Commissioners Meeting
February 18, 2019 8:00 a.m.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors

The February 18th, 2019 Decatur County Commissioners meeting was called in session by President Nobbe; he announced the Title VI voluntary survey forms are on the table in the corner for anyone wishing to fill one out and turn into the Auditor’s office.

Mr Buening moved to approve the February 4th meeting minutes, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Mr Koors moved to approve the accounts payable claims and the payroll claims, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr reported fixing/repairing the flood damage is ongoing: County Road 350 East- a 72” pipe will replace the pipe that ‘blew out’ due to the rains/flooding; still working on log jams under/around some bridges; County Road 650 North just east off of State Road 3 North will be closed for a while due to the double structure built on that road was ‘lost’. He presented a supplemental contract with USI (required by INDOT) for Greensburg’s sidewalk project in conjunction with the County replacing Bridge 236 on East Central Avenue. This supplemental includes right-of-way acquisition, surveying, the design of the sidewalk and inspection of that completed sidewalk. Greensburg will pay their 20% of the $95,000 sidewalk project to the County, with INDOT paying the balance. Mr Koors moved to enter into the supplemental agreement on Bridge 236, supplemental #1 relates to the additional work outside of the bridge work being done at that location. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Using information from the NGPA instead of going through the bid process, Mr Mohr presented information on 3 International tandem trucks equipped with snow plow, aluminum fuel tanks, wheel rims, air tanks and stainless steel salt v-box at a cost of $213,133.55 each. In the past some questioned ‘dressing the trucks up’ with the aluminum, but the aluminum ‘holds up better’ in the mud, road grime, salt, etc. The trade-in value is about $2,000 more with the aluminum tanks, rims, etc. Mr Mohr may sell/auction 3 old trucks at some time this year unless one county office elects to use one, then he’ll sell 2. Mr Buening moved to approve Mr Mohr going forward with purchasing the HV613 SBA quote from Shirk’s International on dump trucks equipped with aluminum air tanks, rims, etc as listed in the quote. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. He reminded Commissioners about the bid opening for asphalt, stone, fuel and culvert pipe is set for March 4th at 9:00 am.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall didn’t have any petitions to present. She did read part of the BZA’s year-end report tracking the number of petitions, building permits, how many were approved/denied, number of acres taken out of agricultural production and a recap of what the Area Plan Office did.

Ms Duvall gave Kenny Buening’s Building Inspector report in his absence: 18 building inspections were done; 9 new building permit applications were filed in the past two weeks; Kenny issued 2 red tags due to a house remodeling project without the proper permit- owner has since gotten those and a code violation on a stairway framing- contractor working on that. Kenny received a notice from Homeland Security that South Decatur Schools had filed for variances on bathrooms and he received a construction design release for the Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp to remodel a cabin. County Attorney Ken Bass has not received a response from the defendant on the lawsuit regarding a property in Sandusky.

Patrick Wells requested a road closure for the August 24th Eagles Wings 5K route between 8:00 am and 11:00 am. Mr Buening moved to approve the request on the road closure, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Mr Nobbe received a phone call from Laura Lee asking what roads the county owns in Lake McCoy. Mr Mohr stated the road- East Lake Road coming off of East State Road 46, which becomes South Boulevard Road to the point where it intersects East State Road 46, is on the Highway Department’s road inventory. Ms Lee was asking about writing off property taxes. County Treasurer Brenda Dwenger stated a court order from a Judge is needed to write off any Conservancy taxes.

Mr Nobbe received a phone call from Alan and Christy Lowe who had received notice that INDOT plans to fix the road crossing the tracks near their business, on the bypass, by removing those tracks, getting rid of that crossing altogether. This information means a lot to some people in the community from an economic development point of view, so Mr Nobbe contacted Bryan Robbins, Andy Scholl,
Mr Mohr, representative from Lowe's Pellets and Grains, some folks at the State and INDOT to inquire the status on this matter. Now this project seems to be on hold until it can determined who owns what properties. ConRail still owns the rails and Genesee Wyoming Inc is the current operator for that short line. Mr Nobbe received an email alerting him to an INDOT mobile planning meeting on Thursday, February 21st at 11:00 am in the Greensburg Youth Complex parking lot. He is planning to attend to see if there’s an opportunity for a public-private partnership to share the $150,000 cost to repair the railroad crossing near Lowe’s. According to information Mr Mohr obtained INDOT petitioned to remove the rails due to no rail traffic, but INDOT did not contact anyone in the area for potential economic growth.

Washington Township Trustee Christian Rust thanked the Commissioners for renting their office to use as his Township office. He, his attorney Chris Stephen and Mr Bass are working on an interlocal rental agreement for that office space. Mr Rust asked to be added to the Commissioners’ March 4th agenda to review/discuss that agreement.

Local resident Jerry Hermann commented how the railroad spur can save us money; asked about sand causing a problem at the culvert on County Road 220 Southwest and the bad stuff happening in his neighborhood is all quiet now.

Communications Center Director Erika Free presented a letter of intent to participate in the Federal 911 Grant program for the Commissioners’ consideration. The consoles and equipment currently being used in the dispatch center were consolidated from the Sheriff’s Department and Greensburg Police Department when the center was started in 2015. Ms Free asked for the Commissioners’ permission to apply for a grant to purchase seven consoles at an estimated $8,000 a piece for a $56,000 project at a forty percent match ($23,000) to come from the county’s Statewide 911 Fund. Mr Nobbe asked Ms Free to make sure we have documentation on what the monies are spent on. Mr Buening moved to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners allowing Ms Free to apply for this Federal aid grant program. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Ms Free told Commissioners the Statewide 911, all 92 counties, went down for about 50 minutes last Friday night. She checked social media where some counties had already posted info on the outage.

County Sheriff David Durant told the Commissioners he has a ‘big ask’ for updating the Greensburg-Decatur County Public Safety network which is operating on outdated, incompatible software and hardware that often fail. It is not acceptable to have a ‘break-fix model’; no one is doing computer maintenance on a regular basis. He wants a full-time preventative maintenance person as a short term solution and a dedicated network engineer with five years of experience for a long term solution. His department’s number one concern is serious injury or loss of life due to a computer system failure affecting communications/connectivity with road deputies. Ms Free stated the future of public safety is First Net which is a much more sophisticated system and a network engineer is a must. Commissioners recommended Sheriff Durant take his request to the Council for funding.

Chris Grabosky of Maxwell Construction gave an update on the new jail project: roof on Section C is 95% complete; interior work in Sections C & B- rear chase behind the cells getting ready for delivery of cells in April; Section A- steel work in the administration area and underground work in Sections A & B.

Mr Grabosky introduced Cody Hudepohl, Maxwell’s Site Superintendent for the modular cells project. He’s working with the Eagle Company, contractors on site trying to get the utilities underground and foundations ready for next week’s delivery of the modulars. There were some things added to the modulars by the Sheriff and Jail Commander which could be attributed to the delay in completing the modulars for transport by February 15, 2019 per the contract. It is up to the Commissioners whether to ‘go after’ Eagle for liquidated damages. Eagle worked with trucking companies February 14th and 15th getting delivery of four pods on February 26th and four pods on 27th as wide loads cannot be transported on a weekend. Mr Nobbe said they’ll wait to decide about liquidated damages. Once the modulars are set in place, they see what the end result is, will be a motivating factor. Part of South Broadway will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday when the modulars
are delivered; there will be flaggers. The crane will be in the northwest sally port for unloading and placing the modulars.

**Topics:** 1) Sheriff Durant and Greensburg Police Chief Brendan Bridges agree placing a **Sheriff Memorial** in front of the new jail facility is appropriate; 2) individuals having key fabs and security badges for the Courthouse is still on Sheriff Durant’s agenda; 3) Mr Nobbe discussed paying more in the jail bonds with Matt Eckerle of **Umbaugh, now Baker Tiley & Springsted** as part of our a five-year cash advisory service. Commissioners agreed to pay the $4,447.06 invoice for the cash advisory service in 2018 out of the Special Purpose Tax (Jail); 4) insurance on the modular cells will be added to insurance once those are set at an annual premium of $1,400; 5) Sheriff Durant is working on a camera package for the Courthouse sallyport; 6) Mr Bass is working with Parks & Rec Director Bob Barker on a contract with **Honda** for a basketball league

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Buening moved to recess, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Meeting recessed.

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Richard J Nobbe

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Attest:________________________
Date:___________________________