

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

February 2, 2024

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mark Horstman, President, Chris Schmaltz, Amy Copeland, Auditor. Kendall Hankins was late and arrived 1:20pm. Attorney, John Ertel was absent.

Maintenance — Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert got a quote for horns and strobe lights for the fire alarms from Cintas Fire. The quote was for \$1,594.80. Commissioners stated to pay this out of Cum Cap.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to get the horns and strobe lights from Cintas Fire, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 absent.

Mr. Herbert also had a quote from Dunlap for a garage heater motor for the Annex building. The quote is for \$650.00 plus shipping. The Commissioners told Mr. Herbert to get the heater fixed.

Sheriff — Rob Bradley

Sheriff Bradley brought in the 2023 Ripley County Sheriff's Office Annual Jail Report. Commissioner Horstman asked the Sheriff if he would look into the roof the jail and if the jail would last another 20 years if we put a new roof on it.

The Sheriff stated he has 3 transport vans. He would like to sell the 2018 van. The van does have 180,000 miles on it.

The Sheriff is wanting to put carpet and paint the nurse's room. This would be paid from Cum Cap.

Highway — Tim Sides, Foreman

Mr. Sides stated that they have received the two new trucks.

The Commissioners talked about 1st North Street and Hopewell Road. They think the Attorney for the town and the county need to get together for this issue to try and solve the problem.

EMS — Scott Huffman

Mr. Huffman brought in a January 2024 update for the EMS.

Mr. Huffman also stated that 24 people signed up for the CPR class.

The EMS had 14 people with ice training on a pond. The EMS has 3 sets of ice saving material.

Mr. Huffman stated they received news last week that they received a \$60,000.00 grant for training. This grant is from Homeland Security.

Veregy — Art Noel & Rick Anderson

Mr. Noel came in with an update on the courthouse renovation.

Total Tech & Great Plains — Matt Cunningham & Doug Foster

Mr. Cunningham was in about increasing our internet connection. Mr. Foster stated that we can go from a 100mb to 1gb with an increase of only \$150.00 a month. Commissioner Hankins asked for the long distance to be taken off.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve and internet increase from 100 meg to 1000 meg with the revision of taking off the long distance charge, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cunningham stated that the county offers a VPN for all officers & EMS. Total Tech will have some cost in setting up all the VPN and wants to know who should pay for the cost of this. The Commissioners think it should be passed on to the other entities.

Clerk - Liz Baumgartner

Ms. Baumgartner was in to talk to the Commissioners about voting centers.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the new voting center locations as listed

1. Elrod Baptist Washington Life Center, 5496 E US 50, Dillsboro
2. Holton Fire Department, 7043 W US 50, Holton
3. Knight of Columbus, 624 Delaware Road, Batesville
4. Milan VFW, 107 N Warpath Drive, Milan
5. Osgood Town Hall, 147 W Ripley Street, Osgood
6. Saint Paul Lutheran Church, 5869 SR 129, Versailles
7. Shelby Christian Church, 6675 US 421, Versailles
8. Sunman American Legion, 412 E Eastern Ave, Sunman
9. Tyson Activity Center, 100 N High Street, Versailles

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the January 19, 2024 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Commissioners discussed the Solar Eclipse and if the county employees should be off on that day. The Commissioners stated that the county employees will work on April 8, 2024 the day of the Solar Eclipse.

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