

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

May 01, 2023

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 that the Milan EMS had a cylinder go bad and the cost to replace is \$1,400.11. The Commissioners gave their approval to get it fixed.

Mr. Herbert stated that he still has not had any applicants apply for the maintenance position.

Health Department – Lexi Bushhorn

Ms. Bushhorn brought in the approval of Senate enrolled Act #4. This will be with the Commissioners approval. Ms. Bushhorn stated she will know more next week. This is to expand public health in Indiana \$13.00 dollar per capita to \$26.00 per capita, this will also have the wage increase in it, along with multiple other things in the Act.

Highway – Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated the stop sign was installed at Finks road and 600.

Mr. Edwards stated that the highway garage has hired 2 new employees.

Mr. Edwards is wanting to put up travel at your own risk on 200 South and Signor Hill.

Commissioner Horstman stated that Merkel Road needs to be ditched. Mr. Edwards stated he would get it done.

Solar Panels – Attorney Timonera

Attorney Timonera stated that a neighborhood meeting was held as an informal meeting about the solar panels that may go in in the Batesville area. These taxpayers would like an ordinance telling them the ins and outs of the solar panels. There were many taxpayers in the meeting that introduced themselves. Commissioner Horstman would like to have an ordinance as close to Franklin Counties as we can. The Commissioners would like to do a moratorium on the solar panels. Commissioner Hankins stated he would like to go 60 days out.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to put a 60 day moratorium on the solar panel ordinance, which will be June, 29, 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brinson came down and Commissioner Schmaltz asked about who draws up the ordinance for the solar panels.

Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning – Kylie Sparks

Ms. Sparks brought in some contracts for the Odra Holton Grant. Commissioners signed the contracts.

911 – Leah Hildebrand

Ms. Hildebrand was in about renovating the 911 room. They are wanting some new counters and flooring. Ms. Hildebrand stated that employees are having health problems. The Commissioners are not opposed to getting some renovations but there is a leak in the 911 room occasionally. This leak needs to be fixed first.

Commissioner Hankins brought up the Veregy meeting that was on 4/25/2023. This meeting was to talk about where the employees would go when the renovations started. This will be done on a floor by floor basis. It was talked to about the courthouse being on a 4 day work week. There is nothing set in stone as of right now just a discussion.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the April 17, 2023 meeting 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 approve Malcon for EMS fuel tax refund, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. 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