

UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – JANUARY 22, 2018

PRESENT: Paul Wiwi, David Woeste, Marissa Lane, Jim Crouch, Dale Dishmond, Shaun Tudor, Chris Rosenberger, Richard Blank, Jenny Brown, Jeff Adams, Daniel Taylor, and Gene Sanford.

Wiwi called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Woeste moved to approve the minutes of the January 8th meeting. Wiwi seconded the motion and it carried 2-0.

SPECIAL PURPOSE INCOME TAX: County Attorney James Williams was present to discuss changes in the 2005 statute which created a special tax of .0025 for Union County to renovate the Courthouse. He gave a history of the tax which was refinanced in 2105. The tax is generating more money than is needed to pay the bonds for the Courthouse restoration, so he is proposing to hire Rick Hall from Barnes and Thornburg as a lobbyist to have the legislature change the statute to allow the funds to be used to finance, construct, acquire, improve, renovate, equip or operate the Courthouse, jail, or any other county facility. It also would allow funds remaining at the termination of the tax to be transferred to the Rainy Day Fund rather than the Highway department. These changes would not increase the tax and the \$20,000 needed to hire the lobbyist could be paid from this fund. There is currently over \$1,100,000 in the fund with the bond repayment being less than \$200,000 per year. After some discussion, Woeste moved to have Williams proceed with the proposed legislative changes. Wiwi seconded the motion and it carried 2-0.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAX: Wayne Norris appeared to speak against a food and beverage tax for Union County. Some discussion followed, but the Commissioners indicated they were not inclined to pursue the tax at this time.

ARIS: Warren McDonald and Tom Gents of the ARIS Group who handles the county's voluntary benefits packages were present to address the concerns brought before the Board by the AFLAC representative in December. They denied the allegations of misrepresenting AFLAC and hoped to continue providing coverage for Union County employees. After some discussion, the Commissioners decided to proceed and address the issue at Open Enrollment if necessary.

EASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION: The Auditor presented names for consideration for appointment to the Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. Woeste moved to appoint Alan Alcorn, Melissa Browning, J.T. Benitez, and Keith Bias to the Board. Wiwi seconded the motion and it carried 2-0.

MEDICAL INSURANCE CHANGE: After some discussion, Woeste moved to re-instate the facility claim at 80% for the employee medical insurance coverage instead of 50%. This had been unknowingly changed in a prior year policy and needed to be corrected under the current policy. Wiwi seconded the motion and it carried 2-0.

FINANCE BOARD: Wiwi convened the Finance Board and Treasurer Linda Rosenberger presented the Annual Financial Report for 2017. Short discussion followed, with the Commissioners satisfied with the financial standing of the county.

MISC: The Commissioners signed a letter supporting the 2018-2019 Community Corrections budget proposal. The Commissioners decided to get more quotes for door replacements at the Annex Building.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Attest _____, Auditor