

## **POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024.**

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Wednesday, January 17, 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 Rocky Rye led the Commissioners in prayer.

### **MINUTES**

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the minutes from January 3, 2024; 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**

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

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

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

### **2024 BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Area Plan: B. Schorr made a motion to appoint Mark Seib to the Area Plan Board for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2027; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Coliseum Board: Savannah Axley to the Coliseum Board for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2024; seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Community Corrections Board: G. Newman made a motion to reappoint this entire board for two-year terms to expire on December 31, 2025; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Compton Ditch: G. Newman made a motion to reappoint Ron Eimer to the Compton Ditch Board for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2024; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Redevelopment Board: G. Newman made a motion to appoint Bill Newman and Justin Hoehn to the Redevelopment Board for one-year terms to expire on December 31, 2024; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Jail Building Corporation: B. Schorr made a motion to reappoint Hans Schmitz to the Jail Building Corporation for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2024, and table the last appointment to this board; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **ROAD VACATION**

Jim Petrig, an applicant for the road vacation request on 2nd West Street, addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing request to vacation a portion of this road. B. Collins asked Mr. Petrig if he had had any further discussions with Mrs. Newman. Mr. Petrig stated he had not spoken to Mrs. Newman outside of the last meeting with the Commissioners. Mrs. Newman stated she still has several concerns about the survey that had been completed but was told it would take six to eight weeks for a surveyor to come re-survey this area for her. Mrs. Newman asked if this vacation request was granted today and if the survey she is getting would show anything different if the matter could she bring it back to the Commissioners for questions. Mr. Collins said yes, but once the vacation is done, it is done. Mrs. Newman stated her only question concerns the survey because it does not match the paperwork she has.

B. Schorr stated he was comfortable with the information given by Mr. Petrig because it matches what the County has.

B. Schorr made a motion to waive the final reading of the road vacation ordinance in question; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

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

#### **OLIVER ROAD UNSAFE BUILDING**

B. Collins stated this issue was tabled at the last Commissioner's meeting. Ed Batteiger, Building Commissioner, stated there has been no change, and he is unsure if this property has changed hands.

G. Newman made a motion to move forward with issuing a \$250.00 fine for this property; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **PERSONNEL POLICY CHANGE**

Jamie Bradford, Posey County Dispatch Director, presented the Commissioners with the prepared ordinance to change the handbook personnel policy to state that vacation time taken by dispatch must be taken in 12-hour increments.

G. Newman made a motion to waive the final reading of this policy change ordinance; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

G. Newman made a motion to approve the requested change of the personnel policy for dispatch; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### **INDIANA WORKFORCE BOARD**

Sara Worstell, Executive Director at Southwest Indiana Workforce Board, addressed the Commissioners regarding their appointment to the Indiana Workforce Board. Mrs. Worstell stated that the Commissioners would need to appoint a Commissioner to be on the executive council for the SWIN Workforce Board.

B. Collins made a motion to appoint Greg Newman to the SWIN Workforce Board; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mrs. Worstell updated the Commissioners on the current projects of the Indiana Workforce and let them know they are located in several areas of the County.

### **EREP**

B. Collins introduced Lloyd Winnecke as the new Evansville Regional Economic Partnership CEO. Mr. Winnecke stated he is ready to continue the working relationship with EREP and Posey County.

### **AREA PLAN REZONING REQUEST**

Dave Ripple, interim Area Plan Director, addressed the Commissioners regarding the two-rezoning requests:

Applicant: Desiree Eichenberger

Location: 2800 South St. Phillips Road

Nature of Request: Rezone 3.20 acres from R-1(residential single family) to B-2 (commercial general).

Mr. Ripple stated that this rezoning will allow St. Peter's on the Hill church to utilize an electronic sign board and be in compliance with the current County ordinances. Mr. Ripple stated that this was heard by the Area Plan on January 12, 2024, and passed with a 9-0 vote.

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

Applicant: Greg Kissell

Location: 1400 Greenfield Lane, New Harmony, Indiana

Nature of Request: Rezone 9.679 acres from A (agriculture) to R-1(residential single family).

Mr. Ripple stated that this rezoning will allow for the property to be subdivided. Mr. Ripple stated that the Area Plan heard this on January 12, 2024, and passed with a 9-0. Vote.

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

### **ANNUAL BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING**

Posey County Treasurer Vicki Peerman informed the Commissioners of the need to hold the annual Board of Finance Meeting. Mrs. Peerman stated that the Commissioners, the Auditor, and herself comprise the Board of Finance. Mrs. Peerman stated that the board must elect a president and secretary for the 2024 year.

B. Schor made a motion to appoint Greg Newman as the Board of Finance President; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Maegen Greenwell made a motion to appoint Vicki Peerman as the secretary of the Board of Finance for the year 2024; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Mrs. Peerman reminded the Commissioners that the County is covered by the Public Deposit Insurance Fund or PDIF, as long as the County is following the needed procedures set forth by the PDIF. Mrs. Peerman stated this includes only depositing funds into banks approved by the PDIF. Mrs. Peerman stated she provided the Commissioners with that list of banks.

Mrs. Peerman gave the following end-of-year report:

End of the year 2023 Bank Balances:

5/3 Operating Account: \$6,400,000.00

5/3 Money Market Account: \$15,000,000.00

Old National Bank: \$3,500,000.00

United Fidelity: \$782,000.00

United Fidelity Payroll Account: \$183,000.00

Trust Indiana: \$11,000,000.00

Crane Credit: \$32,000.00

Crane Savings Account: \$5.00

1<sup>st</sup> Bank: 15,000,000.00

Total: \$52,778,228.37

2023 Investments:

5/3 Operating Account: will show in 2024 numbers.

5/3 Money Market: \$469,875.00

Old National Bank: \$13,833.68

1<sup>st</sup> Bank: \$354,732.77

Trust Indiana: \$1,011,771.74

United Fidelity Payroll Account: \$13,684.00

United Fidelity ICS: \$162,788.89

United Fidelity Operating: \$74,001.30

Crane Credit: \$692.86

CD'S:

Crane Credit x3: \$36,491.48

Total: \$2,121,379.79

Mrs. Peerman stated that as part of the Board of Finance meeting, the Commissioners must approve of voiding any outstanding checks older than two years. Mrs. Peerman stated she provided the Commissioners with a copy of those checks, but there is one that the County will end up re-issuing as it is a payment from the State to a County Trustee passed through the County. Mrs. Peerman stated that the check would be reissued.

M. Greenwell made a motion to void the provided checks that are outstanding; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

### **2024 INVESTMENT POLICY**

Posey County Treasurer Vicki Peerman provided the Commissioners with the 2024 Investment Policy. Mrs. Peerman stated that this policy has not changed from the approved 2023 policy.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the 2024 Investment Policy; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **EMS TUITION REIMBURSEMENT POLICY**

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti provided the Commissioners with a proposal to implement a tuition reimbursement program for the EMS Department. Mr. Micheletti stated that he has spoken to the Council regarding this proposal.

Mr. Micheletti stated he is proposing a program to reimburse two employees a year, a maximum of \$5,000.00 per year. Mr. Micheletti stated this would include a commitment from the employee to remain an employee of Posey County for two years.

B. Collins stated the policy proposal stated that if no paramedic positions were available, the employee is not guaranteed a paramedic pay increase, but it could be considered at the director's discretion. Mr. Micheletti said yes, which would also include permission from the Council.

B. Collins stated that all three Commissioners agree that funds should be paid upon completion of the program. B. Schorr stated that he would be in favor of looking at this as a County-wide policy.

### **ELECTION SERVICE CONTRACT**

Posey County Clerk Kay Kilgore provided the Commissioners with a contract regarding election services. Mrs. Kilgore stated this company will help the County provide live election results as the Election Board releases them. Mrs. Kilgore stated this would be covered the first year by a grant she received from the Secretary of State, and moving forward, she is prepared to seek donations before using County funds. B. Schorr stated he is concerned about releasing election results before polls close. Mrs. Kilgore stated that results would not be released prior to polls closing at 6:00 pm and only after review from the Election Board. Mrs. Kilgore stated this would also allow candidates to use the website to load candidate bios that are able to be viewed by constituents.

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

### **SHERIFF OFFICE OVERTIME REQUEST**

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham informed the Commissioners that the Posey County Council recently approved overtime for Chief Deputy Fortune. Sheriff Latham is requesting the Commissioners consider a personnel policy change for the Chief Deputy regarding overtime payment. Sheriff Latham stated he is requesting overtime be paid for any calls received between 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm at a minimum rate of 15 minutes per call or however long the phone call lasts past the initial 15 minutes, and any call received between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am be paid at a minimum rate of 1 hour per call or however long the phone call last past the initial one hour, all paid at the normal overtime rate of 1.5.

B. Schorr stated he was under the impression this request was going to be for the Chief Deputy, Detectives, and Majors. Sheriff Latham stated he would like to address that at a later date but would like to discuss this with the Chief Deputy today. Sheriff Latham stated that the request would mirror this one.

Mrs. Greenwell asked if this should be backdated to include the beginning of the year, which is also the current payroll that the County is in. Sheriff Latham stated yes because the Chief Deputy has already been tracking these hours.

Mr. Harrison stated if the Commissioners wanted to take action on this today for both the Chief Deputy and the two Detectives, he would alter the ordinance and send it to the Auditor's office later today.

B. Schorr made a motion to waive the final reading of this ordinance and approve this requested change; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Jamie Bradford, Posey County Dispatch Director, informed the Commissioners that the tower project is moving forward and is expected to be completed sometime between mid-March and mid-April.

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti gave the following update:

260 Requests

202 Transfers

\$116,511.00

1 Paramedic down.

B. Collins asked Mr. Micheletti sometime in the near future to provide the Commissioners with the approximate cost it would be to the County if the State discontinued the Community Paramedic Grant.

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham gave the following housing update:

31 Vanderburgh County Inmates

34 DOC

92 Posey County Inmates

157 total

\$37,425.00 taken in from Vanderburgh County

Sheriff Latham stated he would like to request unused 2023 vacation time for Jail Commander Mark Pharr to be rolled over into 2024. Sheriff Latham stated he was unsure of the number of weeks that Mr. Pharr had left in 2023. Mr. Harrison stated last year, the Commissioners limited the amount of time when they did this last year.

B. Collins stated he would like to look at what was done last year and asked if the Commissioners could table this.

Sheriff Latham stated that would be fine, and he has a few deputies who were granted vacation late in 2023 and were unaware they were granted the time.

Sheriff Latham informed the Commissioners that the jail recently underwent an independent jail analysis. Sheriff Latham stated that analysis showed that the jail is understaffed by fourteen jailers. Sheriff Latham stated he made the Council aware of this and was instructed to speak to the Commissioners regarding this. Mrs. Greenwell stated the Council will be the body that creates job positions.

Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk stated he is in the process of replacing Bridge 49 on Slimpond Road. Mr. Schenk stated that Civilcon will be doing the preliminary work for this project for \$67,600.00, and then the project will be bid out.

Mr. Schenk stated that he is in the process of compiling the list of roads for the Community Crossing grant.

Carrie Thompson, Posey County EMA Director, informed the Commissioners that she applied for and was granted a grant for a backup generator at the EMA building. Mrs. Thompson stated she would also like to bring to the Commissioners' attention that when the EMA building was built and the metal roof installed, no snow/ice stoppers were installed. Mrs. Thompson stated she would like to explore the cost of installing these devices at this time.

Cody Simpson, with Morley, updated the Commissioners on the ongoing Mainstream project. Mr. Simpson stated Mainstream is confident they will be complete by the deadline. G. Newman stated that they are beginning to install fiber to homes in the Wadesville area.

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that W2s are available for pick up in the Auditor's office, and W2s that are not picked up by tomorrow morning will be put in the mail. Mrs. Greenwell stated that vehicle insurance cards are ready to be picked up by those departments who have County vehicles.

B. Collins gave the following Animal Control report for 2023:

366 Complaints

811 Animal Complaints

5 Animals Euthanized

38 Bite Reports

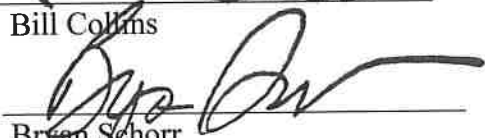
1 Rabies Test

\$663.00 turned in.

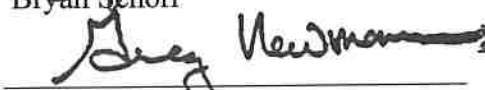
No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned,



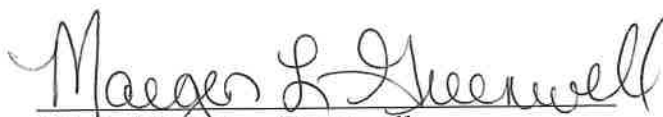
Bill Collins



Bryan Schorr



Greg Newman



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell