

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

October 31, 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 that the quote to put stone around the annex is \$2,630.00. This is for the fabric that goes down first and the 20 ton of stone. The Commissioners told Mr. Herbert to talk to probation about helping him with the project.

Area Planning – Tad Brinson

Mr. Brinson was in to ask for money out of the Belterra Fund that is already appropriated for 2022 for a new truck to save taxpayer money out of county general, but the Commissioners have already stated they want \$25,000.00 to go towards the Children's Advocacy CAC. The Commissioners asked for the Auditor to transfer \$25,000.00 from Riverboat Belterra Motor Vehicles to Riverboat Belterra Children's Advocacy Center.

Highway – Ray Toops

Mr. Toops brought in 3 new truck drivers that he would like to hire. The Commissioners gave their blessing for the 3 new hires.

Mr. Toops stated they opened the 421 bridge on 10/21/2022. They are also putting in a stop light in Napoleon. The Commissioners asked about the detour of 750 North and 300 West. Mr. Toops stated that the state will only pay for one detour. The unofficial detour was Fairground Road to Michigan Road to 850 North to 500 West to Millhousen Road. Mr. Toops is going to try and talk to some people to see if the roads can be fixed by INDOT.

Mr. Toops brought up the uniforms from Plymate. Mr. Toops also stated that the guys at the garage are ok with the uniforms.

Commissioner Hankins asked Mr. Toops if they had worked on the Busching Bridge. Mr. Toops stated they had worked on it.

Commissioner Hankins asked Mr. Toops if the grader was fixed. Mr. Toops stated the parts are in, but it is not complete yet.

Plymate – LaDonna Booher & Gary Larrison

Mr. Larrison stated that shirts are \$.57 cents with care charge of \$.20 cents, the pants are \$.45 cents with care charge of \$.13 cents. This would have a \$12.95 service charge. This averages out to \$773.00 per employee per year. Mr. Toops stated that he would look in his budget to see if he could pay for it out of the highway budget.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to cancel the Cintas contract and to purchase the AEDs. This would also cancel the first aid cabinets in the buildings, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to cancel Cintas cleaning supplies and hire Plymate for the cleaning supplies and the first aid cabinets, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to accept the amended contract with the revisions of litigation in Ripley County and a grace period of 45 days for payment with Commissioner Horstman as the signer of the contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Town of Sunman – Gary Norman

Mr. Norman stated that the Town of Sunman is wanting to extend the sewer in Sunman. The READI Grant is always changing. The Town of Sunman is asking for \$754,696.00 in ARP money. Auditor Copeland cannot find where they asked for a certain amount at a previous meeting. The Commissioners have committed \$750,000.00 to the Town of Sunman Sewer Project.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve \$750,000.00 contingent on getting the READI Grant for the Town of Sunman, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners Hankins asked about the Fire Meeting that was talked about in the paper. The Commissioners and Council were criticized by not being at the Fire Meeting. The Commissioners discussed this issue. The Commissioners did state that the 911 tower project is going to help the fire departments.

911 – Leah Hildebrand

Ms. Hildebrand was in with the bids for the new 911 Tower Project.

Motion: Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve Mission 1 bid contingent on the formal invoice/work order in a 30/45 day time frame and Commissioner Horstman can sign off, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

**4:30 Commissioner Horstman had to leave the meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve October 17, 2022 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed 2 yes 1 absent.

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

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


Mark Horstman, President


Chris Schmaltz


Kendall Hankins

Asstst  Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor