

August 6, 2024: Chairman Brad Marcuson opened the regular meeting of the Decatur County Commission at 9:00 am with the flag salute on the second floor of the Courthouse with member Karen Larson. Also present was County Clerk Nora Urban, Attorney Steve Hirsch and Oberlin Herald reporter Destry Jackson. Stan McEvoy was not present.

Candidate for commissioner, Joe Mondero was also present.

9:00 Ernie Sheets, Road & Bridge came to meet with the commissioners and said that he did go look at the meals on wheels vehicle and went through it. They have ordered new tires and are replacing the brakes. They will address the other issues however the cosmetic stuff there is nothing they can do about. He then said that Terry Rush does want to do another mile of road after seeing the billing as it did come in lower than expected. However, he said they are going to have to hold off until we get some rain. Next, he said the John Deere tractors are going to be up on warranty in October. He is getting a quote on an extended warranty for them.

Ernie then said that he has a mower down due to a spindle issue and is waiting to hear back from Diamond.

Mowers are all out and going and they have trucks out hauling gravel as well.

Last, he said regarding the letter he received last week regarding the fair roads. He said that was not necessary as it had already been taken care of. Commissioners explained that they wanted to make sure we were all on the same page.

Nora Urban, County Clerk said she did talk to EMS Director Megan Huntley regarding the decal on the EMS vehicle and she said that she is getting it taken care of.

She then said that she did tell Jason Berry that they could use the courthouse for the car show for electricity and restrooms.

Next, she said that she talked to Sharee Dempewolf for an update on the triplex roof and she was told that the contract had been signed and supplies ordered.

Regarding the roof on the courthouse, she said that she talked to Weathercraft and they are planning on late August or early September.

Last, she said that she received a request for a letter of support from Resound regarding broadband. Commissioners agreed this would be ok.

Commissioner Brad Marcuson moved to approve the 7/30/24 minutes with no corrections or additions. Commissioner Karen Larson gave the second. Brad called for the vote and the motion carried.

Karen said she did call the hospital regarding EMS and said that they do frequently get turned down for transports, however, would like to work with them on this. They said they would prefer to work with local EMS rather than bringing in someone. The hospital also said that they have 2 certified EMT's that could ride along or PRN nurses that would be willing to do it also. Karen said she was also told that they would like to see them dress a little more professionally. Karen said she agreed that she would like to see EMS and the hospital work together to be able to do transports.

9:25 Marla Stroup, Daycare said that all is good at the daycare.

She said she did have to let someone go however she did receive an application for a full-time employee. She explained that the applicant would be very good, and she could cover better with a full time rather than trying to get multiple part time employees. She said the other two-part timers she has will be returning to school soon.

She then said she is working on another grant that could also help pay wages, as well as looking into some other grants.

Further discussion followed regarding the potential full-time employee. Karen moved to allow her to hire the full-time applicant. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried.

Marla then asked the commissioners their thoughts on holding a spot for someone and them not paying for it. She said that as far as she knows and from her past experience in order to hold a spot family's usually pay for that spot to guarantee their spot. This was discussed and the commissioners agreed that in order to hold a position they would need to pay for the position.

9:45 Barry Quanz, Noxious Weed came to talk to the commissioners regarding issues with the recycling trailer. He said that it has been going on for a while now but is getting worse. They are finding things not only not sorted correctly but also find trash in there. Things like shoes, books, knives, etc and most recently even finding feces. He said he can sort but the rest is uncalled for and if they can't use it for the purpose intended then maybe it does not need to go around. He said he does not know where it is happening; Dresden, Jennings or Norcatour. Commissioners agreed this issue with recycling is a lot of work and that maybe we need to educate the cities more. Nora said she would contact them and let them know what is going on.

He also said he would like to look more into having a security camera on the public side at the recycling building.

He said he was about 8 bales away from having a load.

Last, he said we are maybe going to have to consider not taking books any longer. He said the problem is that he has nowhere to go with them.

Megan Huntley, EMS came to see the commissioners and started by giving a monthly report. She said they had 103 people on the books, 17 sent to set off, unpaid A/P \$53,533.91 and collected A/P \$57,292.09. She said the ½ off program that Gaylen Huntley started is working very well. She then said they have had 144 page out/ytd.

Next, she said Anita Weber quit.

She then said she ordered new straps for the cots and back boards that are color coordinated to help find quicker.

EMS #3 light is on again, she is going to take to either Quinton Cook or Lonnie McEvoy. She then said that the light bar on EMS #4 is in bad shape.

The new ambulance is going to be picked up August 23rd and she would like to put EMS #4 in Jennings then. Karen asked about first responders in the outlying cities. Megan said that she has only 2 in Jennings, and no one in Dresden or Norcatour.

Megan then said that at the upcoming Region I meeting she would like to suggest a bargaining/trade/barter idea between county EMS departments.

She then said she has talked to all other emergency services in the county and would like to do a mock drill sometime such as an active shooter/school shooting, multi-vehicle accident, chemical spill, etc. She said they would do it in the summer and use students as patients.

Last, she said she wanted to address the minutes from last week regarding the transport they could not take. She said she understands the situation is a very personnel thing and that the feelings are valid. She explained that she is not picking and choosing who they take; with the example of a couple of people recently needing transported that have ties and they could not do so for the same reason. She said the day in question she had one in Atwood, 2 out sick, and others not available due to various reasons leaving no one to cover 911 here if they were to take the transport. She said she would have to have 4

people in order to do the transport: 2 for the transport and 2 to cover 911 here. She again said that she understood them being upset, however it was out of her hands.

She said that she had one pass the test however waiting for background check to be done.

Karen asked her to track her transport requests and if they take them or not. She also said she spoke to Decatur Health and explained that they would like to work with our local EMS. Megan said she is open to it however just needs to look into a couple of things as she is not sure how the insurance, billing and pay would work if they used a Decatur Health employee. Nora said as for KCAMP insurance what they have told her is if the county authorizes someone to drive/ride in our county vehicle they will be covered by our insurance.

She then said regarding the lettering on the new vehicle she had talked to one person, but they are busy so was referred to Monica Larson and she is going to do it for her.

Last, she said as for driving her vehicle everywhere she said she is on call a majority of the time, so she does drive it a lot.

Linda Manning who drives the transportation bus popped in and said that she put a sign on the bus saying no more than two trips per household per day. She said there is a couple of households that make multiple trips a day instead of doing it all at once. She also said that no one is putting in donations anymore. Nora said that we are a on demand bus service so she did not know if we could limit the number of pickups but would look into it. She did agree that donations are drastically down but thought we would have to be approved to change the way we are doing our funding in order to switch, she will look into this as well. Last, she said that the lift on the old bus works you just have to kick the bar up. Nora will address this as well.

Commissioners reviewed correspondence and signed prepaids.

Joe Mondero asked the commissioners about funding for EMS, RFD, transportation bus and wanted to know what the city contributes to. Nora said that they pay a portion of dispatch and send \$1500 for summer rec.

10:55 Brad adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED: *im* , *JK* , *Sam*

ATTEST: *Nora Urban* , County Clerk DATE: *8/13/24*