

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

August 08, 2022

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Maintenance - Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert brought in a quote from Dunlap for an expansion tank in the Annex. The total cost of that is \$866.00. The Commissioners told Mr. Herbert to have Dunlap put a new expansion tank in.

Mr. Herbert asked the Commissioners if it was ok for him to purchase a pressure washer. The Commissioners told Mr. Herbert to go ahead and purchase a pressure washer.

Mr. Herbert was told by Dunlap's that an EXV Valve went out in the Annex. The replacement cost and labor is \$1,562.00. The Commissioners stated to go ahead and have Dunlap's order the part and do the work.

Commissioner Hankins asked if Duke or the Town of Versailles had contacted Mr. Herbert. This is in regards to a transformer. Mr. Herbert had not heard from them yet.

Mr. Anderson with Veregy had called Mr. Herbert to do another walk through on August 18, 2022.

Commissioner Schmaltz asked if all the tree trimming was completed, Mr. Herbert stated that all but the stump grinding.

Technology – Becky Cairns

Ms. Cairns stated that Ripley County has a new web site it is Ripleycounty.in.gov. This will keep us more secure.

Ms. Cairns also talked to the Commissioners about a new web design. The price range a year ago was from \$1,200.00 to \$25,000.00.

The Commissioners told Ms. Cairns to get new prices for a new web design.

Ms. Cairns stated that ETC is working on a public wifi for around the Courthouse and Annex.

Ms. Cairns needs to order more electronic key cards for the Annex. The price for these are \$396.00. The Commissioners told Ms. Cairns to order the key cards.

911 – Leah Hildebrand

Ms. Hildebrand was in with a project guideline for the 911 Tower Project. They have a set back with Hoosier Hills Water tower due to the attorney not getting back with her. Ms. Hildebrand stated they are also having a hard time getting a meeting with Ripley County Redevelopment. Ms. Hildebrand also stated that an email has been sent to Mr. King with Hoosier Hills Water and Ron Reynolds with Napoleon Volunteer Fire Department.

Highway – Ray Toops

Mr. Toops stated that Mr. Pat Kissell is going to retire on September 30, 2022. Mr. Toops stated that Mr. Justin Sanders, who is under Mr. Kissell, would like to move into Mr. Kissell's position. Mr. Toops stated that 2 people would not be able to do all the mechanic work.

Mr. Toops brought up that a plan is needed to be able to fund more pay for the truck drivers. Mr. Toops stated he is looking at asking for a \$2.00 onetime raise.

Commissioner Hankins stated that there is a pay scale problem in this county, but he is not elected to Council. This is not within the Commissioners scope to resolve. The role of Council is to fix that problem.

Mr. Toops stated they would not be applying for the Community Crossing Grant Match until January of 2023.

Commissioner Hankins stated that he talked to Sherry Hinds from USI about the replacement of bridges in the county. Mr. Toops stated he will call her and talk to her about the bridge numbers.

Health Insurance – Patti Perry

Ms. Perry was in for a year review on the health insurance.

The Commissioners talked about a premium holiday for the employee's premiums.

EMS – Scott Huffman

Attorney John Ertel brought in the lease and service agreement for the Safe Haven Baby Box. The Commissioners are wanting to wait until all 3 Commissioners are here to approve the lease and service agreement. The Commissioners stated that The Poole Group should have the specs of the Safe Haven Baby Box to be put in Versailles and Milan.

Mr. Huffman came in to give the Commissioners an update on the Milan EMS building.

Mr. Huffman stated they are going to start Covid testing again one day a week in Osgood. Once the Milan building is done, then the testing site will move to the Milan EMS Building.

Mr. Huffman has received 1 new truck. The other truck should be here in 2 weeks. There was \$3,414.30 left from the \$415,000.00 that was appropriated. The Commissioners stated he could use that for radio and computer supplies for the truck.

The Commissioners discussed the LIT tax and a public safety tax for EMS, but they stated it is not within their responsibilities to find the money.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve July 25, 2022 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the claims and payroll, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.



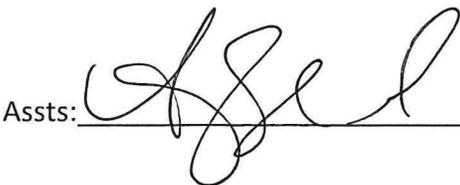
Mark Horstman, President



Chris Schmaltz



Kendall Hankins



Assts: Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor