Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

December 29, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 29th day of December 2021 at 8:30 am. Jim Ruse, Presiding Commissioner, called the meeting to order. Wayne Uthe, 2nd District Commissioner, was present. David Cox, 1st District Commissioner, arrived at 10:15 am.

James Lewis, Road and Bridge Supervisor, was absent due to illness. The road crew are continuing to mow in Liberty Township as time and weather permit.

RaCail King, County Health Director, spoke by phone to the Commission to advise them of current Coronavirus cases in Daviess County. RaCail advised as of Wednesday morning the county numbers were, 50 active, 10-12 hospitalized, and 21 deaths. The Health Department are still giving vaccinations and testing by appointment.

Discussion was held regarding possible funding and engineering help from Green Hills Regional Planning Commission and Allstate Engineering for the elevator replacement project. Jim Ruse will investigate.

Discussion was held regarding remaining ARPA applications. One application is awaiting additional documentation. Available funds have about been depleted from the 2021 funding. 2022 funding will be available in July 2022. Jim Ruse spoke to Lance Rains, Gallatin Administrator, regarding ARPA funds received directly by the City of Gallatin. Remaining applications will be considered when the 2022 funding arrives.

The City of Gallatin requested a service deposit from Daviess County to move some utilities into the County’s name. The Commission signed the service paperwork and approved the $300 deposit.

Aaron Piburn, Assessor, left word for the Commission regarding county signage for the Black Tahoe county vehicle. The Commission approved “Daviess County” for both sides of the vehicle. Jim Ruse will contact someone to apply the letters.

Discussion was held regarding the masking policy in the courthouse. The Commission decided, due to the rising COVID-19 cases at this time, to continue requiring masks in all public areas (lobby, hallways, etc) while in the courthouse. Masks are recommended everywhere, however, Individual elected officials have the final decision for mask wearing inside their respective offices. The court system still requires masks at all times while in the courthouse building. This policy will be evaluated on an ongoing basis as conditions change.

A trash issue on Major Avenue was discussed by the Commission. Road and Bridge crew will check out the situation as soon as they can.

Discussion was held regarding appointments to the Senate Bill 40 Disabilities Board. David Cox made a motion to appoint Vanessa Mullins, Markay August, and Jim Ruse for three-year terms ending December 2024, Wayne Uthe seconded. David Cox – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye, Jim Ruse – Abstain, due to conflict of interest. Motion passed. Correction for Dec 22nd minutes – Debra Sweatman’s term is not up until Dec 2022.

The Commission worked on General Revenue 2022 preliminary budgets until lunch.

Break for lunch. The Commission reconvened at 1:30 pm.

The Commission worked on General Revenue and Commission approved 2022 preliminary budgets for the afternoon.

Meeting was adjourned 4:30 pm

Approved:

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 Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

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