

REGULAR SESSION**SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS****MAY 5, 2021**

The Scott County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on May 5, 2021 at 5:00 pm in the Commissioners Room, Suite 128, Courthouse. Those present were Commissioners Mike Jones, John Lizenby, and Randy Julian. Also present was Auditor Tammy Stout Johnson.

President Jones called the meeting to order, led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and then opened the meeting for public comments.

THRIVE-PHIL STUCKEY

The Director of THRIVE, Phil Stucky, introduced himself to the Board and presented information on the local recovery support organization. Stucky informed the members that services offered by THRIVE (a non-profit) are free with the support of donations, volunteers, the Indiana Mental Health Agency, and the Family Services Support Administration. THRIVE's outreach covers 21 Indiana counties and seven (7) local inpatient recovery centers. Stucky reported that 25% of clients are from the referrals of the Syringe Exchange Program. THRIVE also provides two (2) sources of free Naloxone with one box in Austin and the other in Scottsburg. Stucky emphasized that addiction is an isolating disease with a need for fellowship.

OPEN FORUM ON SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Special attendees for the open forum discussion on the Syringe Exchange Program included Dr. Jerome Adams (former Attorney General and former Indiana Health Commissioner) and current Indiana Health Commissioner Dr. Kristina Box. Sheriff Jerry Goodin and former Sheriff Dan McClain began with their expressions of support for the program. McClain was Sheriff at the time of the HIV outbreak in 2015. Sheriff Goodin talked of the local financial burden if the State would stop providing the monthly medicines that HIV positive inmates require to be virally suppressed. Goodin estimated that cost to be around \$1,329,000 per year at the count of 16 currently incarcerated, which will fluctuate monthly. Goodin said the risk to officers being stuck with a needle has decreased because offenders are more likely to disclose possession of syringes now.

County Health Officer Dr. Kevin Rogers stated HIV prior to 2015 was only 5-6 cases. Dr. Rogers said the State Health Department noticed an uptick in Scott County and alerted the local health system. The source was largely attributed to one (1) house with multiple positive persons and 237 persons linked to the outbreak.

Regarding the exchange of syringes, Scott County has a 92% return rate. Dr. Adams said that Scott County is operating the SEP in the right way. Other SEPs are at 81% return rate. Prevention costs at \$1 saves \$7.58 in future expenses. Dr. John Croasdell, ER Director at Scott Memorial, spoke of the other disease burdens such as HEP C, endocarditis, abscesses, etc. in a largely underinsured population that are reduced with a SEP. Other citizens spoke in support of the SEP such as Dr. Cook, an Austin pastor, Health Board member Jean Robbins, State Mental Health Coordinator, and persons of recovery.

Commissioner Jones asked Dr. Box why the Governor had not made SEP protocol statewide. Dr. Box replied that Governor Holcomb recognizes the importance of the programs, but wanted the decision to be made by local authorities.

DARK FIBER PROJECT FOR INTERNET

IT Coordinator Andrew Campbell explained the benefits of forming a direct connection with Citizens Broadband. The anticipated cost of the project would be \$20,000 in 2021 with the budget for service being centralized for all departments in 2022. The term of the agreement would be five (5) years.

MOTION: Julian moved to approve Campbell going to Council for funding approval for the IT plan of creating a direct connection to the fiber service provider with an initial cost of \$20,000 in 2021 and the expense of the five (5) year contract being centralized to the IT budget beginning in 2022. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

E911/EMA UPDATE; CHAIR LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT

E911/EMA Director Jeff Fortner requested permission and to seek Council approval and transfers for a lease purchase agreement for chair upgrade in Dispatch. The 24/7 chairs are designed for use in situations where sitting is for extended periods. Fortner explained that four (4) chairs would be purchased with a yearly payment of \$1,600. The agreement would include cleaning, inspection, and maintenance of the equipment.

MOTION: Julian moved to approve the request for the lease purchase of 24/7 chairs for Dispatch proceeding to Council for the funding and transfer approvals. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

Jones asked Fortner to get quotes on replacement costs for state of the art Dispatch equipment.

EMS UPDATE

EMS Director Shannon Mount discussed the first infant that was left in a Safe Haven Box located in Clark County. Mount said a meeting with the EMS Oversight Committee was scheduled for May 6, 2021. Mount invited members to events at the station for EMS Week. Awards would be presented on May 18, 2021 at 8:30 am.

Mount requested permission to attend training classes held in Tennessee beginning June 1, 2021. By consensus, members agreed to approve the out of state travel for Mount.

RESOLUTION #2020-010 TO OPT OUT OF OPIOIDS SETTLEMENT

Recent developments with the State's approach to the anticipated settlements of law suits filed by twenty or so Indiana counties had prompted several counties to question whether or not to continue with the legal action. The State's proposal was to disburse the settlement proceeds 70/15/15 with the State keeping the larger portion.

MOTION: Julian moved to adopt Resolution #2020-010 to Opt Out of the Opioid Settlement Pursuant to IC 4-6-15-2. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

APRIL 2021 MONTHLY REGULAR CLAIMS CONSIDERATION

The regular monthly claims docket for April 2021 was presented for consideration and payment approval.

MOTION: Lizenby moved to approve payment of the April 2021 monthly claims as presented. Second provided by Julian. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYROLL RATIFICATION APRIL 23, 2021; CONSIDERATION OF APRIL 7, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

The Payroll docket for April 23, 2021 was presented for consideration and ratification.

MOTION: Lizenby moved to approve and ratify the Payroll docket for April 23, 2021 as presented. Second provided by Julian. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes from the April 7, 2021 Regular meeting was presented for review and approval consideration.

MOTION: Lizenby moved to approve the April 7, 2021 Regular Commissioner meeting minutes as written. Second provided by Julian. Motion carried unanimously.

MEDICAL LEAVE EXTENSION REQUEST

Commissioners reviewed and considered an additional medical leave extension request which followed a full FMLA and one (1) 30-day extension that was granted.

MOTION: Lizenby moved to deny the second, 30-day medical leave request. Second provided by Julian. Motion carried unanimously.

TRANSFER STATION OPERATIONS

Jones said the operation of the Transfer Station in the future will be dependent on the cost of equipment repairs, etc. along with decisions on possible arrangements with the City of Scottsburg to consolidate trash efforts.

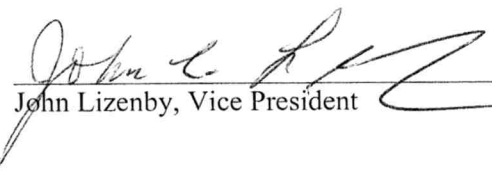
COUNTY ATTORNEY POSITION

Members discussed the appointment choices for their attorney. Julian nominated Joe Payne, Lizenby nominated Raleigh Campbell, and Jones nominated Zach Stewart. By consensus, all agreed with Julian's suggestion to meet with Zach Stewart in Executive Session on May 19, 2021 at 4 pm.

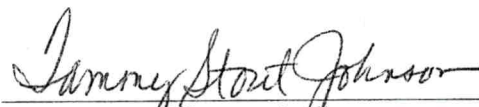
ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Julian moved to adjourn the May 5, 2021 Regular meeting of the Scott County Board of Commissioners. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.


Mike Jones, President


John Lizenby, Vice President

Randy Julian, Member

ATTEST: 
Tammy Stout Johnson, Auditor