

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## March 17, 2025

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

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

### Sheriff — Lee Davidson, Chief Deputy

Mr. Davidson talked to the Commissioners about the camera upgrade. He stated that the whole control system needs to be updated. The quote to fix the control system and the cameras is \$339,000.00. Commissioner Horstman asked Mr. Davidson about the unmarked Sheriff Department cars. He stated that there are 2 of them, one for the matron and one for the jail commander.

### Maintenance — Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert talked to the Commissioners about the walls of the showers at the jail. The Commissioners stated to get a quote to fix the shower walls with stainless steel walls.

Mr. Herbert has Arbor Management quote, for the courthouse and the annex trees in the amount of \$8,850.00 and Adams Tree quote in the amount of \$6,000.00.

Mr. Herbert talked to Dunlap about the bathroom in the Probation Department. The price on that bathroom is \$4,987.00.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the renovation of the Probation Department bathroom, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Herbert brought in an unsolicited quote from Patterson Nursery for fertilizing and weed control, \$165.00 an application/\$660.00yr for the courthouse and the annex for \$125.00 an application/\$500.00yr. The Commissioners have stated they are going to hold until the courthouse project is done.

Mr. Herbert asked if he could extend his vacation days. He has about 7 days left and doesn't have time to take them.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve Mr. Herbert to hold over his 7 days of vacation until the end of September, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Herbert brought in a quote from Cintas for a 5 year sprinkler inspection. The quote is for \$2,490.00.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the Cintas's 5 year sprinkler inspection for \$2,490.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

### EMS — Alex Poole

Ms. Poole brought in a purchase order for a new ambulance for \$275,000.00.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made a motion to approve the contract with Penn Care for a new ambulance with a May 2026 delivery, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Ashley Brinson — General Public**

Ms. Brinson brought in a complaint on 8193 S SR 129, Cross Plains, IN 47017, they are complaining about the neighbors pumping water on the state highway. This is causing a hazard for the public. The Commissioner's Attorney told Ms. Brinson that she should contact the State Representative and the Attorney General's Office.

**Veregy — Art Noel**

Mr. Noel came in to give an update on the Courthouse and Jail renovation.

The Commissioners talked about the clock tower renovation and it leaking. The quote is for \$636,406.00 to get the clock tower fixed by Kramer and Sons, Inc.

**Main Street Versailles - Holly Wehr**

Ms. Wehr was in to talk about the trees at the Annex and Courthouse. The Commissioners wanted to make sure that the Town and the residents knew exactly what was going on.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the Adams Tree Service quote of \$6,000.00 to work on the trees at the annex and courthouse, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Area & Planning—Tad Brinson**

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the amendment ordinance of Section 81.04, figure 1, Step 1, (B) (7) and (B) (10) of the area zoning code of Ripley County, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

**EMA — James Coffey**

Mr. Coffey was in to give an update on the EMA office.

**Ripley County C.A.R.E. Inc — Geneen Ostendorf**

Ms. Ostendorf was in to talk about her group to help all animals in Ripley County. The group is wanting the Commissioners to hire an animal control officer.

**Debbie Donk — General Public**

The county Attorney recommended that Ms. Donk not to speak on Vital Farms Zoning since there is a BZA meeting on April 1, 2025. She did want on record that she is against it, but other than that she did not speak on the matter.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve the March 3, 2025 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. 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.

**Economic Development — Gary Norman**

Mr. Norman brought in a contract for the comprehensive plan for Ripley County.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve to sign the Ripley County Comprehensive Plan contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Auditor — Amy Copeland**

Ms. Copeland brought up the lighting in the Annex building not being bright enough. The Commissioners discussed for a moment but went on with the meeting.

**Court Services — Shannon Schmaltz**

Mr. Schmaltz passed out the Court Services Annual Report to the Commissioners.

Mr. Schmaltz was in about the Community Corrections Board. He stated that the Commissioners have 4 appointments to the Board. The Community Corrections Board is recommending Chief Deputy Lee Davidson to the Board.

**Motion:** Commissioner Volz made the motion to approve Chief Deputy Lee Davidson to sit on the Community Corrections Board, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jeff Volz, **Seconded by** Roger Gullion. Motion passed unanimously.

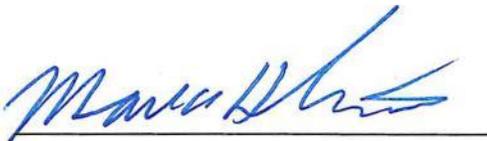
The Commissioners talked about the courthouse and they have decided that anything that would be hung on the wall would need approval for that from the Commissioners.

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

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

Commissioners talked about the Health Department Health Officer and the interviewing of the Director of the Health Department.

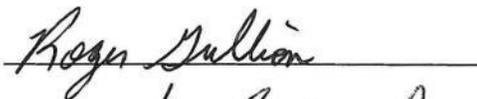
**Motion:** Commissioner Gullion made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Roger Gullion, **Seconded by** Jeff Volz. Motion passed unanimously.



Mark Horstman, President



Jeff Volz



Roger Gullion

AsSts: 

Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor