

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

October 2, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Maintenance – Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated that the generators are up and running at the new 911 towers.

Mr. Herbert talked to the Commissioners about Cintas and the date of termination. The Commissioners told him to talk to Cintas but to also call Plymate for a bid.

Mr. Herbert talked to the Commissioners about the men's bathroom in the courthouse. The bathrooms are going to be remodeled in the courthouse renovation.

Commissioner Hankins asked when Johannigan will start on the parking lot. Mr. Herbert stated that Johannigan wanted to wait until after the Pumpkin Show was over.

Highway – Jason Edwards

Mr. Edwards stated that Brownstown Road bridge #133 destruction is on hold. This bridge is considered a historic bridge. This could jeopardize our federal funding. USI is working with the highway to make sure everything is done correctly for the destruction.

Mr. Edwards stated that he started a road closure file system.

Mr. Edwards is stated they want to abandon 450 South behind New Marion. Mr. Edwards is wanting to stop county maintenance on this. He is also wanting to abandon 575 East in the corner that goes through Laughery Creek in Friendship.

Mr. Edwards stated that Purdue will be in for chainsaw training on December 5, 2023.

Mr. Edwards stated that someone called on 700 South and Benham Road to be widened for semis to come and go from it.

Mr. Edwards stated that O'Mara is supposed to start blacktopping again on Wednesday October 4, 2023.

The Commissioners talked to Mr. Edwards about using a compactor when culverts are put in.

General Public – John Robertson

Mr. Robertson was in about a building that is half on his property. Mr. Robertson was in to make a complaint about the Area and Planning Director. Mr. Robertson was very upset for having to pay to correct an error. Attorney John Ertel will ask that the BZA to waive the variance charge of \$250.00.

Area Planning – Tad Brinson

Mr. Brinson gave the Commissioners a grievance on the solar panels that they are having a meeting on tomorrow at 7pm.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made them motion to approve the September 18, 2023 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed 2 yes and 1 absent.

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

*The Commissioners discussed changing their meeting dates to Fridays in 2024 while the courthouse renovation is being renovated. The Commissioners are changing the dates to Fridays in 2024 unless it falls on a holiday then the meeting will be on the business day before the holiday.

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


Mark Horstman, President


Chris Schmaltz


Kendall Hankins

Assts:  Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor