

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

December 11, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert brought in two quotes for 911 for glass mats, Office Shop \$687.00 & Vitrazza \$2,985.00. The Commissioners stated to go with Office Shop.

Mr. Herbert talked about AEDs for the buildings in the county. Mr. Scott Huffman from EMS was in to talk about having a Zoll representative. Mr. Huffman stated that he will be liable for checking the AEDs in the county. Mr. Huffman is going to take the lead on the AEDs and ordering from Zoll.

Area Planning – Tad Brinson

Mr. Brinson was in and stated that Ms. Jennifer Miller resigned from Area Planning.

Mr. Ertel stated the law is getting ready to change on the area planning board. There should be 11 on the board not 12. The Commissioners stated they will ask around for someone to sit on the board.

Commissioners – Solar Ordinance

Attorney Ertel stepped away as attorney. Attorney Pat McGrath for the Solar Ordinance was not able to attend the meeting. Commissioner Hankins stated that he met with both sides, for and against. The Commissioners discussed between the 3 of them with no public comment.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the Commissioners amendment and there will be an additional amendment to the existing document **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to extend the moratorium indefinitely **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Park – Christi Volz

Ms. Volz is wanting to use the remainder of the EDIT money. The park is needing to put drainage tile in the horse arena. They are also wanting to put metal under the grandstands. The two quotes total \$16,300.00. The Commissioners asked for another quote on the drainage tile in the horse arena. The Commissioners asked for the park board to decide which bid and bring it recommendation to the Commissioners. The Commissioners stated to let the park board handle the metal in the grandstands.

Ms. Volz stated the Park is working on a Party in the Dark for the solar eclipse.

Sheriff – Rob Bradley

Mr. Bradley brought in 2 bids for the intercom boxes at the jail. The quotes are from Stanley \$748.93 and from Box \$1,565.00. The Commissioners stated to go with Stanley.

Mr. Bradley wanted to make sure it is ok to use the \$50,000.00 in Belterra fund for 2024.

Highway – 2024 Bid Openings

Fuel – Laughery Valley

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to take the fuel bid from Laughery Valley, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Asphalt – Dave O’Mara Contractor, Inc, Paul H Rohe Company, Inc, Hot Mix Inc, All Star Paving, & EZ Street Asphalt,

RS2 – Marathon Petroleum Company & Asphalt Materials

Stone – US Aggregates, Heidelberg Materials Midwest Agg, Inc, Aggregates & Newpoint Stone Company, Inc

Bridge – E3 Bridge & E & H Bridge and Grating

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to take Asphalt, RS2, Stone and Bridge under advisement until the next meeting on December 22, 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Highway – Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated that just North of 48 on 101 will be closed for 30 days twice in 2024.

Mr. Edwards stated the side mower was doing well.

Mr. Edwards stated they did evaluations on all employees and they went very well.

Mr. Edwards stated the chainsaw training that Purdue had was a hit.

Mr. Edwards stated they sold a tractor and bushhog.

Mr. Edwards stated that 700 South is done.

Mr. Edwards stated that they are cleaning the upstairs for it to be the employees break room.

Probation – Shannon Schmaltz & Jessica Ogden

Mr. Schmaltz came in to talk to the Commissioners about the Opioid Settlement expenditures.

Ms. Ogden gave a brief explanation of what she does with the probation department with the Opioid funding.

Mr. Schmaltz is wanting to appropriate the \$22,039.00 from the restricted opioid funding. The Commissioners told Mr. Schmaltz that they have their approval to ask Council for the funding.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the November 27, 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to change the handbook in the work from home section to be at the discretion of the office holder or department head, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Veregy – Art Noel

Mr. Noel was in to give an update on the courthouse renovation. Mr. Noel stated by the next meeting he should have the drawings of the renovation. Mr. Noel stated he will have a time frame on the agenda at the next meeting.

Mr. Herbert stated he has talked to Duke about replacing the pole at the courthouse that the transformer is on. Commissioner Hankins asked if this could be done after hours. Mr. Herbert is going to talk to Duke about this. Veregy will be here again on Thursday and is hoping to have the contractor from Duke here. They are hoping to get the pole and transformer worked out on the courthouse lawn.

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

 _____ Mark Horstman, President

_____ Chris Schmaltz

 _____ Kendall Hankins

Ass'ts:  _____ Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor