

February 1, 2022

Council Chambers
Vigo County Annex
Terre Haute, Indiana

Roll Call:

Present: Chris Switzer, Mike Morris and Brendan Kearns

Others Present: County Attorney Terry Modesitt, Auditor James Bramble, Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk, Tammy York-Allen, Bill Watson, Michael Wright, Diana Winsted-Smith, Tim Cunningham, Kevin Gardner, Larry Robbins, Kara Wright, Bruce Allen, Vicki Weger, Terry Bays, Kylissa Miller, Todd Thacker, Joey Lehman, and several members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Chris Switzer called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Minutes/Claims. Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk presented meeting minutes for January 18, 2022 for approval. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the January 18, 2022 minutes. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Loudermilk then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of January 15, 2022 through January 21, 2022 in the amount of \$4,361,637.43 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,055,973.45 for a total amount of \$5,417,610.88. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the January 15, 2022 through January 21, 2022 claims. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Next, Ms. Loudermilk presented expenditures for the period of January 22, 2022 through January 28, 2022 in the amount of \$877,656.41. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the January 22, 2022 through January 28, 2022 claims. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

County Credit Card for Veterans Assistance Office. Tim Cunningham stated that he thought a limit of \$2,000.00 would be sufficient for the card. Auditor James Bramble commented that if, for some reason, they would have to make a larger purchase that a phone call could be made to the bank to increase the amount for a short time in order to accommodate the purchase. Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk advised Mr. Cunningham that once the card is approved, she will have some paperwork for him to sign. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve a new credit card for Veterans Assistance Office with a limit of \$2,000. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Adult Protective Services – Prosecutor’s Office. After a short discussion, it was decided that this matter would be tabled until Rob Roberts would be back in town and able to appear at the meeting. Mike Morris made a motion to table the matter. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Michael Wright Contract – Commissioners. This is a contract with Mr. Wright for services. He is still being consulted on various matters and execution of this contract will allow Mr. Wright to send a bill for his services. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve this contract. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Human Resources and Maintenance appointments – Commissioners. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Tommy Roberts as Director of Maintenance. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Chris Switzer then made a motion to appoint Kara Wright as Director of Human Resources. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Voting was as follows: Brendan Kearns – aye; Chris Switzer – aye.

Pitney Bowes Lease for new Jail – Commissioners. Brendan Kearns advised that the Sheriff's Department wanted to have a mail system set up at the new jail. They currently run it through this location. Instead of doing an additional contract, it makes more sense to add it to the contract we currently have with Pitney Bowes. Mike Morris noted that the Commissioners have a line item for postage that pays for all the entities across the county. With the jail's new location, they will need a postage meter. There was a short discussion about postage and the use of outside vendors. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the new lease. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Power DMS – Community Corrections. Bill Watson noted that this is a program utilized to develop their software and all the training for their staff. The software allows them to build trainings straight from their policies and procedures. This is just a renewal of that contract. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the Power DMS contract. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Restroom Remodel – Commissioners. Mike Morris said that discussion about restroom remodeling had started last year. Mr. Morris stated that he had gotten a little ahead of himself so they had resubmitted it and put out for some bids. It is now ready to go and the money has already been allocated for it. He said that the restrooms will be remodeled one at a time. He wanted to get approval to move ahead with the project. He did note that during the planning of the project, it was discovered that the restrooms are not currently ADA compliant but that they will be in compliance at the completion of the remodel. Brendan Kearns also commented that they will also be more COVID-safe by making the fixtures touchless. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the project. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Joink Agreement – IT. Joey Lehman stated that this is a contract for a back-up internet circuit. Our current internet circuit is at the jail and this one will be located in this building. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the contract. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Elected Officials. Larry Robbins said that in taking advantage of the State's Community Crossing's Matching Grant, you see signage in other communities setting forth where the monies are being used and how they are funded. So he is suggesting that Vigo County place signage in locations where this project money was used to let the public know that same was made possible by the use of the Community Crossings Matching Grant and local income tax dollars. He presented a draft mock-up of the sign he would like placed on those projects so the public can see their tax dollars at work. The roads benefitting this year from Community Crossings are Battlerow, Baldwin, Greencastle, Devonald and Roberts Roads. There was a brief discussion about the roads yet to benefit.

Mr. Robbins then talked about the snow event that was being forecast for the next few days and said that they were ready and would have round-the-clock coverage. This is forecast to be an extended event and they are prepared for that if it happens.

Mr. Robbins then noted that he also had a petition to release some road bonds from Peabody Mining Company. They have asked to release the road bonding for a 200' wide crossing 2300 feet west of the intersection of County Road 300 E with County Road 1200 N. Those are all Sullivan County references but it is located on Trimmer Drive in Vigo County, which is the boundary between Sullivan and Vigo County. They have met all the requirements, there are no issues with the crossings and he would like to get that bond released for them. There was a brief discussion about the purpose of a road bond and how it works. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve release of the road bond. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. A short discussion was then had about the possibility of the snow and ice forecast.

Public Comments. Linda Plew of West Terre Haute expressed her concern regarding the animals running loose. With all the new businesses and improvements coming to West Terre Haute plus the existing businesses and residents, there is a huge safety issue with all the loose animals. Ordinances and laws have been passed and calls have been made but nothing is being done or enforced. She is not sure what can be done or what the answer is but she is looking for some help. There was a very lengthy discussion about these matters. Vicki Curts also commented that the same issues applied in Terre Haute as well as West Terre Haute. The Commissioners said that they would look into the matter and see what kind of solutions they can come up with.

The meeting recessed at 9:40 a.m.



Chris Switzer, President



Mike Morris, Vice President



Brendan Kearns, Secretary

Attest:



James Bramble, Auditor