

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## January 09, 2023

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

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

Chris Schmaltz nominated Mark Horstman and Kendall Hankins nominated Chris Schmaltz for the Commissioner President.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to make Mark Horstman Commissioner President for 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners discussed the 2023 appointments.

**Motion:** Commissioner made the motion to appoint the following for 2023

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. Ray Toops

Highway North Foreman – Mr. Meredith Huntington

Highway South Foreman – Mr. Dennis McLaughlin **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

### Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert brought in a quote for the annex building from GenSet. The 300kw generator is \$298,038.91 and the 450kw is \$319,440.96. Mr. Randy Miller, EMA Director, stated the annex building needs the generator for government operations. The Commissioners tabled for 2 weeks for more stats.

Mr. Herbert stated that he is wanting to purchase a tilt cart. Mr. Herbert received 2 quotes one for \$670.00 and one for \$880.00. These quotes are from Uline. The Commissioner stated that Mr. Herbert is now a supervisor and can make his own decision.

### Sheriff – Rob Bradley & Chief Deputy – Lee Davidson

Mr. Bradley stated that the jail is in need of 6 new push button toilets. The price of them is \$153.97 per push button. Mr. Bradley also brought in a quote for the Jail door lock where the visitors come in, the quote is for \$1,015.50. The Commissioners gave approval for the 2 purchases.

Mr. Bradley brought in a new deputy hire for the county. He also brought in a memorandum from the deputies of Ripley County Sheriff Department for an increase in pay.

Mr. Bradley also has 2015 Dodge Charger with a blown motor that he would like to sell. The Commissioners stated that he could get with Becky for the online auction. They will purchase another vehicle with the money from the sale. That money will come from commissary.

Mr. Davidson stated that he would like to take the 2018 black Tahoe and sell it. Then would like to take that money and purchase a special use vehicle.

Mr. Davidson stated with being short 3 officers, the overtime hours will be more. They are wanting to move money to overtime out of the payroll lines they are not using with the 3 open positions.

### **Highway – Ray Toops**

Mr. Toops stated the highway is currently working on the Community Crossing Matching Grant. The Commissioners are signing a letter that states the county has the matching funds for the grant. The grant is due January 27, 2023.

The Commissioners talked about the unofficial detour through Spades Road. The unofficial detour is an estimated 5 miles.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the unofficial detour for State Road closure 46. The unofficial detour will be North Spades Road, County Road 1200 North, and County Road 600 East, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Toops stated that he turned in the cost estimate to fix the Napoleon unofficial detour to INDOT.

Commissioner Schmaltz told Mr. Toops that he had a complaint on Milan Versailles Pike in Milan about a complaint for manure, dirt, and hay on the road. Commissioner Schmaltz stated they asked for a speed bump to be put up. Mr. Toops stated that the county is not allowed to put a speed bump on the county road.

Commissioner Horstman stated that he wanted to make a statement in a public meeting. The county does not normally fix a residents mail box that is down due to snow removal.

Mr. Ertel, Attorney, discussed the weed board. He stated that he is working with extension supervisor Mr. David Osborne to create a Ripley County Weed Board.

Ms. Sara Guth stated that there is a federal grant now through INDOT for bridge updates, it is a matching grant 80/20. Commissioner Hankins stated that the berm needs to be looked at on 800 South from 421 to 129. Commissioner Schmaltz stated that 200 North is the same way from 625 to 101.

Ms. Copeland stated that there are 5 resumes turned in for the Highway Superintendent position.

Commissioner Horstman stated that they need to do interviews for the Superintendent position. Interviews will take place on January 18, 2023 starting at 5:00pm.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the December 27, 2022 executive session, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

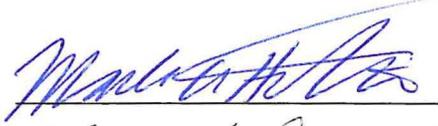
**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the December 27, 2022 meeting, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve attorney John Ertel's contract for 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schmaltz brought up the clock tower and the tower is owned by the Town of Versailles.

**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