

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## June 13, 2022

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

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

### Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated the mowing guy is doing a good job.

### General Public – Denise Schmaltz

Ms. Schmaltz wanted to know if there is anything that can be done for the service Judy Schebler gave to Ripley County. Commissioner Hankins stated he is waiting to hear from the family.

### Highway – Ray Toops

Mr. Toops brought in a recommendation for a new hire. The Commissioners stated the new hire is a no due to a resignation from the Jail and for not telling the truth on a job application. The driver's license number confirmed it is the same person.

Mr. Toops stated the highway has another person retiring at the end of this week. Robert Hunger will be retiring June 17, 2022.

Mr. Toops stated they did sell the Gradall for the price of \$20,000.00.

Mr. Toops stated an employee issue was brought to the Commissioners' attention. The employee's FMLA will run out on June 27, 2022 and Mr. Toops would like to extend his time off with short term disability for 30 days.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins approved the county garage employee's short term disability for 30 days, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Toops stated that the highway garage is going to start chip and sealing June 20, 2022.

Commissioner Horstman stated that Mr. Swingle called about Mr. Huntington not calling him back. Mr. Toops stated that Mr. Huntington did call back, but Mr. Swingle did not answer. Commissioner Horstman is going to call Mr. Swingle and discuss the options.

Commissioner Schmaltz asked about 300 South culvert that was replaced. He did say the county has fixed the culvert now and it has been sealed.

### Veregy – Rick Anderson

Mr. Anderson has asked for the Commissioners to enter into an agreement to implement a comprehensive energy savings performance contract. If Ripley County chooses not to, the county will reimburse Veregy \$27,500.00. The architecture company is going to be DLZ.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion for the Commissioner President to sign to enter into an agreement to implement a comprehensive energy savings performance contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Area Planning – Tad Brinson**

Mr. Brinson brought in 2 rezones.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the rezone of 13573 N CR 400 E, Batesville, IN 47006 from agricultural to roadside business, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the rezone of 8054 N US 421, Osgood, IN 47037 from agricultural to open industrial, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Area Planning – Dwight Bauman**

Mr. Bauman was in regarding the mileage rate. He stated that the county rate is .44 cents, the state rate is 58.5 cents, and IRS rate is 62.5 cents. The Commissioners stated that he would have to go to the Council.

#### **911 – Leah Hildebrand**

Ms. Hildebrand is in for a new 911 tower project. The system that we have is 28 years old. They are hoping the ARP money can help pay for a new tower. There was a long discussion on the project. The Commissioners gave their blessing for 911 to go to Council to ask for the ARP money.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to put in a \$750,000.00 appropriation for a new 911 tower project, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **REMC – Bryan Miller**

Mr. Miller brought in a new area to serve fiber optic internet. The Commissioners have given their blessing for Council to approve a \$937,000.00 appropriation.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to go forward with a \$937,000.00 appropriation for fiber optic internet, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes and Commissioner Hankins abstained.

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

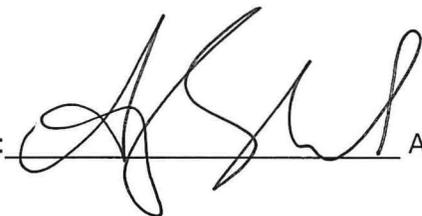
**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the claims and payroll, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

**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