

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Commissioners Bill Collins, Greg Newman, and Bryan Schorr were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Pastor Rick Sellers led the Commissioners in prayer.

Pastor Sellers informed the Commissioners that May 2, 2024, would be National Day of Prayer. Mr. Sellers stated there would be a service at First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon.

MINUTES

G. Newman made a motion to approve the minutes from January 17, 2024; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

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

CLERK'S REPORT

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

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners tabled the discussion at the last meeting regarding the ordinance allowing tuition reimbursement for the EMS department. B. Collins questioned whether the employee would sign the commitment prior to starting school or after the completion of school. Joe Harrison, Posey County attorney, stated that the commitment is signed after the completion of school. Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti stated that the time would start once the employee has completed the program, taken the state exam, and started working with Posey County as a paramedic. B. Collins questioned what would happen if the employee completed the classes and left. Paul Micheletti stated that Posey County is not paying the employees until the classes are completed and they are licensed as a paramedic. G. Newman made a motion to approve the Tuition Reimbursement Program for EMS and to wave the second reading; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

UNUSED VACATION TIME

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham stated that this matter was discussed in the previous meeting and taken under advisement to be discussed further. B. Schorr stated that vacation is to be used, but the County, over the years, has allowed the rolling of vacation hours and has allowed a large bank of vacation. B. Schorr suggested allowing the roll of vacation hours to the following year, with the stipulation that the time has to be used in the first quarter of the year. B. Schorr stated

that this solution would eliminate Posey County from paying out vacation that should have been used years prior when an employee leaves or retires at a much higher rate. B. Collins stated that there needs to be a limit for the carried-over, and that should be used in the next year. B. Collins suggested that if the time is not used, it be paid out. Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell asked if Mr. Collins means for vacation to be carried over and paid out in an emergency situation, on an employee-by-employee basis, or for this to be a policy for everyone. Mr. Collins stated that it would be for an emergency situation. Mr. Collins stated the Commissioners need to decide how far to let the time carry over before it is paid out or used. Mr. Schorr stated that the employee in question has weeks of vacation that has been rolled over from previous years. Mr. Schorr stated that if the time is rolled over, it will not be used, and they might as well pay out the hours. Mr. Collins questioned how many weeks the employee had to carry over. Sheriff Latham stated that he estimates it to be around four weeks extra. Mrs. Greenwell stated that if approved to carry over, the employee would carry over 328 hours from 2023. Mrs. Greenwell stated that the employee would have 480 hours to be used in 2024, including what will be accrued in 2024. Mr. Schorr stated that is 41 days. Mr. Collins suggested allowing two weeks of vacation to be carried over and used in the first quarter and to pay out what is not used at the end of the quarter. G. Newman stated that this would only be in an emergency situation. Mr. Collins questioned if Sheriff Latham was okay with that. Sheriff Latham stated he believes it would be beneficial to pay out unused vacation. Sheriff Latham stated that doing so would likely save the County money in the long run by not paying someone overtime to cover the vacation time. Mr. Collins stated that this would allow the employee to use the hours or be paid out. Mr. Schorr questioned if the employee would lose anything over the two weeks that they had not taken. Mr. Collins stated that the employee would be paid for any vacation time beyond those two weeks that they are not able to carry over. Mr. Schorr stated that the time would need to be approved by the Commissioners. Mr. Collins stated that the time should be recommended by the department head and agreed that the time should be approved by the Commissioners. Mr. Schorr suggested an ordinance be drafted. B. Collins made a motion to table this discussion to the next meeting with an ordinance drafted; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Sheriff Latham stated that there was also confusion regarding two deputies who earned extra time last year, and they were unaware and were also unable to use that time last year. Mrs. Greenwell stated that a few years ago, it was discussed and decided with the handbook committee and the Commissioners that if an employee is earning an extra week, it would be granted on the anniversary of the hire date. Mr. Schorr asked when the extra week would be granted. Sheriff Latham stated one was in September, and the other was in October. Mrs. Greenwell stated that moving forward, employees who will be granted an extra week of vacation will be receiving an email to their County email address, letting them know when that will be granted. Mrs. Greenwell stated, for example, that thirteen employees will be receiving an extra week this year. Mr. Harrision stated that the ordinance will cover this instance because the ordinance will allow the Commissioners to make these decisions. Mr. Collins stated that the Commissioners will discuss this at the next meeting with the ordinance.

PRINTER CONTRACT/PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that most printers within the County are now all on one contract with Alpha Laser. Mrs. Greenwell stated that with the moves being made with the Probation offices, she would like to bring the printers within that department under the same

contract with the rest of the County. Mrs. Greenwell stated that this move would bring all of the departments within the same contract. B. Schorr made a motion to approve this request; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CARTWRIGHT SUBDIVISION

B. Collins stated that this resolution is to accept the roads within Cartwright Subdivision as County Roads. Mr. Harrison stated these roads have been inspected by the Highway Department and are up to the standards of that department.

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

CLERK CONSULTING CONTRACT

Posey County Attorney Joe Harrison stated this agreement is to terminate the Clerk's current contract with Malanoski. Mr. Harrsion stated the Clerk and the Probation offices are switching from Malanoski to Dossett for consulting needs.

B. Collins made a motion to terminate the current contract as requested; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

EMA SURPLUS

Posey County EMA Director Carrie Thompson provided the Commissioners with a list of items that need to be approved as surplus in order to remove the items from her storage area. Mrs. Thompson stated those items included old metal desks and furniture. G. Newman made a motion to approve this request; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

MORLEY CONTRACT

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners need to extend the current contract with Morley for overseeing the broadband project with Mainstream. Mr. Collins stated that Mainstream has agreed to reimburse the County the cost for the additional contract time with Morley.

B. Schorr made a motion to accept the contract agreement with the understanding that the cost would be reimbursed by Mainstream; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

SHERIFF OVERTIME POLICY CHANGE

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners spoke regarding this issue at the last meeting, but they have since had several questions arise regarding the policy. Mr. Collins stated that the ordinance states overtime will be paid for responding to emails. Mr. Collins stated that emails should not constitute an emergency and that emergencies should be handled as phone calls. Sheriff Latham stated he would agree.

The Commissioners tabled this discussion until the next meeting.

TOWER AGREEMENT

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners have a license and use agreement to consider for the new tower that will be in place for the radio project. Mr. Harrison stated he has reviewed the agreement. G. Newman made a motion to approve this agreement; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

BUILDING CLOSURE

B. Collins stated that it was brought to the Commissioner's attention that they should consider closing the County administrative buildings to help eliminate any issues that might arise from the added traffic in the area.

B. Collins made a motion to close the offices on the day of the eclipse; B. Schorr seconded. B. Schorr asked if this would include the Courts. Mrs. Greenwell stated that they will have to reach out to those departments because she is unsure of their schedules in the Courts. Mr. Harrison stated this would be their call individually. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham informed the Commissioners that he is in need of replacing two boilers at the Jail. Sheriff Latham presented the Commissioners with a proposal from DeBra-Kuempel to complete the needed repairs. Sheriff Latham stated the cost for the two boilers would be \$59,960.00, and he would take this from the Jail Maintenance Fund. G. Newman made a motion to allow this repair proposal; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham gave the following housing update:

37 Vanderburgh County Inmates

34 DOC

90 Posey County Inmates

161 total

\$41,572.50 taken in from Vanderburgh County

Sheriff Latham stated he has spoken with Representative Wendy McNamara regarding the housing of DOC inmates at the local level.

Carrie Thompson, Posey County EMA Director, informed the Commissioners that she is waiting for proposals from DeBra-Kuempel and Shephard Services to install the backup generator that the department acquired.

Mrs. Thompson stated they are currently working on several grants to allow for the cleanup and organization of the EMA storage facility.

Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk provided the Commissioners with a year-end report for the highway department.

Mr. Schenk stated that asphalt bids will be opened at the March 5, 2024, Commissioners meeting.

Kristin Lowry, with Purdue Extension, stated that their move is complete and invites everyone to come see their current space. Mrs. Lowry stated that she is still open to discussing a permanent space for their department.

Jamie Bradford, Posey County Dispatch Director, informed the Commissioners she would be sending donation request letters to the local industry soon.

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti gave the following update:

\$126,468.30
216 requests
165 transports

Mr. Micheletti stated that a box spring at Medic 4 in Poseyville needed to be replaced. Mr. Micheletti is asking that he be paid from the Commissioner's furniture line.

Mr. Micheletti updated the Commissioners regarding the ongoing issue with the additional Community Paramedic Grant funding from the State. Mr. Micheletti stated he anticipates decisions to be made regarding this from the State in the next few weeks.

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated the next Commissioners meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, due to Presidents Day.

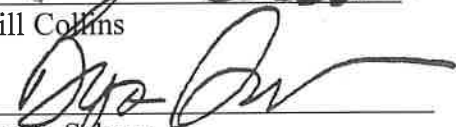
B. Collins gave the following Animal Control report for January:

37 Animal Complaints
14 Animals Picked Up
1 Bite Reports

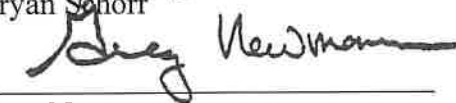
No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned,



Bill Collins



Bryan Schorr



Greg Newman



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell