

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

January 17, 2025

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Mark Horstman, Roger Gullion, Jeff Volz, John Ertel, Attorney, Amy Copeland, Auditor.

Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert brought in a quote from Cintas to replace a module in the Annex. The amount is \$982.96.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the quote for \$982.96 for Cintas to replace a module, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Herbert talked about doing some upgrades in all the bathrooms in the courthouse instead of just the basement bathrooms.

Sheriff – Rob Bradley & Chief Deputy Lee Davidson

Chief Deputy Davidson gave an update on the fleet for the Sheriff's Department.

Motion: Commissioner Gullion made the motion to pay the Enterprise Fleet Lease payments as a utility, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Bradley stated that he is going to be touring a jail.

Health Department – Jason Smith

Mr. Smith stated the Health Board met last Tuesday and Ms. Lynn Fledderman does not want to be reappointed.

Mr. Smith stated that Dr. Welsh is up for reappointed for the Health Officer. The Health Board voted to approve Dr. Welsh to take the position.

Ms. Tracy Bauman, Health Department employee, stated that a Dr. Price reached out to the Health Department and is interested in the Health Officer position.

The Commissioners had a discussion on the Health Board Officer.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to table the appointment of the Health Board Officer, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer – Lisa Vestal

Ms. Vestal brought in a new investment policy. This policy will be effective 01/01/2025 – 12/31/2028.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the investment policy for Ripley County, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Vestal also brought in the Board of Finance meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the Board of Finance meeting, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

911 – Will Sunderman

Mr. Sunderman brought in a paper with an example of a plaque for the new 911 tower for Judy Schebler.

Mr. Sunderman stated he put in for a \$20,540.00 grant. This is to update the GIS system.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to accept the contract for WTH for \$20,540.00 to update the GIS system., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sunderman stated that he is working with EMS, Public Health Officer and the Fire Departments to update the protocol.

Veregy – Art Noel

Veregy came in to give an update on the courthouse renovation.

The Commissioners and Attorney John Ertel discussed John Bunselmeier and the information he has requested. Attorney John Ertel is going to send a letter to Mr. Bunselmeier stating the county has none of the information he has requested.

Motion: Commissioner Gullion made the motion to approve the January 10, 2025 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the claims and payroll, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to reappoint Barry Lauber & Mark Comer to the Ripley County Redevelopment Commission for the 2025 year, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the letter for the CCMG funding matching funds for the Highway Department, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Batesville Memorial Public Library – Heather Goldsmith

Ms. Goldsmith came in to introduce herself to the Commissioners.

Motion: Commissioner Gullion made the motion to appoint Heather Goldsmith to the Batesville Memorial Public Library, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioner took a walk through the courthouse renovation and talked about new flooring going in. Mr. Noel from Veregy is going to get the Commissioners some samples of colors.

Health Department – Dr. David Welsh

Dr. David Welsh came in the Commissioners meeting to introduce himself to the new Commissioners and give them some information on the State with Health Department rules.

The Commissioners talked to Dr. Welsh about his reappointment. Dr. Welsh talked to the 2 new Commissioners about why he wants the job. Commissioner Horstman stated he has worked with Dr. Welsh for years.

County Attorney Ertel stated that the statute has changed that the Commissioners are in charge of hiring.

Commissioner Gullion made the comment that he is not discrediting Dr. Welsh as a doctor, but he is wanting to know about the administrator side as that is the complaints he has been getting. Dr. Welsh talked about everything that was going on in the office and commended all the employees. Dr. Welsh stated that Dr. Weaver at the state does come to Ripley County to help with matters that are happening. Commissioner Horstman told the other 2 Commissioners when the previous administrator resigned he told Commissioner Horstman that he could not handle the disrespect that happens in the Health Department. .

Commissioner Gullion stated that he thought it was insane to not want to hire someone from within because they are doing such a great job that he would be afraid to lose them in the position they are in.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to table the reappointment of Dr. David Welsh, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to accept Jessica Peak for School Liaison and Cynthia Gerstbauer as nurse and maternal child health positions, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

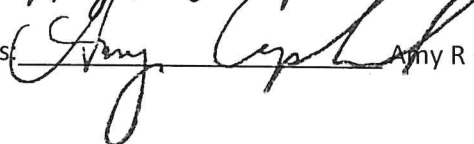
The Commissioners are wanting to have an executive meeting with Dr. Welsh and the administrative person the Health Board recommends, Ann Bohman.

Motion: Commissioner Volz made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

 _____ Mark Horstman, President

 _____ Jeff Volz

 _____ Roger Gullion

Assts:  _____ Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor