Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

June 1, 2022

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 1st day of June 2022 at 8:00 am. Jim Ruse, Presiding Commissioner, called the meeting to order. David Cox, 1st District Commissioner and Wayne Uthe, 2nd District Commissioner were present.

James Lewis, Road & Bridge Supervisor, met with the Commission to update them on ongoing projects. Discussion was held regarding several bridges, culverts and brush his crew are working on this week. Discussion was also held regarding the possibility of constructing a fold down rail system for certain bridges to facilitate getting large farm machinery across some bridges without the farmers cutting the rails off. The Commission also discussed a road issue in Benton Township and how they might work with the Township to facilitate the repairs. Issues continued.

Discussion was held regarding the increase in COVID-19 cases in the area. Both David Cox and Ronetta Burton knew of individuals that were currently sick. There was discussion regarding some employees not clearing through the screener when coming in the building and how to best address the situation. Wayne Uthe made a motion to send each county employee and the Extension Office and Central Dispatch Office a letter asking for their cooperation before more restrictive action was taken, David Cox seconded. 3-Aye, 0-No. Motion passed.

Budget review of the Profit and Loss report to date was postponed until next week.

Aaron Piburn, Assessor, met with the Commission to ask about getting an Amazon Prime account for the county. Discussion was held with the Commission deciding to table the request at this time and due some more research into the benefits versus the additional cost to the county. Aaron also discussed a maintenance agreement he had set up for the county for additional technical support on the five main copiers in the courthouse. Jim Ruse, Presiding Commissioner, signed the agreement for Aaron.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, advised the Commission she had been notified Midwest Public Risk was changing to a 115% insurability for property insurance. The County will review their policies and coverages with a representative from MPR.

The Commission and County Clerk will attend WebEx training put on by the State Tax Commission for upcoming Board of Equalization on June 7th at 11:00 am. The last day to receive an appointment to go before the Daviess County Board of Equalization if you are concerned you might have an error in your tax assessment is July 11th.

Wes Bridgeman, Custodian, left word for the Commission that there is a problem with the Dehumidifiers in the basement/boiler room, and he had discovered two foundation leaks that are letting in water during heavy rains. Discussion was held and it was decided to purchase two new dehumidifiers immediately and then investigate what needs to be repaired on the foundation.

Discussion was held on what to do with the dying shrubbery around the courthouse. It was decided to get Manoj Chhetri, horticultural specialist from the Extension office, to determine if he could what was killing the bushes, then have the Road & Bridge crew remove the dead and diseased bushes. Ronetta Burton will contact Manoj. Issue continued.

Larry Adams, Jr, Sheriff, met briefly with the Commission to discuss ongoing issues in the county.

In the afternoon the Commissioners inspected roads, culverts, bridges and brush in Benton and Marion townships.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Approved:

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Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

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County Clerk

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