

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## January 5, 2024

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

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

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to make Commissioner Horstman President of the Commissioner's Board,

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

### 2024 Commissioner Appointments:

County Attorney— Mr. John Ertel

Maintenance Supervisor— Mr. Craig Herbert

Building Inspector— Mr. Dwight Bauman

Technology Director— Ms. Rebecca Cairns

EMA Director— Mr. Randy Miller

Veterans Service Officer— Mr. Ken Hylton

Animal Control — Ms. Polly Hardy

EMS Director— Mr. Scott Huffman

Highway Superintendent — Mr. Jason Edwards

911 — Ms. Leah Hildebrand

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

### Maintenance — Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated that he has not had any applicants for the maintenance position. The Commissioners told him we need to try and make a decision before the grass cutting starts.

### Sheriff — Rob Bradley

Sheriff Bradley is wanting to change health care providers in the jail. The contract would be with Southern Health Partners. The quote they gave is \$183,560.00. The Sheriff is going to talk to the Council on January 16, 2024.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve Southern Health Partners contingent that council gives the money., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

### Highway — Jason Edwards

Mr. Bailey stated they are working on some grants for the highway and cleaning the shop.

Commissioner Hankins asked when they would start ditching and Mr. Edwards stated next week.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve Attorney Ertel's 2024 contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

### Park — Christi Volz

Ms. Volz stated she has set boundaries for the food pantry.

The Commissioners talked about the opening on the Park Board. They had 2 people wanting the position, Bill Warren wanted reappointed and Richard Stevens wanted the position.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schnnatz made the motion to approve Mr. Richard Stevens, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **EMS — Scott Huffman**

Mr. Huffman was in to give a 2023 summary. EMS had a \$134,337.05 increase in receipts for 2023.

Mr. Huffman stated that all AED's in the county have been updated.

#### **Veregy — Art Noel**

Mr. Noel was in to give an update on the courthouse renovation. Mr. Noel will be coming in once a month.

#### **Area & Planning — Tax Brinson**

Mr. Brinson brought in a couple of amendments for the Commissioners.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion for an amendment of Ripley County Ordinance #56 revising appointments to the membership of the area plan commission of Ripley County, Indiana, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed 2 yes and 1 no.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to amend ordinance section 81.04, figure 1, step 1, (B) (7), **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion for Kyla Henry to be appointed to the Area & Planning Commission, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed 2 yes and 1 no.

#### **Health Department — Paul Tyrer**

Mr. Tyrer was in to correct the appointment papers that were filled out incorrectly.

Mr. Tyrer is wanting to appoint Paul Ketcham to the Health Department Board.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to appoint Paul Ketcham to the Ripley County Health Board., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to appoint Amy Carpenter to the Ripley County Health Board, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmalz made the motion to correct the paperwork on Donna Pitts., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hankins brought up the Solar amendment. They want to have a discussion on January 19, 2024 at 3pm. Mr. Micah Lohrum got up and spoke on what he would like to see changed.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the December 22, 2023 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. 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.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the cardinal pest control contract for 2024, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

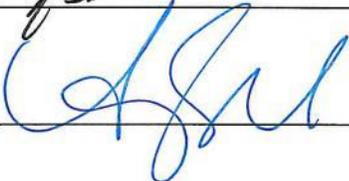
Commissioner Hankins wants to know who maintains the North side of the Annex. The Maintenance Department for the county maintains the whole annex yard. Commissioner Hankins stated that he thinks the town should mow the property they own.

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

  
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Mark Horstman, President

  
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Chris Schmaltz

  
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Kendall Hankins

Assts:   
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Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor