

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. Commissioners Bill Collins, Randy Thornburg, and Bryan Schorr were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Prosecutor, Thomas Clowers, led the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the minutes from December 6, 2022; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0, with B. Collins abstaining.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the executive session minutes from December 20, 2022; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0, with B. Collins abstaining.

CLAIMS

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

EMS/SHERIFF YEARLY FUEL BID AWARDED

B. Collins stated that the award of fuel bids for the EMS and Sheriff Departments were tabled at the last meeting.

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, stated he had reviewed bids with the EMS Director, and they would like to recommend the Commissioners award the fuel bids for these two departments to Synergy, which was the low bid for gasoline.

B. Schorr made a motion to award the 2023 fuel bids for the Posey County Sheriff's office and the Posey County EMS department to Synergy; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

AREA PLAN BOARD REPLACEMENT

B. Collins stated there is an open board position that needs to be filled for the Area Plan but would like to table this appointment.

WESTERN BYPASS RIGHT-OF-WAY PURCHASE OFFERS

County Attorney, Joe Harrison, stated the Commissioners have the following six right-of-way land purchase offers to consider for the Western Bypass project:

- 4900 Industrial Road
- .4 miles NW of Bellefontaine Road
- 5490 Lower New Harmony Road
- West side of Lower New Harmony Road and South of Bellefontaine Cemetery Road
- 5442 Lower New Harmony Road
- 5460 Lower New Harmony Road

B. Collins made a motion to authorize the offers; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

MIDWEST FERTILIZER LETTER OF SUPPORT

B. Collins stated he was contacted by Midwest Fertilizer asking for the Commissioners to compose a letter of support needed for a USDA grant they are applying for regarding this project.

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

2023 COUNTY LIABILITY INSURANCE

Andy Weintraut, with Schultheis Insurance, addressed the Commissioners regarding the 2023 policy. Mr. Weintraut stated there would be a 3% increase in vehicle insurance, a 5% increase in earthquake coverage, and a 9% decrease in bond costs.

MORLEY/BROADBAND UPDATE

Cody Simpson with Morley spoke with the Commissioners regarding several updates with the Mainstream broadband project. Mr. Simpson stated section one is nearly complete. Mr. Simpson stated he had met with the Highway Superintendent and Mainstream regarding the dumping of debris. Mr. Simpson stated he is confident this will be taken care of.

B. Collins stated he had several complaints regarding low-hanging lines during construction. Mr. Simpson stated that is typical during construction, and they will be pulled tight once completed. Mr. Simpson stated he would follow up and keep an eye on this, though.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Tom Latham, Posey County Sheriff, gave the following inmate housing update:

82 Posey County inmates
9 IDOC
20 Vanderburgh County inmates
111 Total inmates

Sheriff Latham stated he took in \$33,525.00 in November.

Sheriff Latham is requesting the Commissioners allow Jail Commander Mark Pharr to roll over 224 unused vacation time from 2022 to 2023. R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this request. B. Schorr asked if there was a limit placed on this when discussed last year. M. Greenwell, Posey County Auditor, stated she was unsure but would look at the handbook. R. Thornburg amended the original motion to follow what the County handbook states. B. Schorr seconded. B. Collins asked if he would consider being paid out instead. Sheriff Latham stated he could not speak for Mr. Pharr but assumed so. Mrs. Greenwell stated this would have to be a policy written for this. B. Collins stated he is open to looking at this at the beginning of the year, but there is a motion to follow the current handbook for this situation.

The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Sheriff Tom Latham informed the Commissioners that currently, the handbook is written to allow for benefit time to be paid out to employees that have been terminated, and he would like the Commissioners to look into changing this policy. Mrs. Greenwell stated the handbook states if the employee is terminated with just cause, the time does not have to be paid out; however, the precedent has been that the County pays out benefit time. Mr. Collins stated he would like to look into this policy.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, stated with the pending weather, he may be asking for vacation time for some of his employees to be carried over. Mr. Schenk stated this had happened before with December storms.

Carrie Thompson, with Posey County EMA, addressed the Commissioners regarding the CodeRed system that is used. Mrs. Thompson stated she is working on updating the County employee distribution list that is used strictly to communicate with County employees.

Paul Micheletti, Posey County EMS Director, addressed the Commissioners regarding the vacation policy and how it affects the EMS department. Mr. Micheletti requests the Commissioners to look at a payout option on vacation time.

B. Collins recognized Posey County Recorder Mary Rhoades, who has been a County employee for 15 years and an elected official for 11. Mr. Collins stated Mrs. Rhoades was retiring and thanked her for her years of service to the County.

B. Collins recognized Posey County Commissioner Randy Thornburg for his eight years of service to the County as a Commissioner.

Commissioner Randy Thornburg thanked the Community for allowing him to serve as a Commissioner.

B. Collins stated Greg Newman would be joining the Commissioners in January.

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, stated the first meeting in January would be Wednesday, January 4th.

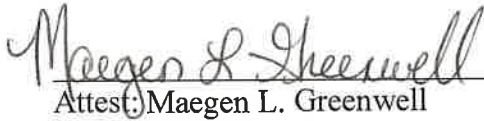


Bill Collins

Randy Thornburg



Bryan Schorr



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell