

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

December 22, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Maintenance — Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert brought in a quote for 8 cores for the maintenance department \$495.84. The Commissioners gave him the ok to purchase the cores.

Mr. Herbert stated that the AEDs came in for the buildings. Mr. Tyrer, Health Department Administrator, stated that he would like for it to be in a more central location.

The electric pole switch for the courthouse will be the 26th of December 2023, so the electric will be out. Mr. Herbert it is coming in for the electric pole switch.

EMS — Scott Huffman

Mr. Huffman brought in the contracts for the Sunman and Batesville EMS. These contracts are with no change from prior contracts, the contracts are for 3 years.

Motion: Mr. Hankins made the motion to approve the EMS contracts with Batesville and Sunman, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Mr. Huffman would like to offer the county employees a CPR class. The Commissioners stated they would pay for the employees to take the class.

Town of Versailles — Holly Wehr & Town of Osgood — Stephanie Back

Ms. Wehr was in to talk about the READI Grant. One of the projects the Town of Versailles is trying to do is expand the trails from the Versailles State Park. Ms. Wehr is wanting the Commissioners blessing to submit to the READI Grant. The Commissioners gave their blessing.

Ms. Back was in about signage for the trails and working with the County Highway Department.

Tourism — Terri Trowbridge

Ms. Trowbridge would like to appoint Anita Fledderman and Megan Gray to the Ripley County Tourism Board.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve Anita Fledderman and Megan Gray to the Ripley County Tourism Board, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Economic Development — Gary Norman

Mr. Norman was in with the interlocal agreement with the county.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the interlocal agreement with the Economic Development for \$100,000.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Highway — Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated 600 North money from the state unofficial detour is in the amount of \$37,445.31. This is for the improvement of 600 North due to it being a detour from the state highway.

Mr. Edwards brought in an unofficial detour for State Road 350 for the April 1, 2024.

The Commissioners discussed the Area & Planning Board. They have advised Attorney Ertel that no discussion be talked about the appointments for the Area & Planning Board. They would like to have Attorney McGrath handle all of this until the solar ordinance is passed.

Sheriff— Rob Bradley & Lee Davidson

Sheriff Bradley asked about Mr. Al Smith's roll over vacation. Sheriff Bradley stated he would not like to give AJ Smith is remaining 41 hours of vacation that he did not use in 2023. Commissioner Hankins stated that he does not agree he thinks that Mr. Smith needs to be paid out. Commissioner Horstman stated that he thinks he should not be paid out. This is all due to Mr. Smith giving his resignation after the Sheriff asked if he could carry his vacation over. The Commissioners are leaving the decision up to the Sheriff. The Sheriff has decided not to give Mr. Al Smith his remaining 41 hours of vacation.

Technology — Becky Cairns

Ms. Cairns asked the Commissioners for pictures for the new website.

Ms. Cairns asked about a picture of the courthouse. Wanted to know if one of the drone specialists could take a picture of the courthouse. Commissioner Hankins told Ms. Cairns to ask Matt Chastain.

Ms. Cairns stated that the extension office phones are a problem with Purdue being involved. This is due to the phones being ran off of wifi.

Park — Christi Volz

Ms. Volz has a quote for \$15,000.00 for the horse arena. The Commissioners are ok with \$15,000.00 but not a dime over. This quote is so the \$15,000.00 can be encumbered.

Ms. Volz stated that they are trying to get more events at the park for the year 2024.

They did talk about the park board appointments.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the December 11, 2023 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. 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** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to appoint Scott Stutler to the Friendship Sewer Board, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the Purdue Extension Office Contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the new Sheriff's Office Longevity Pay Ordinance, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the Plymate agreement, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve all bids given to the highway department for the year 2024, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

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



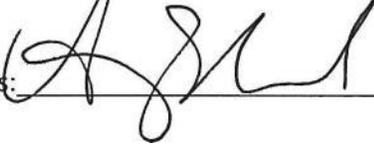
Mark Horstman, President

Chris Schmaltz



Kendall Hankins

Assts:



Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor