

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. Commissioners Bill Collins, Greg Newman, and Bryan Schorr were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Deacon Mark McDonald led the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

G. Newman made a motion to approve the March 19, 2024, Commissioners meeting minutes; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the special meeting minutes from March 26, 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.

OFFICE SPACE STUDY RFP

B. Collins opened the following two requests for proposals for an office space study:

American Structure Point: \$73,500.00

Hafer: 8,700.00

B. Collins stated the Commissioners would like to take these bids under advisement and award at the April 16, 2024, Commissioners meeting.

MAINSTREAM BROADBAND PROJECT UPDATE

Cody Simpson, with Morley, addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing broadband project throughout Posey County. Mr. Simpson stated that Morley closed out five outstanding segments and is finishing up with a few last details to be handled before the last segments are closed out.

Shawn Gardner with Mainstream addressed the Commissioners regarding how Mainstream will move forward with the buildout on their end. B. Collins asked how Mainstream plans to communicate with the residents of the area in which they will be working. Mr. Gardner stated they plan to conduct a door-hanger campaign for the area they will be working on. B. Schorr asked if there was a comprehensive list of the residents they plan to inform. Mr. Gardner stated that they would provide the list to the commissioners. Mr. Gardner stated that residents can visit www.msfiber.net to see if their address is on the list.

TAX SALE PROPERTIES

B. Collins stated he would like to table this discussion.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT APPLICATION

Posey County Community Correction Director Justin Rutledge addressed the Commissioners about the 2025 grant application process for Community Corrections. Mr. Rutledge provided the Commissioners with the request and budget he will propose to the State and reminded them that Community Corrections operates from State funding alone.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the grant application process; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Collins asked Mr. Rutledge about the feasibility of reintroducing a work release program. Mr. Rutledge stated that safety concerns with the jail would mean the facility would have to be a standalone facility. Mr. Rutledge stated that the State of Indiana would not grant funds to purchase a building or site to build one but would allow the department to pay rent for a facility. Mr. Rutledge stated he is under the impression that the State would be open to considering funding a program if it were started again.

POSEY COUNTY MULTI-HAZARDOUS MITIGATION PLAN

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners received the Multi-Hazardous Plan from Carrie Thompson via email.

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

AMERICAN STRUCTURE POINT BYPASS CHANGE ORDER

Wing Lau, with American Structure Point, stated he had provided the Commissioners with the fifth amendment for the bypass for the change order approval.

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

MALCON

Mathew Lowery with Malcon addressed the Commissioners regarding the cost allocation plan that Malcon oversees currently with the County and title IVD program. Mr. Lowery stated that the contract to perform this service is a three-year contract with a total cost of \$15,600.00 for the three years, paid yearly. Mr. Lowery stated that the only change that he would suggest for this contract is that the Commissioners are currently paying for this service from the Commissioner's budget, and it can be paid from the County incentive fund 8895. Mr. Lowery stated that this would save general funds and use the incentive fund.

Mr. Lowery informed the Commissioners that Malcon can also help the County with excise tax reimbursement. Mr. Lowery explained that the excise tax reimbursement is a road tax that allows any vehicle with a shared fuel tank, such as a dump truck, to claim a percentage of the fuel tax cost as a reimbursement. Mr. Lowery stated that most often, highway departments are already claiming these dollars, but often, they find that departments such as EMS are not. Mr. Lowery stated that Malcon can help with submitting these refunds annually. Mr. Lowery stated that the fee for this service is a 50/50 split of the refund up to \$8,000.00. Mr. Lowery stated that if the

refund is over the \$4,000.00 cap for Malcon, the County would capture the remainder. Mr. Lowery stated that Malcon does not take their payment until the County receives their payment. B. Schorr asked what the fee would be to consult with the EMS Department to teach them how to submit themselves. Mr. Lowery stated that currently, they do not offer that type of service. Steve Schenk, County Highway Superintendent, stated that the highway department is already taking this step to get the refund.

B. Schorr stated that he would like more time to discuss the option of the County completing this reporting on their own. Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that she has not spoken with the EMS department regarding this because all of the reports that will be needed are coming from the Auditor's office.

G. Newman made a motion to approve both contracts as presented; B. Collins seconded. B. Schorr stated he would like more time to look into this. The motion carried 2-1, with B. Schorr voting against.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Steve Schenk, Posey County Highway Superintendent, informed the Commissioners that the department is busy assisting with storm cleanup and getting roads cleaned up.

Area Plan Interim Director Dave Ripple introduced the new Area Plan Executive Director, Jerry Cottner. Mr. Ripple stated that Mr. Cottner would work with him for the next few weeks, and he will officially take over on April 15, 2024. G. Newman thanked Mr. Ripple for his assistance to Posey County as the interim director.

Commissioner Greg Newman informed the Commissioners that construction of the new tower is scheduled to begin next week.

Donnie Martin, with the Posey County Health Department, addressed the Commissioners regarding the VaxCare program. Mr. Martin stated that the program is now up and running and will allow the program to bill an insurance company for this service, and the department will receive an administrative fee from the insurance company.

Mr. Martin stated that the County is working with the City and the State regarding the ongoing health issues with the current mobile home parks and will continue to move forward with the needed agencies.

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell advised that it is now tax season for Posey County, and taxes are due May 10, 2024.

Mrs. Greenwell reminded the Commissioners that some offices and buildings will be closed for the upcoming eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024.

Commissioners Bill Collins reminded the Commissioners that early voting starts Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Commissioner Greg Newman thanked the first responders for the diligent work this morning with the storms.

Bill Collins

Bill Collins

Bryan Schorr

Bryan Schorr

Greg Newman

Greg Newman

Maegen L. Greenwell

Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell