

The Adams County Council met May 14, 2019, 8:30 a.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present were Council Members, Steve Bailey, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Dennis Bluhm, Yvette Weiland, Cory Sprunger, and John Schultz; County Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown; and County Auditor, Mary Beery. Commissioners, Doug Bauman, Rex Moore, and Kim Fruechte were in attendance as their meeting begins at 11:00 a.m.

IN RE: MINUTES

Council member, Yvette Weiland, expressed concerns with the way the April minutes read concerning the Sheriff and Council attorney. She felt the minutes were incorrect in stating Travelers is the preferable option for the sexual harassment presentation. The Auditor and Council attorney gave their recollections of the meeting in disagreement. Councilwoman Weiland was concerned with the statement in the sheriff portion of the minutes, "He has the funds budgeted for the four jailers and is not requesting to hire additional staff." She stated she opposed the motion because she understood that additional money would need appropriated. Sheriff Mawhorr addressed the board explaining he did not need additional money. He is filling the positions with monies that are already budgeted. He should have extra money in these accounts because they have sat vacant for a period.

Upon a motion by Dennis Bluhm, seconded by John Schultz, to approve the April 9, 2019 Adams County Council minutes. Motion carried.

IN RE: BUILDING & PLANNING

**Annual Report**

The 2018 annual report (on file in the Auditor's Office) was presented showing a receipt total of \$129,990.75 was brought in for year 2018. Mr. Wynn stated fees in Adams County are at a rate that is sustainable for the county.

IN RE: SHERIFF

**Annual Sheriff & Detention Report**

Sheriff, Dan Mawhorr, and Chief Deputy Sheriff, Eric Beer, presented the 2018 annual Adams County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center Report.

Upon a motion by Stan Stoppenhagen, to accept the 2018 annual Adams County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center Report into the record, seconded by John Schultz. Motion carried.

**Department**

Sheriff Mawhorr presented an update for the Sheriff's Department. This is the beginning of national police week and there will be a blood drive for emergency services in Berne. A prayer service is scheduled in honor of fallen officers this Friday at 6 p.m. in Bigen.

The camera system in the new jail does not have enough storage and the county can be sued if we do not have the documentation. Videos need kept for a longer period. Mark Burry is aware and IT has gotten quotes. A quote for 200 days of storage will cost \$43,000. Data needs kept on the server for a longer time and not on a disk.

IN RE: BI-COUNTY SERVICES

President of Bi-County Services, Tim Ramsey, met with Council to present Bi-County's annual financial review and budget funding request. The 2019 request would be for \$39,312.00 which is the same amount requested for over a decade. Employment levels continue to be a challenge and they are down considerably on staffing which provides services. Many of the people that they serve are reaching an advanced age and several have passed away. All of this has impacted their revenues but Bi-County has sufficient financial reserves to meet all future financial positions. Bi-County continues to be in a strong financial position.

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland, seconded by Stan Stoppenhagen, for approval of continuing the funding of Bi-County Services, in the amount of \$39,312. Motion carried.

IN RE: SUPERIOR COURT

Superior Court Judge, Pat Miller; Court Manager, Carrie Freeman; and IT Manager, Mike Brown, met to discuss the computer updates in the courtroom.

Judge Miller stated they are in the process of updating systems to go live August 19<sup>th</sup>. They have the new computers and equipment to switch over to Odyssey. The current system is out of date and does not work with the State's system. The equipment is old and requires Windows 7 and 8 that Microsoft is terminating. They can purchase something that will work but it will cost the county. The court reporting equipment is used to record hearings, log notes, transcribe, etc. The following quotes were received for court reporting equipment for Superior Court only:

FTR/Esco Communications - \$5,675.00 does not include support. Mike Brown is having trouble finding support. Older version does not work with Windows 10 and does not communicate with Odyssey or the State. If we remain with FTR, it would require things done manually.

BIS - \$6,411.25 - Integrates with the system that the State is using. They can learn how to use this equipment at the same time as learning the Odyssey system. They have no choice as they will have to upgrade. Includes annual support for \$500, which will cover computers and everything. Their supporting system is compatible with Odyssey.

The entire department will be involved in the training. Circuit court will be in the same situation and both courts need to be the same. Attorney Burry advised they put both courts together and try to get a better quote. The board was informed both quotes need to be compatible. CSI is going away and Odyssey will be up and running August 19<sup>th</sup>. Data is continually being pulled and if our system is not compatible, it will have to be pulled manually.

Mr. Brown stated we need support for both areas. We do not have equipment upstairs to test the FTR on and if equipment breaks, there is no one to call. The county would have to find another vendor to call to help. The license is not expensive. We will not know on the hardware until something happens and see what the pricing is at that time. Will have to complete a conversion to bring the court over to BIS.

Upon a motion by Steve Bailey, to support the move to BIS with the funding to come from County General IT budget, seconded by John Schultz. Motion carried. Stan Stoppenhagen opposed

Carrie Freeman stated the microphone system needs updated to HDMI. They are currently using the old antiquated way and plugged into the wall.

IN RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Sanitarian and Environmental Director, Jessica Bergdall, and Environmentalist, Nathan Scherer, met to discuss the food inspector wage. Ms. Bergdall reported interviews have been completed. They requested approval to offer \$14.50 per hour for approximately 20 hours per week. The applicant worked with the Extension Office and has the Serv-Safe food safety certification.

Ms. Bergdall introduced Nathan Scherer as the new Environmentalist. They are working on changing privy ordinances and spending excessive amounts of time to go over the policy with the Amish Community. It takes the two of them to go out on projects due to the situation happening in the county. They would like to have an internship over the summer that could be compensated or not compensated. This position would be seasonal for summer only. This will allow Nathan to complete inspections and Jessica to complete paperwork. They prefer a college student who could mold into the position. They have funding in one of the grants that could possibly be used.

Consensus of Council was to approve them finding an unpaid internship.

IN RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

Barry Scherer, Sewer District Director, updated the board on the Regional Sewer District. He informed the new members that he meets quarterly to update the board(s). The sewer district has been in existence for 11 years and he tries to complete sewer business by 8 a.m. There have been weeks where he has worked more hours with the Health Department and/or Building Department. Arcadia Village, Monmouth, and Pleasant Mills is included in the district. The project for Bobo, Barrington Woods includes Prestress, Linn Grove, Preble, Peterson; Monmouth extended will cost \$12 million. The residents of Clem's Lake have requested to hook up which is unusual to get these requests. Baker and Tilly (formerly Umbaugh) is getting numbers so we know how much money we will receive. If the numbers come back good, the bills will remain at \$93.20. He is more of an employee of the Health Department but Mark Wynn has asked him to be a part of the dog kennel side when it comes to fruition. There are many fines still pending. Funding with the State revolving loan fund will be easier to get money because of the rates. The sewer board's goals are to keep the rates stable.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

**Cumulative Bridge**

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, reported he received a report card on the last bridge inspection. There are six bridges that will be lowered to 35 ton, which will affect emergency vehicles on those bridges.

He advises hiring an engineer to design and change the bridge B-106 structure located on the blue creek and near the St. Mary's River. He has provided the Commissioners with a draft proposal from Butler, Fairman and Seufert. The engineering service will cost approximately \$90,000 and does not include the survey and the purchase additional right-of-way. Mr. Barkey plans to ask for \$120,000 in additional money and a sum not yet determined for future projects. He anticipates applying for the Community Crossings grant to get 75% of the funds to help with the funding on construction. This bridge will affect Adams Central Schools. He will try to receive bids by this time next year. Mr. Barkey is looking for a consensus to move forward and will need Council's approval.

Upon a motion by Stan Stoppenhagen, seconded by John Schultz, to approve the expenditure up to \$120,000 for engineering. Motion carried.

Mr. Barkey will submit an additional in June along with extra construction money. He will be asking for an additional appropriation of approximately \$400,000 to \$500,000 for future projects.

IN RE: BUILDING MAINTENANCE

**Facilities**

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Stimpson, reported Bob Hakes and Ethan Snyder have moved into the new IT room on the first floor of the Service Complex. The costs came in at less than \$20,000.

The Schindler quote for the elevator at the Service Complex has increased by \$8,000. Currently, we are paying \$78,000 and moving forward it will be \$86,000. We only have 3 to 5 years left in the elevator. The work will consist mostly of replacing the parts of the elevator but it will be like a new elevator. They need to be aware that something needs done but not necessarily immediately.

The air conditioning unit at Superior Court needs replaced for \$6,700.

IN RE: COMMISSIONERS REPORT

**Wages/Raises**

Commissioners, Doug Bauman, Rex Moore, and Kim Fruechte, met with the board to discuss the wage matrix for employees of Adams County.

The Commissioners are in consensus that the current levels are obsolete and need to be done away with. The Commissioner's agreed longevity or a point system might be necessary.

Councilman Stoppenhagen stated there are three things to decide. Reconcile current wages for positions and how do we do that? What system do we use moving ahead? How to keep positions paid fairly?

Council discussed various options:

Give department heads discretion.

Department heads submit as is and Council will increase at budget time.

Percent for department heads to submit as they like then Council have an amount to distribute how they see fit.

Create a line item and set aside an amount to address wage scale adjustments and disparity as determined.

