

# Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

## September 02, 2022

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Roll Call

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

### Maintenance - Craig Herbert

Mr. Herbert stated that a couple of water fountains have went out in the courthouse. The Commissioners stated that the water fountains can wait until we see what the courthouse renovation has in store.

Mr. Herbert stated that he is going to come in a couple Saturdays to do some landscaping before Pumpkin Show.

### 911 – Leah Hildebrand

The new radio tower will be by the fire training station. This has been discussed with the Ripley County Redevelopment and the Town of Versailles. Ms. Hildebrand also talked to the Commissioners about the contract that Hoosier Hills Water sent to 911 Communications. Ms. Hildebrand stated the Radio Tower Project is coming along great.

### Coroner – Jason Bailey

Mr. Bailey stated that they can no longer go to Decatur County for autopsies. They are going to have to go to Hamilton County for the autopsies. Mr. Bailey is asking the Commissioners to really think about putting in a morgue in Ripley County. Mr. Bailey and the Commissioners discussed the property in Osgood.

### EMS – Scott Huffman

Mr. Huffman was in to update the Commissioners on the EMS Milan building. The roof has been put on the building. Mr. Huffman did ask when the Safe Haven Baby Box would be in so it can be installed.

Mr. Huffman was also in to talk about the corner lot across the road from the EMS. The cost of the lot is \$14,000.00.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to allow Commissioner Horstman to sign the contract for the land in Milan for \$14,000.00. This is for lot 16. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins.

Motion passed unanimously.

### Highway – Ray Toops

Commissioner Horstman brought up a contract that was sent to him via email. The contract is the Indiana Department of Transportation County Bridge Inspection Contract. Commissioner Horstman also received an Indiana Department of Transportation LPA contract. This contract is an 80/20 split for all 4 years.

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the Indiana Department of Transportation LPA contract.,

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Toops also brought in a contract called unofficial detour contract revised. The contract is for the reimbursement of \$31,772.82

**Motion:** Commissioner Schmaltz made the motion to approve the unofficial detour contract revised. The contract money is for \$31,772.82, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Chris Schmaltz, **Seconded by** Kendall Hankins. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Toops also stated that they have 6 or 7 days left of chip and sealing weather permitted.

Commissioner Horstman brought up a ditch that needs to be repaired on Merkel road. The highway department has it on their list to do.

Commissioner Hankins asked if anyone has been hired. Mr. Toops stated that they have had a few inquiries. Mr. Toops stated they are behind in mowing due to being short staffed.

**USI – Shari Hinds**

Ms. Hinds came in to talk to the Commissioners about the 4 year cycle of bridge inspections. Ms. Hinds talked to the Commissioners about federal funding for our bridges. If you are successful in getting federal funds, they pay 80%. This is a 5 year process. USI did go over a 5-6 year plan of bridges that need to be completed in Ripley County.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve USI to start the federal loan process for \$10,000.00,

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins made the motion to approve the August 22, 2022 Commissioner meeting minutes,

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Motion:** Commissioner Hankins approved for all eligible employee's personal time to become effective January 1st, 2023. This is for all personal time to be given on January 1st with no roll over at the end of the year, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kendall Hankins, **Seconded by** Chris Schmaltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion amended Commissioner Hankins stated that the county employees eligible will get 4 personal days per year starting January 1, 2023. These 4 days will be available for use on January 1st. These 4 days will not be allowed to roll over to the following year. The additional day that will be given is in lieu of not receiving the Juneteenth holiday.

Commissioner Schmaltz asked about a job description for the new maintenance supervisor for the year 2023. Auditor Copeland will send the Commissioners a copy of the job description on file.

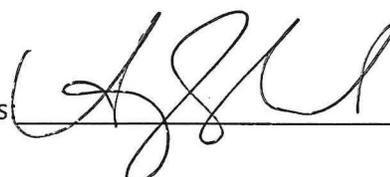
The Commissioners told Auditor Copeland to take the \$14,000.00 for the land from Riverboat Belterra building improvements and put it in the land account.

**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