

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## July 21, 2025

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

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

### Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert got 2 new quotes for a Kubota snow removal machine. The quotes are from Zimmer for \$27,732.00 and Stone for \$27,490.00. The Commissioners have asked Mr. Herbert to get the warranty information on both machines before they make a decision.

Mr. Herbert had a list from the Prosecutor's office of items to be hung up. If it can be hung up with a demand strip, they can hang it them self, but if it needs to be hung with a nail, it needs to be approved by the Commissioners.

The netting in the Courthouse lawn needs to be pulled up so it can be mowed.

### Sheriff – Lee Davidson, Chief Deputy

Deputy Davidson brought in a proposal to change to the Security Automation Systems, Inc. The quote is changing by \$12,100.00. The Commissioners knew that this could happen.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the new Security Automation System, Inc quote for \$368,100.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Davidson is wanting to move some cameras and add a new one in the Courthouse foyer. If they move some of the cameras, the areas need to be painted once it is done. The Commissioners gave the Sheriff's office approval to do the project.

### Lions Club – Kerri Johnson

Ms. Johnson is in to ask if the Courthouse and or the Annex would be available for the Pumpkin Show. The Pumpkin Show is set for September 24-28, 2025.

**Motion:** Commissioner Gullion made the motion for the Lions Club to use the Courthouse bathrooms and to put the art show back in the Courthouse, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.

### Highway – Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated they are behind on chip and seal due to the rain.

The USI contract is almost complete.

The CCMG due date is moved to October 1, 2025.

Cave Hill Bridge, Bridge 9, they are thinking to replace it with a steel bridge. The cost of this bridge alone is \$497,000.00.

The new bridge could be completed in year 2027.

The Commissioners stated to call 2 surveyors to get a quote for the survey work.

The Commissioners talked about the covered bridge in Holton. They are going to do the research to maybe give to Ripley County Parks.

### EMS – Alex Poole

Ms. Poole came in to talk to the Commissioners about a couple trees that need to come down. Adams tree service gave the quote for \$2,300.00. Ms. Poole is asking the Commissioners to pay half.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve to pay 1/2 of the \$2,300.00 to get the trees removed. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Poole came to ask for forgiveness. She purchased a trailer for the EMS building to haul the lawn mower back and forth to the EMS buildings. The Commissioners told her that it was fine no forgiveness needed.

Ms. Poole asked the Commissioners about using the Fleet Enterprise to lease a couple vehicles. The Commissioners want her to wait just a little while as they want to make sure how fleet enterprise is doing.

The Parking lot needs to be enlarged for the EMS building in Milan. Need to get quotes to enlarge the parking lot so there is more parking and a place to put a storage shed.

#### **Veregy – Art Noel**

Mr. Noel gave an update on the Courthouse and Jail projects.

There are some problems in the Courthouse with humidity and regulating the temperature.

The Jail roof has some issues, ants and wires from cameras.

The Commissioners are going to have an open house either on the 9<sup>th</sup> or the 16<sup>th</sup> of August with a ribbon cutting at 10am.

The Commissioners would like to have the floors cleaned on August 3, 2025 if possible.

#### **Ripley CARE – Geneen Ostendorf**

Ms. Ostendorf wanted to thank the Commissioners for their time. Ms. Ostendorf hopes for a change. The county ordinances have not been updated since 1991. The Commissioners told Ms. Ostendorf that she really needs to talk to Council. The Commissioners put in for a Animal Control Officer but the Council has to approve it.

#### **General Public – Thomas Smith**

Mr. Smith purchased the property at 569 W CR 600 N, Osgood, IN 47037. Mr. Smith is in to talk about a drainage board complaint. This is not in the Commissioners jurisdiction as the drainage board.

#### **Verdin Company - Steve Doerger**

Mr. Doerger is here to talk about the clock and bells in the tower at the courthouse. Verdin Company is the company that installed the bells for the clock on the Courthouse. The total proposal is for \$59,900.00. This is for the bells and the clock, or \$41,900.00 to just fix the clock.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve a contract for the bells and clock to be fixed on the Courthouse and for LED lighting to be installed, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **911 – Will Sunderman**

Mr. Sunderman has put in his resignation as the 911 director effective August 23, 2025.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the July 7, 2025 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Commissioner Gullion made the motion to approve the July 8, 2025 executive meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Motion:** Commissioner Gullion made the motion to appoint Joseph Miller to the Ripley County Health Board, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.

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

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mark Horstman, President

 \_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Volz

 \_\_\_\_\_ Roger Gullion

Assts:  \_\_\_\_\_ Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor