

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT, The Board of Commissioners of the County of St. Joseph met in a regular session in the County City Building on March 2, 2021 at the hour of 10:00 a.m. (EST) at which time in the following members were present: Andrew Kostielney, Derek Dieter, and Dr. Deborah Fleming D.M.D. were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

OPENING AND READING OF BIDS ON:

IPG

Sky Medors, Interim County Engineer, offices on the 7th floor.

St. Joseph County Highway Annual Bids for:

Fuel, Oils, Lubricants and Miscellaneous Materials

Bellman Oil Company
550 East 2nd Street
Bremen, IN 46506

Ceres Solutions Co-Op
2020 E Wabash St.
Wabash, IN. 46992

Brant Benson Co-Alliance
16724 Bakertown Road
Buchanan, MI. 49107

Gladieux Energy
4133 New Haven Ave.
Ft. Wayne, IN. 46803

Petroleum Traders Corporation
PO Box 2357
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2357

Yoder Oil Company
1221 N. Nappanee
Elkhart, IN 46514

Liquid Bituminous Materials

Asphalt Materials, Inc.
8720 Robbins Road
Indianapolis, IN. 46268

The Klink Group of Companies
P.O. Box 428
Ashley, IN 46705

Miscellaneous Aggregate

Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.
25200 SR 23
South Bend, IN 46634

The Klink Group of Companies

P.O. Box 428
Ashley, IN 46705

Aggregate Industries
PO Box 19760
Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

Bituminous Patching Materials

Phend & Brown, Inc.
367 East 1250 North
Milford, IN 46542

Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.
25200 SR 23
South Bend, IN 46614

Milestone Contractors North, Inc.
24358 State Road 23
South Bend, IN 46614

Drainage Pipe & Structures, Guardrail, and Bridge Materials

ATB
8767 Waruf Ave
Portage, MI 49002

Debco Metal Culverts
PO Box 8
Francesville, IN, 47946

James Drew Corporation
8701 Zionsville Rd.
Indaianpolis, IN 46268

Metal Culverts, Inc
711 Heisinger Road
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

Traffic Paint & Signage Materials

Allstates Coatings Company
100 N Lee Dr.
Gladewater, TX. 75647

Davis Imperial Coatings, Inc
1275 State Street
Hammond, IN. 46320

Ennis Flint, Inc
4161 Piedmont Pkwy., Ste 370
Greensboro, NC 27410

Osburn
11844 State Rt 93 North
Logan, OH 43138

Ozark Materials, LLC
591 Glendale Ave.
Greenville, AL 36037

We had received notice of a bid that was sent in on Friday. We received the tracking number for that bid it was due to be delivered yesterday we have not been able to locate

that bid, or it has not been delivered yet. It was from Petroleum Traders Corp. out of Fort Wayne, Indiana for the fuel. We would request that if that bid comes in today it be allowed to be added.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above proposals for further study and review.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

REPORTS AND REQUESTS FROM:

COMMISSIONERS

Dr. Fleming moved to amend the agenda and add item.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION
THAT WAS ISSUED LAST WEEK**

This is to take formal action for emergency authorization for the action taken last week for the Health Department employees COVID -19.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

Mr. Kostielney. We will get something in writing that can be distributed.

A)

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DOCKETS**

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the Accounts Payable Docket as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

B)

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mark Espich of the Health Department is the employee of the month.

C)

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
RESOLUTION R-8-C-2021 EXPRESSING
SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CONTROL
OF LAND USE DECISIONS**

This has been passed by other Commissioners and governmental entities across the state. There is pending legislation that passed through the house and is now in the Indiana Senate. That limits the control that local units of government have as it relates to wind and solar projects. I do like uniformity across the state it can be a good thing but I don't like that this particular piece could, we could have very sound reasons for why we would not want a project to go in a certain area and we don't have the ultimate control over that. They could if seen, if they want to oppose and appeal this it could go to the IURC and they would have the final say so we think that is an inappropriate use. This is why I am in support of this resolution.

Dr. Fleming and Mr. Dieter both support this and oppose House Bill 1381.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

MACOG/SOLSMART

Bill Schalliol, Economic Director, offices on the 11th floor.

Lea Thill, MACOG, offices on the 11th floor.

St. Joseph County has now met national benchmarks for encouraging the growth of solar energy, receiving SolSmart Gold designation, the highest level that can be earned. St. Joseph County joins over 300 cities, towns, and counties across the country including adjacent counties Elkhart County and Marshall County, and the cities of Goshen, Nappanee, Plymouth, and South Bend who have earned designation with assistance from the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) since 2017.

SolSmart helps local governments make it faster, easier, and more affordable to go solar. Through the SolSmart program, these communities received no-cost technical assistance and national recognition for their bold actions to advance solar energy locally. SolSmart helps local governments streamline permit approvals, review planning and zoning guidelines, facilitate group purchase campaigns, and train staff on best practices. The program is led by The Solar Foundation and the International City/County Management Association and is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office.

St. Joseph County was recognized for having efficient permitting and inspection processes, providing information online, training staff on the codes related to solar energy, and training the fire department. The regional Solarize initiative lead by MACOG also expanded into rural and smaller communities, with educational workshops in four rural communities, including the Town of New Carlisle.

MACOG provided technical support to guide local governments through the SolSmart process.

“SolSmart provided a roadmap for communities in our region to proactively and safely manage the increasing interest in solar, driven by a sharp decline in costs by over 70% which brought solar into the mainstream across all sectors and scales over the last decade,” said MACOG’s Senior Environmental Planner Leah Thill.

Notably, St. Joseph County was the first county in Indiana to include a pollinator-friendly requirement in an update to the zoning ordinance in early 2020. Ground-mounted solar projects, such as the Indiana Michigan Power’s St. Joseph Solar Farm under construction, are required to include vegetation that provides pollinator habitat and will actually serve to improve the quality of the soil and reduce storm water runoff over the life of the project.

Bill Schalliol, St. Joseph County’s Economic Development Director, added, “We have had a strong team working to earn this designation. We look to continue to promote development with a strong environmental preservation component. I’m pleased to announce that we have several solar projects presently being reviewed by our Planning & Zoning Team and we anticipate an announcement of larger solar projects this year. We are encouraged to see public sector projects like the solar farm being developed near North Liberty Elementary School by the John Glenn School Corporation. We are also proud to be a leader in requiring pollinator-friendly vegetation as part of solar project development in the County.”

Another utility project is nearing completion near Bittersweet and Cleveland Road, the 210 acre St. Joseph Solar Farm expected to power 2,700 homes annually. Indiana Michigan Power provided a comment following St. Joseph County’s SolSmart designation.

“At I&M, being part of the community and providing for a sustainable energy future is what we do. I&M’s Saint Joseph Solar Farm allows us to bring our largest solar farm to the people and businesses of the Michiana area,” said Brian Bergsma, Director of Communications and Government Affairs at Indiana Michigan Power. “I&M is going above industry standards to design a project with environmental benefits beyond the clean energy as the St. Joseph Solar Farm is designed to create a habitat for pollinators. We applaud the leadership of St. Joseph County and the entire Michiana area to pave a path to a greener future for our community for many years to come.”

One of the nation’s leading authorities on pollinator habitat conservation, Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever, commented on St. Joseph County’s leadership. “Increasing the structure and diversity of planned pollinator projects within solar energy development not

only provides critical wildlife habitat, but also a wide variety of agricultural and ecological benefits for energy retailers, consumers, and neighboring properties,” stated Michael Retterer, National Right of Way and Energy Coordinator for Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever. “As solar energy continues to expand, encouraging quality habitat practices that promote pollinator health and a myriad of environmental benefits should be at the forefront of every project. Congratulations to St. Joseph County for being a pioneer in sustainable energy development,” Retterer said.

Additional resources are located at http://macog.com/solar_energy.html, including a technical guide, a Pollinator Scorecard from Purdue, and presentations from the APA-Indiana Seminar on solar and land use in July 2020. More information on SolSmart designees can be found at www.SolSmart.org/SolSmart300.

Jordan Wyatt, 16 Northeast St., Indianapolis, IN.

I am really happy and congratulations for receiving this. Along with Lea’s help, authored the ordinance that got us this designation last year. I couldn’t have done it without her help. We wanted to make St. Joseph County a leader in this, an example for the entire state and we have done that. St. Joseph County should be very proud, especially about the pollinator requirement, especially being the first in Indiana to do that was a huge step. Other counties have followed suit.

D)
IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
SURVEY SERVICES WITH DANCH,
HARNER & ASSOCIATES, INC FOR
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1126 S.
LAFAYETTE BLVD. SOUTH BEND, IN

This is where both the City and County store their archives. It is a unique building. It is very theasable that we should purchase this building instead of rent it. If not, they are going to sell it. Danch, Harner & Associates have been hired to do survey work on this building.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.
Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.
Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

E)
IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
DLZ AGREEMENT MODIFICATION
NO-REMODEL AND CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO
CARES ACT

Mr. Woods. In 2020 there was work being done to upgrade the County Jail using CARES Act funds. The supplies not being available, due to COVID, and making sure we schedule the work sensitively around the needs of the jail and the jail staff there is some work that needs to be completed. It is anticipated that the scope of that work will be completed by the end of March of this year. As such, there is additional construction oversight and supervisory services that DLZ will need to provide during this extended construction period. This agreement amends the total compensation pursuant to their original agreement from \$210,000 up to an amount not to exceed \$250,000. They provided an hourly rate as set forth in paragraph 4 of the agreement.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.
Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.
Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

COUNTY POLICE
IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
VEHICLE PURCHASE

Dean Chandler, 4141 W. Lathrop.

One year ago, I bided out a prisoner transportation vehicle. The pandemic hit and I still have not gotten it. I was able to have this order canceled. I bided out a Ford Expedition long body, and I can get that in 12-14 weeks. We can reissue the PO from last year to Jordan Ford. This was a government bid and it is \$560.00 less.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

PROCUREMENT
IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
LOGAN COMMUNITY RESOURCES,
INC. SERVICES FUNDING
AGREEMENT

Bree Roberts, Procurement, offices on the 7th floor.

This is an agreement with the County for funding that has been ongoing. I tried to find when this was instated but I nor archives could find that information. In our most recent audit, we were told we needed some type of agreement. This is the culmination of that effort.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

PSAP
IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING
IAMRESPONDING CONTRACT
AMENDMENT

Ray Schultz, Executive Director, 58266 Downey Ave.

The original contract did not specify the terms or layout of the payment options based on the terms. We are choosing to go with the paid in full option of \$29,840.00 as stated in our first renewal. This saves us money.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING & GROWTH:

A)
IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL
RESOLUTION R-7-C-2021 FEMA
HOME BUYOUT GRANT-PURCHASE

Chris Brown, IPG, on the 11th floor.

This property is located at 20286 Jackson Road. This is similar to the last several purchase agreements you have signed over the past couple of meetings. We request approval.

Motion made by Dr. Fleming to accept the recommendation of the Department of Infrastructure Planning and Growth in reference to the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

Sky Medors.

We have bids from Ozark LLC
Glendale, AL
This is for traffic paint and signage material.

Joseph Vanderpool
Fort Wayne, IN

This is for fuel, oil, and lubricants.

I would ask that we accept these bids.

Dr. Fleming moved to accept the above request as read and outlined.

Motion seconded by Mr. Dieter.

Motion adopted by a 3-0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Dieter thanks the City Clerk, Dawn Jones for coming to our meeting today.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Kostielney asked for a motion to recess, Dr. Fleming so moved, seconded by Mr. Dieter. Meeting recessed by a 3-0 vote.


ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Please refer to the St. Joseph County website for the full audio and visual of the St. Joseph County Commissioners meeting if needed.