

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, August 17, 2021. Commissioners Carl Schmitz, Bill Collins, and Randy Thornburg were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Pastor Rick Sellers lead the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the August 17, 2021 Commissioners minutes; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

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

CLERK'S REPORT

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the July Clerk's report; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

REASSESSMENT BIDS

B. Collins stated the Commissioners received one bid, from Tyler Technologies, in the amount of \$302,824.00. Posey County Assessor, Nancy Hoehn, stated this is a four-year agreement with a 75,706.00 per year payment. Mrs. Hoehn stated Tyler Technology helps the County with several aspects of reassessment that are required by the State. R. Thornburg made a motion to approve; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR CONTRACT

Posey County EMS Director, Chris Neaveill, presented the contract for the new EMS Medical Director to the Commissioners. Mr. Neaveill stated the contract with Doctor Gilbert is for the same dollar amount as the last director, and they will not need any further funds. Mr. Neaveill stated this contract had been reviewed by the County Attorney. R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this contract; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0. Mr. Neaveill stated he has one paramedic spot open that he is trying to fill.

COVID SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PHASE 2

B. Collins stated the Commissioners received the list of applicants for the remainder of the COVID Small Business Grant Phase 2 funds. C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the list of applicants; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

ASSET TRACKING

Maegen Greenwell, Posey County Auditor, addressed the Commissioners regarding a proposal to hire an asset-tracking consultant for Posey County. Mrs. Greenwell stated the County, to comply with the State Board of Accounts, must implement an asset-tracking program before next year. Mrs. Greenwell stated the consultant would create the initial database, and the Auditor's office will maintain the database. Mrs. Greenwell stated the cost would be \$6,000.00 with \$2,000.00 paid as a down payment, \$2,000.00 to be paid when the project is approved, and \$2,000.00 to be paid when the project is handed over.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this request; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

POSEY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION

Posey County Fair Association President, Jake Mcginnis, addressed the Commissioners regarding the Posey County Fair Association. Mr. Mcginnis thanked the County for the support of the 2021 Posey County Fair. Mr. Mcginnis stated the 2021 Fair brought in roughly 15,000 patrons to the fairgrounds. Mr. Mcginnis stated the Fair Association manages and maintains 48.5 acres of the fairgrounds, and they also oversee the management of the Posey County Community Events Center board and building. Mr. Mcginnis explained that in 2020 the Posey County Fair

Association received and began operating under its own 501(C3) status, and this is a change from being previously under the Purdue umbrella of non-profit status. Mr. McGennis stated with the 2020 pandemic, event rental loss due to cancelations, and the cost of needed upkeep and improvements during that time, they estimate a loss of \$173,000.00. Mr. McGennis stated over the last five years; the Board has seen \$130,000.00 in improvements with \$150,000.00 in grant money.

Mr. McGennis explained the long-term plan of the fairgrounds is to replace three buildings, including the livestock buildings.

PCEDP/EREP BOARD APPOINTMENT

C. Schmitz stated he is resigning from the PCEP and EREP Board effective immediately. C. Schmitz made a motion to appoint Bill Collins to replace himself; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

B. Collins stated the Commissioners recently advertised the position of Veteran Service Officer. Mr. Collins stated they received one resume, and he recently interviewed John Dike for the position. Mr. Collins stated Mr. Dike met the requirements for the job. R. Thornburg made a motion to appoint John Dike as the Veteran Service Officer; C. Schmitz seconded. The Commissioners thanked Dave Sharber for his years of service to the Veterans of Posey County. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

COVID SICK PAY POLICY

B. Collins stated the County discontinued the COVID Sick Pay policy at the end of 2020, but with the resurgent of the newest strain of COVID, it has been brought back to their attention. R. Thornburg stated if the County is asking someone not to work, they should be paid. R. Thornburg made a motion to reinstate the COVID Sick Pay Policy. Mrs. Greenwell asked what they would like the policy to say. Posey County Commissioner Attorney, Joe Harrison, stated the Commissioners should work with Council to form a new policy. B. Collins stated he would be ok with a policy similar to the last one, with a cap of 80 hours and backdated to September 1, 2021. Mr. Collins stated if employees can work from home, they should be urged to do so. Mrs. Greenwell stated if the Commissioners backdate the policy to September 1, Department Heads would have to let the payroll deputy know. R. Thornburg made a motion to implement a new COVID Sick Pay Policy, backdated to September 1, 2021, for a full-time employee who is sick or close contact, will be paid up to 80 hours; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0. Mr. Harrison stated he would put a policy together for signatures at the next Commissioners meeting.

HOVEY HOUSE

B. Collins stated the Commissioners had talked several times regarding the need to hire a structural engineer to address concerns with the third floor of the Hovey House. R. Thornburg stated he has looked at it but cannot tell if it is structural or cosmetic issues. Mr. Harrison stated the Commissioners would have to have an agreement with a company for the analysis. B. Collins made a motion to move forward and contact a structural engineer and present an agreement at the next Commissioners meeting; C. Schmitz seconded. Mr. Collins asked if Mr. Thornburg could get that together. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Steve Schenk, Posey County Highway Superintendent, informed the Commissioners they would begin paving soon with the Community Crossing Grant funds. Mr. Schenk stated work on the Broadway Road bridge would begin construction in the next couple of weeks.

Posey County Sheriff Chief Deputy, Jeremy Fortune, gave the following housing update:

16 DOC
32 Vanderburgh
88 Posey County
136 Total

Mr. Fortune stated VEI had replaced antennas on several vehicles that were not the proper hardware. Mr. Fortune stated there are two cars left to replace.

Mr. Harrison stated the Commissioners previously signed a lease agreement with the town of New Harmony for the use of a sheriff's vehicle. Mr. Harrison stated the insurance company was covering the cost of the lease from Posey County; however, that benefit has expired. Mr. Harrison presented the Commissioners with a new lease agreement in the amount of \$1.00 to allow New Harmony to continue using the vehicle until a new one can be delivered to them. R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this lease agreement; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

C. Schmitz stated he is in favor of securing funding to procure body cameras for all Posey County Deputies. Mr. Schmitz stated 34 cameras cover all of the deputies and jail staff, and the cost would be \$199,000.00. B. Collins asked if there would be grant money available for this. Mr. Fortune stated they have looked at grants, but their department does not qualify for most.

R. Thornburg gave the following Workforce Development update:

Unemployment:

United States 5.4%

Vanderburgh 4.4%

Pike 4.1%

Knox 3.5%

Perry 2.5%

Warrick 3.3%

POCO 3.2%

Gibson 3.1%

Spencer 3.1%

Dubois 3.7%

Top industries affected:

Manufacturing

Retail

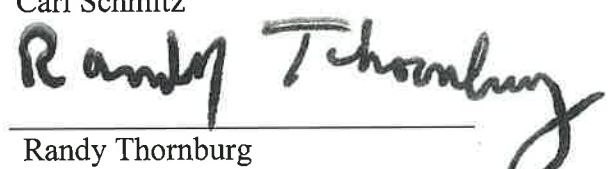
Administration

Food Services

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



Bill Collins

Carl Schmitz


Randy Thornburg



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell