

July 16, 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, County Attorney Steve Hirsch and Oberlin Herald reporter Destry Jackson. Stan McEvoy was out today.

9:00 Ernie Sheets, Road & Bridge came to meet with the commissioners, and he said they got the scraper back from CAT and it is working great.

Trac loader for the landfill is done and back out there.

They have started an elevation project in Roosevelt township; north of Hwy 36 at 2100th RD.

Mowers and blades are out and going and they have had no complaints this week.

Last he said his new hire is working out well, however he could still use a couple more.

Commissioners reviewed correspondence and signed prepaids.

Budgets were discussed and no action was taken at this time.

Commissioner Karen Larson moved to approve the 7/9/24 minutes with no corrections or additions. Commissioner Brad Marcuson gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried.

Nora Urban, County Clerk had an invoice for SAM for the NG911 maintenance at \$2600. Brad moved to approve the renewal. Karen gave the second. Brad called for the vote and the motion carried.

Next, she said she received a message from the fair board that they would like to replace member Stacy Dickerson who has not attended any meetings since being appointed to the board. Karen moved to dismiss her. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried. Nora will send a letter to her.

She then had a letter of resignation from Christal Vrbas from the fair board. Brad moved to accept the resignation. Karen gave the second. Brad called for the vote and the motion carried.

Nora then said that she needed to ratify the purchase of outside eqpt for Marla Stroup at the daycare. It was \$590. Karen moved to ratify the purchase. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried.

Last, she said she had received a call from someone that said they thought the county used to provide water for the refs and umpires during the ball games. Brad said he thought Becky was keeping track.

Nora said that the person working at the lion's club that evening said no, Nora will talk to Becky regarding this.

9:15 Jay Tate, Judge along with Brooke Graham said they had read the minutes regarding the camera however did not feel this should be at their expense as they were not the one requesting it. Jay said it was presented to them that they had old cameras and did he mind putting one in the courtroom. He said if it was something he initiated they would understand but would do differently with something that works with their equipment. Attorney Steve Hirsch asked if this was a problem having a camera in the courtroom. Jay said they can as long as there is no sound which these are able to do audio.

Commissioners agreed if they did not want to install it they did not have to do so.

Brooke then said that for the 2024 budget they need to get some new workstations however does not have a proposal yet. Jay also said with the new requirements having everything internet based they may have less expense than previous years.

9:30 Barry Quanz, Noxious Weed came to see the commissioners and said he needed to get some front-end work done on the international. He said that Quinton Cook looked at it and the T-rods are needing fixed. He thought the cost would be approximately \$500-\$600. Karen moved to allow the repairs. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried. He then said that the 2001 Dodge is shot. He said they have had the 4wheel drive worked on several times and it is just not able to be fixed; therefore, doing them no good. He said he thought about selling it; something to think about. Karen agreed if it is not working there is no point in keeping it around. Barry will look into the price for it.

Karen said she attended the hospital meeting via zoom. They have a new PA, Taylor Niermeier. The new windows and roof are being installed now with insurance money from the storm that came to 1.3 million. She said the insurance company has been out to make sure all is being done. They have 76 days cash on hand. For the last month's stats: Dr Bartruff saw 122 patients, Dreher 155, Dana 7, there were 23 Good Sam well checks, 41 ER patients, 86 specialty clinic patients, 26 HPM and 383 outpatients. Medicare and BCBS are still not paying very good. School physicals are done. Dr Bartruff said there are still COVID cases, so people still need to be careful. Last, they will have a celebration for Karen Bailey for 45 years of service.

9:45 Megan Huntley, EMS came in and requested a 15-minute executive session for non-elected personnel.

9:47 Brad moved for the session. Karen gave the second. Brad called for the vote and the motion carried. Those present were the two commissioners, Steve, Nora and Megan.

9:57 Steve left for court.

10:02 Karen moved to extend the session another 15 minutes. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried. The same people were still present.

10:17 No action was taken.

Megan then asked about the drug and alcohol testing, saying it does not work for her out of town and part time people. She asked what happens if they do not make it at all for a draw or when they redraw is it just EMS, as there would only be three of them. Nora will check into these questions and get back to them.

10:40 Brad adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED: *Mike*, *HL*, *Sam*

ATTEST: *Nora Wilson*, County Clerk DATE: *7/23/24*