this ordinance? Anyone wishing to speak against this ordinance? Third and final call anyone wishing to speak against this ordinance?

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Ordinance on 1st Reading, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

AUDITOR VICKI URBANIK

Pleasant Township Pool ARPA Agreement.

Boone Township ARPA Agreement.

Ms. Urbanik, In our continuing ARPA agreements to present to you we have two more ARPA agreements today. The first one is related to the approval by the County Council just recently of the Commissioners' Plan for two categories of ARPA projects. This one is for the Pleasant Township Pool agreement and the other one stems from the township assistance program that was approved back in February and that is the Boone Township ARPA agreement.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the Pleasant Township Pool and Boone Township ARPA Agreements, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Blaney, Anything else to report on ARPA?

Ms. Urbanik, We're just moving along and getting all of these agreements in place. Our next quarterly report is due at the end of the month and we have already begun working on that. We are just moving forward. As the expenditures continue the ARPA monitoring and compliance program is going to get more and more involved and complicated.

Com. Blaney, Thank you for your work so far.

ITS DEPARTMENT - LEE CHILDRESS, DIRECTOR

A request to approve a Lease Agreement with Adams Remco to replace copiers for the following departments: Stormwater, EMA, Prosecutor Child Support, Clerk, Expo, Superior Court 4, Auditor and Adult Probation. The lease would be for 63 payments of \$1,463.80.

Mr. Childress, Earlier this year you will remember we took the fifth of our inventory of copy machines and converted those to a lease. We took a fifth of the oldest ones. I am before you know for the next fifth, which will be for next year. I believe you signed the contract in February of this year and we still haven't received those copiers because of inventory issues. I am doing this now so hopefully by early spring we will have copy machines for next year.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Lease Agreement with Adams Remco, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

Conference Technologies - A request for the redesign of the Commissioners' Chambers audio/visual system in the amount of \$127,265.46.

Mr. Childress, It has been a long time since the technology has been improved in this room. The next request is to upgrade all of the technology in here. Larger televisions, the ability for vendors to be able to come to this table and bring their own device and plug it in instead of relying on someone on the side table to be able to handle it for them. They will be able to project sound through the system instead of just visual. We will also be able to do live streaming.

Com. Biggs, What are we going to do with the monitors we have now?

Mr. Childress, I'm sure we will find a home for them.

Com. Biggs, Personally that is just me. I think they are large enough.

Com. Blaney, Were we using any ARPA funds for this?

Mr. Childress, Yes. Then the plan is to take a lot of the audio equipment here and put it downstairs in 102A.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Conference Technologies agreement, Com. Blaney, second with the caveat that the newer screens will be included in this price, motion carried.

Mr. Childress, The adaptors on the current T.V.'s won't adapt to the new technology.

A request to Transfer Funds – Fund #1000 – from Acct. #4510 Data Processing Equipment in the amount of \$70,000.00 to Acct. #3610 Maintenance Agreements. This will cover the annual maintenance agreement for our data storage devices.

Mr. Childress, Lastly, for all of our storage devices downstairs this is our maintenance contract for the next year. It comes to \$62,000.00/\$63,000.00. I am asking for \$70,000.00 just to pad that account in case anything else comes up this year.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Request to Transfer Funds, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

EXPO CENTER – LORI DALY, DIRECTOR

A request to approve the following Pricing Sheets for 2023: On Site Bar Services, Off Site Bar Services, Event Space, Equipment Pricing and Refreshments.

Ms. Daly, I have been getting a lot of price increases on our end from vendors. We have not raised prices. We did a little bit in the remodel, but not on equipment, bar packages, things like that. This is what you will see in these pricing sheets is a little bit of increase to offset increase labor fees and increased product.

Com. Blaney, Everything costs more right now.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the New Pricing Sheets, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

A request to approve a Service Agreement with Mickey's Linen.

Ms. Daly, I think it re-ups every year unless we cancel it. It keeps the prices as they are.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Service Agreement with Mickey's Linen, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

A request to Transfer Funds – Fund #4005 from Acct. #1120 Hourly in the amount of \$10,000.00 to Acct. #2230 Food and Groceries. To cover Food and Groceries needed through the end of the year.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Request to Transfer Funds, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

A request to Transfer Funds – Fund #4005 from Acct. #1120 Hourly in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Acct. #3930 Event Expenses. To cover Event Expenses needed through the end of the year.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Request to Transfer Funds, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

Com. Biggs, Lori when is the last time we raised our rental fees to rent space?

Ms. Daly, Right after the remodel we did a little bit with the room fees but nothing else. This is more about the equipment, tables, chairs and linen.

Com. Biggs, Do you think that is something we need to look at in the next month or two?

Ms. Daly, That is why I did increase them because I have been looking at it all year.

Com. Biggs, No I am talking about the actual rental fees.

Ms. Daly, One did go up and one did not. The smaller room, the patio room was the one we raised after the remodel and it has gotten a lot of foot traffic. I would like to keep that one the same and we bumped up the big room a little bit.

Com. Biggs, Thank you.

Ms. Daly, You're welcome.

DEVELOPMENT & STORM WATER MNGMNT. – BOB THOMPSON, DIRECTOR

Receive and Open Sealed Bids for Paving Projects for the following roads:

- 1050 North – 50 West to Meridian
- 1050 North – 200 West to 125 West
- 700 North – Willowcreek Rd to 500 West
- 400 East – 950 North to Greening Rd
- 600 North – 500 West to 400 West
- 500 North – 450 West to 325 West
- 450 West – SR 130 to 600 North
- Edgewater/Grandview – 600 North to N. Calumet
- 400 North – 275 East to Augustine Dr.
- 250 South – 725 West to 600 West
- 725 West – 100 South to 350 South
- 150 East – Baums Bridge Rd to 600 South

- **Division Rd – 100 West to Smoke Rd**

PAVING BIDS

- **Reith Riley - \$2,716,432.41**
- **Milestone Contractors North - \$3,521,802.32**

Com. Blaney, Will you have an answer by the end of the meeting?

Mr. Thompson, Chris will take these and crunch the numbers with the Highway group. We are going to have to look at it closely. There is a bit of a difference. We are going to recommend that we start negotiating a contract with Reith Riley at \$2,716,432.41. Their bid was responsible and responsive and they are the low obviously. To explain the low it came down to the price of (Inaudible) and the asphalts. Milestone was at \$98.00 a ton. Where Reith Riley was at \$78.00 a ton. So we recommend Reith Riley for this project.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve Reith Riley in the amount of \$2,716,432.41, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

Duneland School Corp. Zoning Map Amendment – RR, Rural Residential District to IN, Institutional District - 2nd Reading.

Mr. Thompson, This is on the east side of their Liberty Elementary and Middle School project. It is for parking and traffic entrances.

Com. Blaney, This is 2nd Reading. We had the public hearing last month.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Zoning Map Amendment on 2nd Reading for Duneland School Corp., Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

A 1 year Agreement with USI Consultants for professional engineering, surveying, right-of-way and construction observations services on an on-call basis.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the USI Consultants' Agreement, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

An Agreement with United Consultants for Bridge 95 – 300 South over Ludington Ditch for engineering design services.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the United Consultants Agreement for Bridge 95, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

A Performance Agreement between Ledgemere Acres and Porter County.

Mr. Thompson, Ledgemere is doing a minor subdivision and Mike Novotney has been working with them. They need to do some roadside drainage for storm water purposes. The agreement is for \$8500.00 to allow them to do this work per lot or as the lots sell.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the Ledgemere Acres Performance Agreement, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

A Consultant Services recommendation for the following small structures:

- **Meridian Rd over Damon Run**
- **North Brummit over Arm 19 Little Calumet River**
- **150 South over Cobb Creek**
- **750 West over Roper Ditch**

Mr. Thompson, For Meridian Rd. and North Brummit Rd. over Little Calumet River we would like to negotiate with HWC Engineering and for 150 South over Cobb Creek and 750 West over Roper Ditch we would like to work with DLZ.

Com Biggs, moved to approve HWC Engineering for Meridian Rd. and North Brummit Rd. and DLZ for 150 South over Cobb Creek and 750 West over Roper Ditch, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

VALPO EVENTS – KATIE ABEL

A request to use the Courthouse grounds on Saturday, November 12th from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm for the 2022 Autumn Promenade. Various downtown retailers will distribute fall and/or holiday themed treats to up to 400 ticket holders. There will be an A-frame sign, a 10 x 10 tent canopy and sponsor tables.

Ms. Abel, It will just be our check in so Valpo Events will be there and our two main sponsors. All of the businesses will be operating from their actual locations downtown.

Com. Blaney, Is this your first year doing this?

Ms. Abel, I did Chocolate Walk in March so it is similar to Chocolate Walk but it will be fall and holiday themed treats.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve the 2022 Autumn Promenade use of the Courthouse grounds, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

Jeffrey J. Good

Laura M. Blaney

Jim Biggs

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor