

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 4, 2021

The Cass County Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room. Present for the meeting were Ryan Browning, Mike Stajduhar, Ruth Baker, Attorney Jeff Stanton, and Auditor Cheryl Alcorn.

Ryan Browning opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

RE- ORGANIZATION OF OFFICERS -Ruth Baker made a motion of the following for slate of officers:

President Ryan Browning
Vice President Mike Stajduhar
Member Ruth Baker

Mike Stajduhar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ruth Baker made a motion to retain Jeff Stanton as County Attorney, Mike Stajduhar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES – Ryan Browning made a motion to approve the minutes, Mike Stajduhar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL- Mike Stajduhar made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented, Ruth Baker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CASS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Christy Householder appeared before the Commissioners with the economic development report for the month of December. Christy made two company industry visits, one business retention & expansion meeting, nineteen projects meetings with one lead.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Serenity Alter was administering COVID vaccines and was not available to present monthly report. Report will be presented during the February meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – Dave Hicks appeared before the Commissioners with the Highway Department report for December. Department had two and a half days of snow operations during the month of December.

Dave requested approval of Construction Inspection Agreement for phase 4 of the 400 S Project. Lochmueller has been selected to complete the overall project, a separate contract agreement is required for this portion of the project with amount not to exceed \$383,990. Ruth Baker made a motion to approve contract agreement as presented, Mike Stajduhar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave requested approval of preliminary engineering agreement for improvements to roads in the Clymers Agri-Business Park, costs not to exceed \$458,425. Two grant applications are pending for the project cost. Ruth Baker made a motion to approve engineering agreement as presented upon review by County Attorney, Mike Stajduhar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave requested approval of Jutte Excavating for bridge demolition located on old CR 600 E over Wabash River for the sum of \$648,750. Plans and specifications of the project were prepared by USI Consultants. Mike Stajduhar made a motion to approve Jutte Excavating for bridge demolition as presented, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PARK DEPARTMENT – Dana Hildebrand appeared before the Commissioners and presented the Park’s year end results. The park brought in an estimated \$660,000 for 2020 in the following categories:

Gate Fees/Season Passes	\$228,497
Electric Camping	\$180,718
Primitive Camping	\$66,060
Long Term Camping	\$62,750
Cabin/Building Rental	\$8,222
Sleepy Hollow Event	\$3,100
Firewood	\$27,412
Camp Store	\$38,791
Concession	\$21,021
Disc Golf	\$4,396
Divers Den	\$4,885
Other	\$14,242

Dana requested approval to increase the rates on holiday weekends from \$25 to \$30 per day and increase the annual fee to \$2,000. Mike Stajduhar made a motion to approve the request to increase park fees during holidays to \$30 and annual fee to \$2,000, Ruth Baker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST POLICY – Ruth Baker introduced the creation of policy regarding records requested by the public. Jeff Stanton is drafting a policy giving direction of how requests will be handled by a designated county employee. The policy will streamline the process in fulfilling requests in a more time efficient matter. Jeff Stanton is in discussion with the Public Access Counselor in creating this policy.

OPEN MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY – Ruth Baker introduced the creation of a policy to be more transparent and more efficient by limiting comments to agenda items and allowing three minutes per comment. Jeff Stanton has been in contact with the Public Access Counselor in preparing a policy regarding public comment.

APPOINTMENTS – The following individuals were appointed:

Alcoholic Beverage Board	Tim Young	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
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Cass County Animal Control Board	Kathy Patty	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Roger Kunkle	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Shari Deardorff	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Cass County Building Corporation	Gary Berkshire	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Claude Bailey	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	James Donato	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
E-911 Dispatch Governing Board	Ryan Browning		BVOO
Cass County Fire District Board	Mike Sims	3 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-23
	Dave Patty	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Jeff Asselin	2 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-22
Cass County Plan Commission	Fred Seehase	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
	Ruth Baker		BVOO
	Stacy Odom	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Gary Berkshire	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Cass/Pulaski Corrections Board	Mike Stajduhar	2 yrs.	1-1-21 to 12-31-22
County Economic Development Board	Ruth Baker	4 yrs.	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
Convention, Visitor, Tourism Commission	Kendell McGuire	3 yrs.	1-1-21 to 12-31-23
Council on Aging	Mike Stajduhar	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Redevelopment Commission	Ruth Baker		BVOO
	Dave Arnold	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Ryan Zeck	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
EMA Advisory Council	Jeff Smith	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
	Phil Rains	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Board of Health	Megan Long	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
	Chris Ciotta	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Hospital Board	Tom Lane	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
	Dr. Jessica McClintock	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
Indiana Homeland Security District 4	Ryan Browning		BVOO

Industrial Park Board	Mike Stajduhar Arden Cramer	1 yr	BVOO 1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Joint Plan Commission	Ruth Baker		BVOO
Logansport Library Board	Jenny Kistler	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
Royal Center/Boone Twp Library Board	Richard Cottrell	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
Walton/Tipton Twp Library Board	Matt Benner	4 yrs	1-1-21 to 12-31-24
Logansport Plan Commission	Ruth Baker	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Northcentral Indiana Economic Devlp.	Ruth Baker Christy Householder Mayor Chris Martin	1 yr 1 yr 1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21 1-1-21 to 12-31-21 1-1-21 to 12-31-21
PTABOA Board	Dave Schiever Dave Patty	1 yr 1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21 1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Sick Bank	Ryan Browning		BVOO
Region Four Workforce Devlp. Board	Mike Stajduhar	1 yr	1-1-21 to 12-31-21
Transportation Advisory Committee	Mike Stajduhar		BVOO
Memorial Home Board	Mike Stajduhar		BVOO

Mike Stajduhar made a motion to approve appointments as read, Ruth Baker seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Ryan Browning stated public comments limited to three minutes with ten minutes limit overall and comments limited to agenda items.

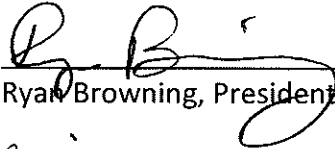
Maximo Gutierrez, 2716 CR 375 W, Logansport – Do the commissioners discuss his family? Hopefully you will do something about this, this is just not fair.

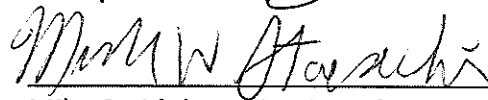
Jim Brugh, 1315 E Market, Logansport – Will contact public access counselor regarding the creation of a public comment policy.

Lora Redweik, 5524 N CR 600 E, Twelve Mile - Welcome the new commissioners and look forward to changes. Consider what conversation will be limited when creating the new public comment policy. Concerns of new public records request policy and how it is going to be played out.

Bridget Davis, 909 S Cicott, Logansport - What is it that you know, that we don't know. I want you to convince me that the plant will not harm our children.

ADJOURNMENT – Ruth Baker made a motion to adjourn, Mike Stajduhar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.


Ryan Browning, President


Mike Stajduhar, Vice President


Ruth Baker, Member

ATTEST: 
Cheryl Acorn, Auditor