

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE
May 8, 2023**

Present: Mike Specha, Seth Foster, Jeff Nolen, David Buckles
Absent: Thomas Snyder, Jr.
Others present: Bryan Sharp, Linda Curtin, Venise McWard, Jean Vandenberg, Jim Vandenberg, Jr., Bill Kennedy, Erica Matthews, Ron Brown, Dwanna Kelmel, Cliff Frye, Jim Baker, Shawn Hammers, Blake Tarr, Dr. Chad Anderson, Justin Mills, Lucas Domonousky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. In the absence of the committee chairman, Mike Specha was the Acting Chairman. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

SHERIFF OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS

County Board Chairman Bryan Sharp noted at last month's Board meeting action was taken developing a committee to discuss improvements in this department. Bryan is working on setting a meeting date at this time.

ZONING BUSINESS

Director's Report

Blake Tarr provided his monthly zoning report which included information on upcoming ZBA meetings.

Blake also advised of the progress on the demolition of the elevator on Rt. 48 noting it was good to finally see closure on this public safety issue.

A committee member asked about the process that occurs when zoning becomes aware that a building permit has not been secured. Blake advised that notice goes out to the property owner to obtain the permit.

SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

Solid Waste Director's Report

Shawn Hammers reviewed his monthly report which included inspection information, classroom education and information about 3 county owned roll off bins located in Decatur and status of a revised solid waste ordinance.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff Frye presented an Architectural Engineering agreement with Berners-Schober Associates, Inc. to update plans to rewire the Highway garage and the rear equipment storage building. These plans were prepared over 10 years ago but the project was shelved at the time due to the economy. Berners-Schober will resurvey the building to pick up any changes since the plans were completed. They will update the

plans to reflect their findings as well as update fixtures and any code changes. They will also provide project construction administration to include approving shop drawings, progress documentation, review pay estimates and perform a final punch list survey. The fee for these services is \$14,900 to update the plans and \$3,800 for construction administration for a total of \$18,700.

Motion by Jeff Nolen and second by David Buckles to recommend approval of the agreement with Berners-Schober Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$18,700 and to refer to Finance for full Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dwanna Kelmel gave her director report noting last month 1 cat was reclaimed with 2 cats and 3 farm cats being adopted. Twelve dogs were reclaimed and 1 passed away. She noted the St. Mary's youth group would like to paint a mural on the former incinerator shell. The group will provide a picture and all supplies. There will be no cost to the county. Dwanna also wanted to disconnect a cell phone that has not been used since June of 2022 currently costing \$61.00 per month.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by David Buckles to recommend to the full Board to allow the St. Mary's youth group to paint a mural on the former incinerator shell subject to the approval of the mural picture by Chairman Sharp. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Seth Foster to approve disconnecting a cell phone line with a current cost of \$61.00 per month that has not been in use subject to approval of the Finance Committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

AUTISTIC MOVEMENT PROJECT ARPA REQUEST

Bill Kennedy was asked by the committee last month to secure firm numbers on elevator cost options for the Autistic Movement Project location.

Bill provided information on various elevator types to include advantages and disadvantages. He feels that for \$190,000.00 to \$200,000.00 an elevator can be purchased and all other required work could be done.

Because of the cost of this project, the committee asked Erica Matthew if she would be able to sustain the project as it is a not for profit. She cited their funding was up and provided information on other groups that were seeking to use the facilities as well. Chairman Sharp noted that before moving forward with ARPA fund use, he would like to better evaluate where we stand on ARPA funds allocation.

Motion by Jeff Nolen and second by Seth Foster to recommend approving up to \$200,000.00 for an elevator for the Autistic Movement Project location and to refer the matter to the Executive/Personnel Committee but also subject to final ARPA allocation plan. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Window/HVAC Project Update

Bill Kennedy had really hoped the bid package would be ready for this meeting but feels certain it will be for the June meeting.

Boiler Update

The boiler is scheduled to ship on May 3rd and should be arriving any day. There will be some work to do after the old boiler comes out and before the new boiler is installed.

Animal Control Gate Update

The gate is ready as reported last month. We are waiting for Charles Samson to install it.

Solid Wastes/Zoning Roof Update

Bolash has completed the roofing project. Hopefully this will correct the leaking problem that was occurring on the west side wall. That will need to be monitored.

Health Department Building/Options

Bill advised that he and Dr. Anderson recently met with Brent DeMichael and toured the former Christian County Mental health Building. The building is in great shape and the set up would work well for the Health Department. The building is equivalent to the size of the current Health Department building but utilizes space efficiently. The cost per square foot is \$52.00. There would be minimal work that would need to be done if purchased and there is room to expand to the north and south should that ever be needed. At the current location there is no room for expansion. Dr. Anderson advised that the Health Board is recommending the purchase. Dr. Anderson provided a brief presentation.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by David Buckles to approve the purchase of the former Christian County Mental Health building subject to inspections, potentially using ARPA funds and to refer to the Executive/Personnel Committee for discussion. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

Chairman Sharp encouraged committee members to attend the Finance committee this month as we are anticipating health insurance proposals that will have a lot of information to absorb.

Motion by Jeff Nolen and second by David Buckles to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Specha, Acting Chairman
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning
Welfare Committee
05/08/2023