How much to set aside for equalization on wages and wage scale.

Should they continue holding work sessions? Small sub-committee or large group?

Cost of living raises?

Upon a motion by Stan Stoppenhagen, to create a line item within council’s budget and set aside \$350,000 to address wage scale adjustments and disparity as determined by Council and address 2020 increases at the discretion of County Council, seconded by Cory Sprunger. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Stan Stoppenhagen, to submit budgets for payroll with no payroll increase, seconded by Cory Sprunger. Motion carried. Council member, Steve Bailey, opposed.

Upon a motion by Stan Stoppenhagen, when figuring the 2020 budgets to keep the series 2000, 3000, and 4000 flat with no increases, seconded by Steve Bailey. Motion carried.

Council attorney, Julie-Marie Brown, instructed everyone to circulate dates to hold work sessions and determine strategy. Council members, Steve Bailey, Dennis Bluhm, and Yvette Weiland to serve on sub-committee if needed and Cory Sprunger to fill in as needed.

**Old Jail**

Bids will be opened on May 28, 2019. Attorney Burry stated depending on what the bids come in at will depend if a public hearing needs held. Bidders submit their bids to the Auditor and anyone who wishes to raise their bid can do so at the meeting as long as they initially submitted a bid.

IN RE: AUDITOR’S REPORT

**Tax Abatement**

Upon a motion by Dennis Bluhm, seconded by Stan Stoppenhagen, to find Decatur Diamond LLC Form CF-1 in substantial compliance. Motion carried.

IN RE: SALARY ORDINANCE  
**REQUESTED BI-WEEKLY** **APPROVED**

**Extension (1000-0011)**

Administrative Assistant

Dusty Gibson (effective 4/22/19)	\$1,147.38	\$1,147.38
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**Jail (1000-0380)**

Jail Commander (Chief Jailer)

James Miller (effective 4/20/19)	\$1,776.31	\$1,776.31
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Jailers (effective 4/20/19)

Nick Yoder	\$1,650.44	\$1,650.44
Daniel Strickler	\$1,500.40	\$1,500.40
Alex Will	\$1,459.48	\$1,459.48
Jeff Chesak	\$1,418.56	\$1,418.56
Paige VanOver	\$1,404.92	\$1,404.92
Aaron Stronczek	\$1,404.92	\$1,404.92
Austin McCord	\$1,364.00	\$1,364.00
Nathan Shaffer	\$1,364.00	\$1,364.00
Braxton Haight	\$1,364.00	\$1,364.00
Jared Fawcett	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Brianna Pettibone	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Brant Thieme	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Michaela Hanni	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Andrew Wildes	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Benjamin Piper	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Kellsey Gleason (hire date 5/9/19)	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Open Position	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Open Position	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Open Position	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00

Jail Transport Part-Time (effective 4/20/19)

William Crone	\$15.91/hr	\$15.91/hr
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Jailers (effective 5/18/19)

Brianna Pettibone	\$1,364.00	\$1,364.00
Jared Fawcett	\$1,364.00	\$1,364.00

**E-911 (1222)**

Dispatcher

Mallorie Hough (effective 5/4/19)	\$1,124.00	\$1,124.00
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**Highway (1176)**

Part-time/Temporary Employees (effective 6/3/19)      \$13/hour      \$13/hour

Upon a motion by Stan Stoppenhagen, seconded by John Schultz, the above Salary Ordinances were approved by Council. Motion carried.

IN RE:

COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown, updated the board on project that are in the works:

In March, the board discussed cell phones and possible stipends. Yvette Weiland has spoken with the IT director on safety and Julie-Marie is looking into the legal liabilities. Attorney Brown will get all of the information to Council and make changes.

An amended resolution will be prepared for distribution of interest to the interest baring funds.

Julie-Marie is working with the Auditor together with applicable Indiana state laws on the video presentation on sexual harassment. She has talked to R & R and Travelers and after speaking with them Travelers is the best way. Will have several dates and times to accommodate all county employees.

Legal assistant, Brooke Hindenlang, will communicate with Council on scheduling the budget work sessions. Attorney Brown advised all to avoid online communication between Council members.

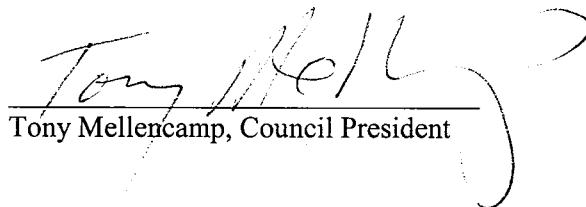
IN RE:

ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger, seconded by Dennis Bluhm, for adjournment of the May 14, 2019 meeting of the Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor

  
Tony Mellencamp, Council President