

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2021.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, December 21, 2021. Commissioners Bill Collins, Randy Thornburg, and Bryan Schorr were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Mark McDonald led the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the minutes from December 7, 2021; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the claims as presented; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLERK'S REPORT

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the November Clerk's report; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the November Treasurer's report; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

PROPERTY/CASUALTY/LIABILITY INSURANCE PROPOSALS

B. Collins stated the Commissioners received proposals from both Schultheis and Epic Insurance, and those were opened at the previous Commissioners meeting.

B. Collins made a motion to accept the proposal from Shuletheis Insurance with the increased deductible and added enhanced cyber security; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-1, with R. Thornburg voting against this motion.

EMS BILLING ORDINANCE

Chris Neaveill, Posey County EMS Director, stated the current billing rates had not been updated since 2014. Mr. Neaveill stated his advisory board has reviewed the proposed ordinance and rate increases and have approved those increases.

B. Schorr made a motion to waive the final reading of this ordinance; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the 2022 EMS Billing Rate ordinance as presented; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Posey County attorney, Joe Harrison, stated this would be published in the newspaper 30 days prior to new rates taking effect.

POSEY COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK ORDINANCE

Personnel Handbook Committee representative, Nancy Hoehn, informed the Commissioners that Mr. Harrison had sent out the updated and revised handbook ordinance to the Commissioners to review. Mrs. Hoehn stated this also includes the vacation table to be included in the ordinance.

R. Thornburg made a motion to waive the final reading of this ordinance; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the revised handbook as presented; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, addressed the Commissioners regarding an interlocal agreement with the Vanderburgh County Sheriff. Sheriff Latham stated this is a 5-year agreement to house an average of 50 inmates, as long as the Posey County Jail staffing is

adequate. Sheriff Latham stated Vanderburgh would be responsible for transporting to and from Vanderburgh County, including any hospital transports.

B. Schorr asked if the manpower was there, could more than 50 be brought in? Sheriff Latham stated yes. Sheriff Latham stated he is now down three jailers.

R. Thornburg asked if the pay is the issue for keeping jailers? Sheriff Latham stated, yes, this is an employees market. R. Thornburg asked what the pay for Posey County is in comparison to Gibson and Pike Counties. Sheriff Latham stated Posey is the second-lowest in the surrounding Counties.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

WESTERN BYPASS/COUNTRYMARK AGREEMENT

B. Collins stated the Commissioners had received a second amendment to the agreement with CountryMark regarding the Western Bypass Project. Mr. Collins stated this amendment shows an increase in the original cost to the County.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this agreement; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

BROADBAND

Jenna Richardt, with Posey County Economic Development Partnership and EREP, addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing broadband projects within the County. Mrs. Richardt stated Commissioner Schorr and Councilmember Miller attended a meeting with Charter/Spectrum broadband regarding a project they were awarded grant funding for through RDOF. Mrs. Richardt stated these funds would help Charter/Spectrum upgrade current technology of 13.4 miles of existing services and also add new service areas. Mrs. Richardt stated there would be more information to come, including a media release from Spectrum/Charter.

Jeremy Elrod, with Morley, addressed the Commissioners regarding the Mainstream Project. Mr. Elrod stated they are still looking at the 1st quarter construction start date around February 22, 2022. Mr. Elrod stated Mainstream is finishing up an agreement with CenterPoint and are completing their Vanderburgh project. Mr. Elrod stated Mainstream had secured a drop yard in the Poseyville area in preparation for deployment.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham gave the following housing inmate:

35 Vanderburgh County Inmates

25 DOC

73 Posey County Inmates

133 Total inmates

\$44,475.00 was taken in from the Treasurer of Vanderburgh County.

Sheriff Latham stated Deputy Hicks will be arriving back in Evansville tonight for a procedure and will be here for several weeks.

Donnie Martin, with the Posey County Health Department, stated the County would be in the red category for COVID classification again this week. Mr. Martin stated there were 38 new cases yesterday, a 14.8% positivity rate and 55% vaccination rate.

Steve Schenk, Posey County Highway Superintendent, stated work has begun on the bridge on Broadway. Mr. Schenk stated he is talking with the State on several bridges that are on the historical list to see what options the County has.

Commissioner Randy Thornburg gave the following Workforce Development update:

Unemployment:

U.S:4.6%

Indiana: 3.3%

Vanderburgh County: 2.7%

Pike County: 2.4%

Perry County: 2.2%

Knox County: 2.1 %

Warrick County: 2.0%
Posey County: 1.9%
Gibson County: 1.8%
Dubois County: 1.6%

5 top areas affected:

1. Manufacturing
2. Construction
3. Retail Trade
4. Food Services
5. Administrative Support

5 Occupations Frequently Listed Jobs:

1. RN
2. Human Resources
3. Nurse Assistant
4. LPN
5. Customer Service Representatives


Maegen Greenwell, Posey County Auditor, stated State Board of Accounts is currently conducting a 2019 and 2020 audit of Posey County.

B. Collins stated Department Heads need to get their disaster plans turned into Larry Robb as discussed in a current meeting.

No further business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned.



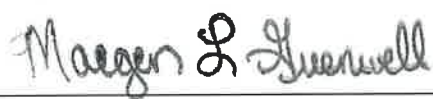
Bill Collins



Randy Thornburg



Randy Thornburg



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell