

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

January 25, 2021

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mark Hankins, President, Chris Schmaltz, Kendall Hankins, Amy Copeland, Auditor & John Ertel, County Attorney.

Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated that the chiller was fixed. Mr. Herbert also brought in a list of things that need repaired in the annex and the courthouse.

General Public – Matt Chastain

Mr. Chastain was in to talk to the commissioners just as the general public. Mr. Chastain was in to talk to the commissioners about the Ripley County Highway Garage. He is very disappointed about what is going on at the Ripley County Highway Garage. Mr. Chastain stating that bullying at the Ripley County Garage is not acceptable. Mr. Chastain is very upset that the Ripley County Highway Garage employee that resigned last week was a great employee and should not have been bullied to the point of resignation.

Treasurer – Lisa Vestal

Mrs. Vestal came in with the Board of Finance papers for the county funds. Commissioner Hankins would like for Mr. Ertel to have an investment policy completed by the end of the 1st quarter.

Park Board – Kenny Bowling

Mr. Bowling was in to talk about the projects the Ripley County Park Board would like to have done in the year of 2021. Mr. Bowling would like to trade in the old park bobcat for a new bobcat. Mr. Bowling stated that Optum has been using our Boy Scout building at the park. Mr. Bowling is wanting reimbursement for the electric and the rent that has been lost. Mr. Bowling was told to talk to the Ripley County Health Department for some guidance, and if they have no guidance for Optum to pay then the Commissioners will look into the COVID19 money.

Sheriff – Jeff Cumberworth

Mr. Cumberworth brought in a name for the new deputy that was hired.

General Public – John Ingram

Mr. Ingram is in about a piece of property in Milan (812 Franklin Street, Milan, IN 47031). Mr. Ingram is wanting the taxes to be waived from the property. Mr. Ingram is wanting to buy it and tear it down. Attorney John Ertel stated that if the town considers it as an unsafe building then the area planning department would come out and see if they consider it unsafe.

Highway Garage – Ray Toops

Mr. Toops stated that the Community Crossing Grant has been completed, and the commissioners need to give the ok to submit the grant.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion for Commissioner Horstman to sign the Community Crossing Grant for submission, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion for Commissioner Horstman to be able to sign any changes that would need to happen before Friday for submission, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Toops brought in a bill for the Durango for the commissioners to pay.

Commissioner Hankins gave a copy of a signed resignation letter from Steve Sullivan affective 1/16/2021.

Commissioner Hankins wanted to know if the graders and the mowers were at the county garage every night. All equipment should be returned to the highway garage. All equipment is not at the county garage at this time. Mr. Toops stated that he was unaware that the North and South graders and tractors should come back every day. Commissioners are wanting a fuel log done with every fill up and miles on each piece of equipment. The county commissioners are wanting a log of all in and out of inventory.

Commissioner Horstman made the recommendation to take in resumes for a new highway foreman. The commissioners discussed processes at the county garage with Mr. Toops. The county commissioners want an executive session set for February 1, 2021 at 6pm for personnel issues.

Mr. Toops also talked about and stated that the berm on the side of the roads are going to be filled with dirt and maybe some creek rock.

EMA – Randy Miller

Mr. Miller stated that he has been helping the Ripley County Health Department with COVID19 concerns. Mr. Miller stated that CodeRed is going good with the county. Mr. Miller is needing a commissioner on the EMA advisory council, Commissioner Horstman is going to be that commissioner. Mr. Miller is also needing 2 to sit on LEPC committee, Commissioner Schmaltz, Commissioner Hankins, proxy will be the 2 commissioners to do so. Mr. Miller stated that EMA completed the Ripley County Readiness Assessment. Mr. Miller stated that the EMA does have a UTV to use for any public safety office.

Technology – Becky Cairns

Mrs. Cairns was in to give a price on the replication service. The price is \$6,916.00. In this price, the \$2,916.00 is a every 3 year price that would have to be paid for licensing. Mrs. Cairns also came in with a price from Integration Partners contract is \$4,957.00 for a year.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to pay \$6,916.00 out of the COVID19 Cares Act Money, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the \$4,957.00 for the 1 year contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners suggested that Mrs. Cairns only put one vehicle at a time on the Ripley County auction.

EMS – Scott Huffman

Mr. Huffman was in about the Milan building and the drawings for the update of the building. Mr. Jason Smith is looking into a grant for \$90,000 for a 3 year period.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made a motion to approve the January 11, 2021 minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

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

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

 Mark Horstman, President

 Chris Schmaltz

 Kendall Hankins

Assts:  Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor