

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

June 07, 2024

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Maintenance — Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated that he has to fix a toilet in the bathroom of the nurse's office.

The Commissioners stated to pay the janitor, that got let go, holiday pay for Memorial Day. This is due to the maintenance supervisor asking to meet at work the day after the holiday.

Commissioner Horstman asked if Mr. Herbert was ok with wearing a Ripley County t-shirt for work attire.

Sheriff — Rob Bradley & Lee Davidson

Mr. Davidson stated that on the new vehicle was a lower price than expected.

Mr. Davidson also spoke on the fleet management for vehicles. Mr. Davidson gave a cost analysis on the fleet management.

Prosecutor — Ric Hertel

Mr. Hertel came in with a lease agreement for 1 South Main Street, Versailles, IN 47042. This will be for 6 months and \$1,250.00 a month.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to execute the lease agreement. Commissioner Horstman will sign the agreement, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously. **Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the Auditor to write the security deposit and the 1st month rent prorated, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Highway — Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated that they are redoing the rest area on 74 west. The State will be taking over part of our county road. The amendment that was done to the road speaks for anyone wanting the county to take over a road.

Commissioner Horstman stated that they need to talk to the Mayor of Batesville again for the City of Batesville to take over Tekulve Road.

Health Department — Paul Tyrer & Area Planning—Tad Brinson

Mr. Tyrer states we need to look at the smoking policy in the handbook. This would be for vapes & etc.

Mr. Tyrer asked for the maternity leave policy to be looked at again. Mr. Tyrer stated that he thinks this needs to be changed. The Commissioners told Mr. Tyrer to see what surrounding counties are doing with maternity leave. Mr. Tyrer brought in a new septic ordinance. Mr. Tyrer is leaving this with Attorney John Ertel to help with the advertising laws and is sending to all the Commissioners for review and to bring ordinance into effect as soon as possible.

The Commissioners reviewed with Attorney John Ertel the planning and zoning requirements and requirements to subdivide in Ripley County. Attorney John Ertel reviewed with the Commissioners the law. The planning committee will consult and see if the approval from the Health Department is needed, they are also going to consult with other counties and see how they deal with the requirements of a subdivide.

The standard operating procedure of the Health Department was reviewed in June of 2024.

The Health Department wanted to know what the standard operating procedure was for the Planning Department. Commissioner Horstman stated he wanted on record that the Planning Department procedure for complaints was not consistent. The Commissioners, Attorney Ertel, Area & Planning Director and Health Department Director all had a lengthy discussion on whether a signature was needed for a complaint to be actioned.

General Public — Jessica Hollinsworth

Ms. Hollinsworth, lives in Milan, Indiana on 475 North, was in about the poison hemlock. Commissioner Schmaltz stated that Ms. Hollinsworth needs to go and talk to the Soil and Water office. Ms. Hollinsworth is complaining about when the county mows it is spreading the poison hemlock. She is wanting our employees to be better educated on the weeds.

Park — Christi Volz

Ms. Volz is asking for money out of their Edit money the Commissioners have for new exhaust fans in the bathroom for \$3,720.00.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to give the park the \$3,720.00 out of the Edit fund, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes & 1 abstain.

Commissioner Horstman talked to Ms. Volz about Mr. Rick Stevens resigning from the park board. The Commissioners are going to reach out to Mr. Stevens about his resignation.

The Commissioners talked about filling the park board spot.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to accept Robert Vestal as the Park Board member., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the limited power of attorney - Debt collection matter, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the May 24, 2024 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

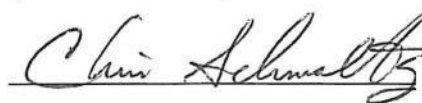
Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the claims and payroll, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to move July 5th meeting at 1pm to July 8th at 6pm, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

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




Mark Horstman, President



Chris Schmaltz



Kendall Hankins

Assts: 

Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor