

## **POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Wednesday, November 8, 2023. Commissioners Bill Collins, Bryan Schorr, and Greg Newman were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Pastor Rick Gooden led the Commissioners in prayer.

### **MINUTES**

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the October 17, 2023, Commissioners meeting minutes; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **CLAIMS**

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

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

G. Newman made a motion to approve the October Treasurer's report; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the September Clerk's report; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **AMBULANCE BIDS AWARDED**

B. Collins stated the Commissioners received two bids that were opened at the October 17, 2023, Commissioners meeting and were tabled to allow for the Posey County EMS Director and his ambulance review committee to review.

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti informed the Commissioner that American Response Vehicles were the low acceptable bid with a total of \$235,925.82.

G. Newman made a motion to accept the bid from American Response Vehicles for a total of \$235,925.82; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **HANDBOOK CLARIFICATION EMS**

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti informed the Commissioners that the current handbook states that when an employee leaves, they are entitled to half of their sick time; however, not specified is what that amount was. Mr. Micheletti stated he would like to have clarification regarding EMS that one sick day equals 24 hours. Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated the handbook does say the cap for sick time payout is 240. Mrs. Greenwell stated specifying that one sick day equals 24 hours for EMS will help with further interpretation. B. Schorr made a motion to allow Joe Harrison to draft an ordinance to include this language in the current handbook; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **POSEY SOLAR ROAD USE AGREEMENT**

Josh Chaves, with Arevon, addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing Posey Solar project. Mr. Chaves stated he has been in contact with BLN to create and finalize the road use agreement with Posey County for this project. Mr. Chaves stated that with those conversations, there was an amendment to exhibit two in the agreement that takes the total miles from 23 to 14 miles. Mr. Chaves stated that road repairs have gone from 3.7 million to 2.3 million and a total lump sum of 4.14 million in security bond for the road use agreement.

Joe Harrison, Posey County Attorney, informed the Commissioners that he had reviewed the agreement and had spoken with BLN, and the agreement is to standards. B. Collins asked the

highway superintendent, Steve Schenk if he had reviewed it. Mr. Schenk informed Mr. Chaves of a few further requirements that he would need.

Mr. Harrison asked if Arevon would be filing the permit requests. Mr. Chaves stated yes.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the road use agreement; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

B. Collins stated the Commissioners were provided with a tentative 2024 Holiday schedule to approve. Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that the format used matched previous years and followed the State of Indiana's format.

G. Newman made a motion to approve the 2024 Holiday schedule; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **2024 COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE**

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the 2024 Commissioners meeting dates that were presented;

G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **E911 FIREWALL**

Posey County EMS Director, Jamie Bradford, informed the Commissioners that through recent work being done, it was discovered that the current firewall software being used at the dispatch building was causing an issue with internet speed. Mrs. Bradford stated she has been working with Astound, IT Resources, and AOS to address these issues, and they are in the process of purchasing new firewall software. Mrs. Bradford stated the expected cost is \$42,000.00; however, she expects it to be slightly less.

B. Collins asked if this was in the budget currently to address swiftly. Mrs. Greenwell stated it is not currently budgeted; however, this would constitute emergency work, and she has instructed Mrs. Bradford to proceed. and they will be working together to address the Council in December with an additional appropriation.

B. Schorr asked if this is a firewall for the entire County. Mrs. Greenwell stated no, the system at dispatch is not connected to the rest of the County.

B. Schorr made a motion to proceed with this emergency work with an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **ONGOING E911 ISSUES**

Jamie Bradford, Posey County Dispatch Director, informed the Commissioners that last week, while J&K was in-house attempting to fix issues with the temporary radio fix in the northern end of the County, several issues were uncovered with equipment and software regarding the previous vendor. Mrs. Bradford stated that J&K worked with VEI, the previous vendor, to correct the issues. Mrs. Bradford stated this fix uncovered further issues with the routers, and those are in the process of being replaced. Mrs. Bradford stated that the department is currently up and running on several patched routers, with a permanent fix scheduled for this week. Mrs. Bradford stated J&K has worked very hard to rectify all the issues.

#### **J&K CONTRACT**

B. Collins stated that Joe Harrison had reviewed the contract. B. Schorr stated that the requested 10% retainage was included.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the J&K Contract; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **NEW TOWER LOCATION**

G. Newman stated that progress is being made on finalizing the new tower site, and the Commissioners are in contact with the landowners to finalize location details. B. Collins stated

that the Commissioners are in contact with CenterPoint in regard to the promised donation for this project. Mr. Collins stated the promised amount was up to \$220,000.00 for the new tower.

#### **ROAD VACATION 2<sup>ND</sup> WEST STREET**

John Petrig, Posey County resident, stated that he is seeking a road vacation of a portion of 2<sup>nd</sup> West Street in Blairsville. Mr. Harrison gave instructions for Mr. Petrig to accomplish this task.

#### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk stated that paving has been completed for the year. Mr. Schenk stated that Bridge 211 is moving along.

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti gave the following report:

229 requests

180 transports

\$175,000.00 taken in.

Mr. Micheletti stated that two EMT positions have been filled, and they are still down one medic.

Cody Simpson, with Morley, stated that Morley has been out and inspected sections two, three, and four, and the final report on these sections will be out later this week and provided to the Commissioners. Mr. Simpson stated that sections one and eight are still being addressed by Mainstream. Mr. Simpson stated segments five through ten are all in progress, and permits have been issued. Mr. Simpson stated that after meeting with Mainstream, it was discovered that Mainstream had been granted an extension with the State of Indiana through January 21, 2024.

Zach Stevens with Mainstream addressed the Commissioners regarding the requested change order allowing for additional buried footage on segments nine and ten. Mr. Stevens stated the change order would be for an additional \$72,678.90.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the change order presented by Mainstream with funding to come from ARPA; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham gave the following inmate housing report:

34 Vanderburgh

19 IDOC

98 POCO

151 total

\$37,275.00

Mr. Latham stated he would like to publicly commend Jamie Bradford for the job well done with the recent radio and dispatch issues.

G. Newman stated he would like to thank everyone involved in the recent landscaping project that took place at the Courthouse.

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, asked the Commissioners for permission to allow the County offices that are able to do so, to close for an hour and a half on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to allow for offices to celebrate Christmas lunch together. G. Newman made a motion to allow for this request; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mrs. Greenwell stated that it was recently discovered that when using the electronic time-clock software, not all employees sign off on their time using the employee approval function. Mrs. Greenwell stated this would only protect both the employees and the County if disputes should occur. Mrs. Greenwell is asking the Commissioners to put in place a policy that addresses the need for employee approval, along with manager approval in the system, prior to the payroll being processed.

A few questions arose regarding timing and potential technical difficulties that could arise. It was also stated some departments already do this via paper. Commissioners asked Mrs. Greenwell if this could be discussed further, and more communication sent regarding this procedure.

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

Maegen L. Greenwell

Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell

Bill Collins

Bill Collins

Bryan Schorr

Bryan Schorr

Greg Newman

Greg Newman