

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## November 29, 2021

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

### **Maintenance – Craig Herbert**

The Auditor, Amy Copeland, brought in 2 quotes for a new truck for the maintenance department. The quotes were from Tom Tepe AutoCenter, Inc and Batesville Chrysler-Dodge Jeep, Inc.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the quote from Batesville Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep, Inc.,

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman.

Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

Mr. Herbert is going to get 2 quotes for snow removal.

The Commissioners, Sheriff and Mr. Herbert are looking more into the maintenance position that is open at the jail.

Auditor Copeland will put in a request to transfer the money out of the jail maintenance and put into the maintenance line. Mr. Herbert will change his hours to 40 hours per week starting January 1, 2021.

### **Highway – Ray Toops**

Mr. Toops stated that bids for the 2022 year are due on December 13, 2021 by 10am.

Mr. Toops stated they had an issue with the new tractor. It had a small antifreeze leak. Zimmerman has already fixed it and will be back at the highway garage tomorrow November 30, 2021.

Mr. Toops stated that the Gradall will be over at Southeastern Equipment for them to go through with an inspection next week. Mr. Toops has reached out to other counties about the used Gradall.

Mr. Toops brought in a list of things on the agenda for the county highway garage for the year 2022. This is just a wish list due to having to wait to see if we get the Community Crossing Matching Grant. Commissioner Hankins stated he would like to get on a 6 year rotation. That would be 118 miles of road a year. There is 711 miles of road in Ripley County.

### **Friendship Regional Sewer/Common Wealth – Tony Woods & Matt Wirth**

Mr. Wirth, Common Wealth Engineering, stated that they did not get awarded the grant they applied for, but are going to try and reapply. Mr. Wirth wanted to make sure that the money was still going to be available if they reapply.

Mr. Wood stated that Friendship Sewer does about 9000 gallons and has the capacity to do 20,000 gallons.

### **Historical Society – Dannie Welch**

Mr. Welch came in to talk to the commissioners about the scanner in the historical society. The scanner was purchased new in 2014 from riverboat money. Mr. Welch stated that the quote to fix it is \$1,200.00.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve to have the scanner fixed for \$1,200.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

### **Area Planning – Tad Brinson**

Mr. Brinson came in to tell us that we have 2 appointments for the planning and BZA. District 2 appointment is Mr. Harry Mitchell and he would like to be reappointed, district 3 appointment, Ms. Maureen Roark, is retiring. Mr. Brinson stated that Ms. Jennifer Miller is interested in the position.

Commissioner Horstman brought up the noise ordinance situation between Teer and Shelton. Attorney Ertel stated this is an Area and Planning decision to see if anything needs to be done further. Commissioner Horstman stated that in his opinion it is just 2 neighbors that are not getting along.

**Jeff Chatham – 8986 S SR 129, Cross Plains, IN 47017**

Mr. Chatham was in to ask the Commissioners about the county putting in an alley way behind his house. Mr. Chatham is going to have to see if he has a right of way or an easement. The Commissioner sent him to the surveyor office to see if it is recorded as an alley.

\*\*Commissioner Horstman stated that Commissioner Schmaltz wanted the Commissioners to make a decision on buying the courthouse a new Christmas tree. Commissioner Hankins stated that the limit will be \$300.00.

\*\*Attorney Ertel gave the Commissioner's a copy of what they are wanting to change in the handbook on compensation time, sick time, and personal time.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the handbook changes (see attached), **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the November 15, 2021 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the payroll and claims, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to recognize December 23, 2021 starting at 2:00 pm a holiday for all government offices, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

\*\*The Commissioner discussed health insurance possibilities for the county.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

  
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Mark Horstman, President

  
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Chris Schmaltz

  
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Kendall Hankins

Assts:   
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Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor