

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

April 17, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mark Horstman, President, Chris Schmaltz, Kendall Hankins, Amy Copeland, Auditor & John Ertel, County Attorney.

Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated that the State Fire Marshall was in last week. The State Fire Marshall stated we need a push bar on the door in the mechanical room in the courthouse and the annex.

Mr. Herbert stated that he got a quote for the buffing of the floors in the annex for \$500.00. The Commissioners gave Mr. Herbert the ok.

Mr. Herbert stated that the jail gave him a trustee to help mow so it only took him one day.

Mr. Herbert also stated he has not hired anyone.

Treasurer – Lisa Vestal

Ms. Vestal was in to let the Commissioners know that the tax sale fees have risen to \$125.00. The Tax sale fee will be \$150.00 per parcel.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the April 3, 2023 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the claims and payroll, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

EMS – Scott Huffman

Mr. Huffman was in about the lot across the road for a parking lot. Commissioners stated that S & S is ok with clearing the lot in Milan for a parking lot. Mr. Huffman ordered a sign for the new EMS building in Milan.

Town of Versailles – Holly Wehr, Roxanne Meyer, & Thomas Welch

Commissioner Hankins stated that Duke Energy is giving a grant for EV chargers for electric cars. The program is called Park & Play Program. This is a 5 year program. There are 3 options with the EV chargers when the 5 years is up and they are to continue, take over, or have them removed.

Mr. Welch gave a demonstration on the EV chargers. He is from Honda in Greensburg.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the EV charging stations in the annex parking lot. This will be paid for 100% by Duke Energy, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Area Planning – Tad Brinson

Mr. Decker asked the Area and Planning to update the zone code on solar panels and wind. Mr. Brinson read Ripley County goes by the state code 8-1-41-1 & 8-1-42-1.

The meeting will take place for public comment on June 6, 2023.

Attorney Timonera discussed the conflict on behave of adjoining home owners to the Commissioners.

Sheriff – Rob Bradley

Mr. Bradley came in with a quote for the guardrail at the jail for \$750.00 from Summer Metals LLC.

Mr. Bradley talked about AJ's Auto Body Shop. Mr. Bradley stated he would get the wrecker service back on the rotation.

Highway – Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards brought in an ordinance to add a stop sign at Finks Road and County Road 600 North.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the ordinance to add a stop sign at Finks Road and County Road 600 North, **Action:** Approved, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Edwards stated there is a new foreman for the South it is Tim Sides.

Mr. Edwards stated that the county highway wanted to stop the maintenance at the creek in the Friendship Shoot but the Commissioners stated that we needed to keep maintaining that creek crossing.

Mr. Edwards stated that the GPS education will be in today.

Mr. Edwards is wanting the Highway Garage to have a charge for a culvert permit for new construction. Commissioner Hankins is not in agreeance of this charge.

Mr. Edwards stated that there was an issue with the Park. Mr. Edwards is stating that his employees should not be hauling to any other department in the county.

General Public – Patty Hull

Ms. Hull is in about a drop off at her house that needs to fixed. Ms. Hull’s address is 931 N Old Michigan Road, Holton, IN 47023. Mr. Edwards stated that he would get it fixed as soon as possible.

Veregy – Rick Anderson

Mr. Anderson and the engineers were in to talk to the Commissioners about the renovation project. They talked about the new windows, new HVAC, fire sprinklers, ceilings, electric & bathroom remodel.

Technology – Becky Cairns

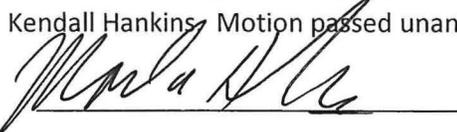
Ms. Cairns stated that she has a quote for door upgrades for \$1,700.74 from Aptek. The Commissioners gave their approval.

Ms. Cairns is also in to talk about the new phone system. Ms. Cairns has two estimated quotes. The Commissioners did tell Ms. Cairns to get two quotes that are not estimated and bring to a meeting.

Sheriff – Lee Davidson, Chief Deputy

Mr. Davidson was in and talked to the Commissioners about cameras in the courthouse and the annex for safety measures.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

 Mark Horstman, President

 Chris Schmaltz

 Kendall Hankins

Assts:  Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor