

REGULAR SESSION

SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

APRIL 1, 2020

The Scott County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on April 1, 2020 at 3:00 pm in the Commissioners Room, Suite 128, Courthouse. Those present were Commissioners Robert Tobias and Mike Jones. John Lizenby was in attendance via conference call. Also present were Attorney Robert Houston and Auditor Tammy Stout Johnson.

President Tobias called the meeting to order, lead in the Pledge of Allegiance, then opened the meeting for public comments. There were no comments.

ADDITIONAL PANDEMIC PAY POLICY ATTACHMENT FOR ORDINANCE #2020-003; DEPOSIT OF PUBLIC FUNDS FREQUENCY POLICY ORDINANCE #2020-004

The original Ordinance #2020-003 addressed the regular payment of those working on-site, working remotely, and on call during the Governor's Stay at Home Order. A proposal was sent from WIS Human Resources Consulting for clients to use as a guide if additional compensation was approved by Commissioners and Council for those working during an emergency closing.

An attachment to the 2020 Salary Ordinance Amendment #2020-003, proposing additional compensation during the COVID-19 pandemic health emergency, was presented for review and consideration.

Commissioners agreed to check with other counties to see what, if any, additional benefits were being provided to their employees on duty during the emergency.

MOTION: Jones motioned to table the attachment regarding additional compensation to the Pandemic Pay Policy Ordinance #2020-003 until the next meeting. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

Auditor Johnson explained that State Board of Accounts, in normal circumstances, expected public funds to be deposited the day of collection. During a public health emergency, SBOA would not take exception to less frequent deposits of public funds, provided there is a policy in place. Johnson presented Ordinance #2020-004 allowing for deposits to be made on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the state of emergency.

MOTION: Lizenby motioned to approve Ordinance #2020-004 for policy covering the change in Deposit Frequency of Public Funds from daily to Tuesdays and Thursdays during the public health emergency. Second provided by Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM RENEWAL

Health Department Director Michelle Matern provided several letters of support for the renewal of the Scott County Syringe Support Program. The renewal request, if approved, would provide for the continuation of the program until May 24, 2022.

Jones stated he thought the request would have been dated through December 31, 2020, not May 24, 2022. Jones expressed his disappointment that members of the public could not attend the meeting to express their opinions on the matter (because of the pandemic). Jones stated that out of Indiana's 92 counties, only seven (7) to nine (9) have SEPs. Jones voiced his concerns about liability and discarded needles.

Tobias reminded members that the program can be canceled at any time by action of the Commissioners. Tobias said he struggled with the controversial program. At the time of the initial HIV outbreak, County officials relied heavily on the Centers for Disease Control, the Indiana State Department of Health, and the local Health Department. Tobias referenced the current pandemic and reliance on the experts' advice to flatten the infection spread curve.

Lizenby stated he was not in favor of the SEP in its beginning, but trusted the professionals. Lizenby recognized the issue with needles being disposed of improperly. Based upon the figures reported by the Health Department, over 90% of the used needles are being collected by the program. Lizenby questioned where they would end up if the exchange program were stopped and was concerned about increased spread of infection from the reuse of dirty syringes.

Tobias said we are now faced with a second viral spread, COVID-19. Tobias said there were no documented cases of anyone stepping on a discarded needle in a public place, so that fear factor should be diminished.

Jones said the SEP enabled engagement in illegal activity and allowed for people to hurt themselves. He stated he was tired of Scott County being known for their Syringe Exchange Program.

Tobias said he would not attack the integrity of the medical professionals. Jones said he did not agree with those professionals distanced from the situation while innocent people get caught up in the problems of HIV and opioids. Tobias said he would rather err on the side of compassion and save lives, just like administering Narcan to an overdose victim. Tobias reminded the members again, that the SEP can be discontinued at the Board's discretion.

MOTION: Lizenby motioned to approve the extension of the Scott County Syringe Support Program until May 24, 2022. Second provided by Tobias. Motion carried with two (2) in favor and one (1) opposed (Jones).

FINAL APPROVAL FOR VERIZON TOWER LOCATION

Members reviewed, for final approval, the location of the Verizon service tower on the property behind the Health Department.

MOTION: Lizenby motioned to make the final approval on the location of the Verizon tower, as mapped, on the property behind the Health Department. Second provided by Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACT FOR BUDGET CONSULTATION SERVICES WITH AIC

Auditor Johnson informed the members of an opportunity to have a consultant for the 2021 Budget process. Jacque Clements with the Association of Indiana Counties works with multiple counties and extended her offer of services to Scott County. For \$5,000, Clements would assist the Council and Auditor in budget related tasks from the beginning of revenue estimates through the issuance of the 1782 notice. Council approved the recommendation for the agreement at their March 10, 2020 meeting.

MOTION: Jones motioned to approve the contract with AIC for 2021 budget consultation services. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY CLAIMS CONSIDERATION FOR MARCH 2020; WINGHAM PAVING INC CLAIMS (2)

The regular monthly batch of claims for March 2020 were presented for consideration and payment approval.

MOTION: Lizenby motioned to approve payment of the regular monthly claims for March 2020. Second provided by Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

Claims payable to Wingham Paving were presented for payment consideration. The two (2) claims in the amounts of \$151,024.40 (paving of Peacock Road) and \$143,460.88 (paving of Salem Road) were for paving of roads associated with the Community Crossings Grant.

MOTION: Jones motioned to approve payment of both Wingham Paving claims in the amounts of \$151,024.40 and \$143,460.88 for paving of Peacock and Salem Roads. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 4, 2020 MEETING; PAYROLL DOCKET
RATIFICATION FOR MARCH 27, 2020**

Minutes from the March 4, 2020 meeting were presented for consideration and approval.

MOTION: Jones motioned to approve the March 4, 2020 meeting minutes as written. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

The Payroll Docket from March 27, 2020 was presented for review and ratification.

MOTION: Jones motioned to approve and ratify the Payroll Docket for March 27, 2020. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

RESIGNATION OF E911/EMA DIRECTOR

The resignation of Greg Ramoni, E911/EMA Director, was recognized effective April 18, 2020. Auditor Johnson was asked to post the open position immediately.

EMS OPERATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Commissioners discussed conversations with Public Health Officer Dr. Rogers and EMS Medical Director Dr. Croasdell on the preparation of EMS services in the Coronavirus pandemic.


It was recommended to ready a third ambulance, and possibly put a fourth truck on standby.

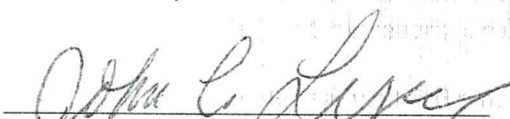
MOTION: Jones motioned to ready a third and fourth ambulance and temporary hire part time staff to man the third truck only at this time. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.


ADJOURNMENT

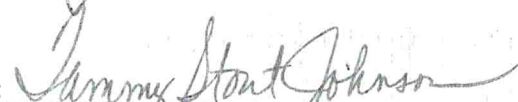
Tobias thanked all nurses, doctors, police, and medics on the front lines of the pandemic health emergency.

There being no other business, Lizenby motioned to adjourn the April 1, 2020 Regular meeting of the Commissioners. Second provided by Jones. Motion carried unanimously.


Robert Tobias, President


John Lizenby, Vice President


Mike Jones, Member

ATTEST: 
Tammy Stout Johnson, Auditor