

February 23, 2021

Council Chambers
Vigo County Annex
Terre Haute, Indiana

Roll Call:

Present: Mike Morris, Chris Switzer and Brendan Kearns

Others Present: County Attorney Michael Wright, Auditor James Bramble, Joel Modesitt, Tammy York-Allen, Kevin Gardner, Larry Robbins, Diana Smith, Kim Bennett, Kara Wright, Vickie Oster, Sarah Holbert and Bill Watson.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Morris called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Minutes/Claims. Mr. Bramble presented minutes for February 9, 2021 for approval. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the minutes. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Auditor James Bramble then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of February 6, 2021 through February 12, 2021 in the amount of \$4,051,461.18. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the claims. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Auditor James Bramble then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of February 13, 2021 through February 19, 2021 in the amount of \$228,270.94 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,040,451.69 for a total amount of \$1,268,722.63. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the claims. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Consideration of 2nd Resolution for Tax Sale Certificate – Wabash Valley Health Center, Inc. County Attorney Michael Wright noted the Commissioners had previously set a public hearing to consider whether or not to assign two tax sale certificates to the Wabash Valley Health Center (1426 First Avenue and 1432 First Avenue). This is just a resolution establishing that no meritorious objections or opposition has been presented regarding the proposed assignment. This is an assignment of the rights that the Commissioners hold. Wabash Valley Health Center can then take the final steps for procuring the property in their name. There was a brief discussion. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the Second Resolution for Tax Sale Certificate to Wabash Valley Health Center, Inc. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Consideration of Proposals for Form 11 services – Vigo County Assessor. Kevin Gardner, Vigo County Assessor, has received two proposals for his Form 11 mailing (the property tax assessment). Mr. Gardner stated that the Form 11's have to be sent out annually and Midwest Presort was the provider for this service the last two years. Mr. Gardner was contacted by The Masters Touch, LLC advising that they would also like to submit a bid for this year. Both bids are being presented today and the difference in price is approximately \$500.00. Mr. Gardner's opinion would be to continue to use Midwest Presort, even though their bid is the higher one. They did a very good job and everything ran smoothly. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Gardner noted that their bid did decrease from last year.

Chris Switzer moved, upon recommendation from Kevin Gardner, to approve the contract for Midwest Presort. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Update from County Assessor on PTABOA Board – Vigo County Assessor. Kevin Gardner was also present to address a situation with the PTABOA board members. Historically, the board consisted of three members. Due to some issues in 2019, the number was increased to five. One long-time member recently resigned and another Commissioner-appointed member has just given his resignation, leaving three current members. In order to have a quorum if one of the current members doesn't show up for a hearing, it is going to be necessary to have two new appointments to the board or the official number of members will need to be changed back to three. If the number is changed back to three, then in the event that a member does not show up for the hearing, the remaining two members will constitute a quorum. The PTABOA hearings are set to begin in the second week of March and should take two weeks. Mr. Gardner anticipates that all appeal hearings will be completed for this year, for the most part, in that 2-week period. Therefore, time is of the essence in making a decision to either change the number of members back to three or to get two new members appointed. A discussion took place regarding whether the Council or the Commissioners would appoint additional members and the political balance of the board. The current three members would be in political balance. It was Mr. Gardner's opinion that they should just go back to a 3-member board. Discussion continued. County Attorney Michael Wright advised that this was being brought before the Commissioners today for discussion and some additional information would need to be obtained before proceeding. It was decided that the Commissioner would discuss this in the coming week and the needed information obtained and they would render a decision at next week's meeting.

Consideration of Resolution regarding H.B. 1381 – Vigo County Commissioners. This has to do with House Bill 1381 pending before the Indiana Legislature that concerns County zoning decisions on wind and solar projects. The bill, in some opinions, disenfranchises local citizens from being able to determine when these types of projects would be allowed in their county. This is a resolution expressing opposition to House Bill 1381 and supporting the rights of the individuals living in the community to direct their own future land use decisions. Brendan Kearns advised that the Indiana Association of Commissioners encouraged all County Commissioners to support the resolution. Commissioners Morris and Switzer agreed. After further brief discussion, Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-07. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Appointment for Capital Improvement Board. This is a certificate of appointment to certify that Terri Conley is appointed as a member of the Vigo County Capital Improvement Board as of today for a 2-year term expiring on January 15, 2023. The initial appointment by the Commissioners put the CIB out of political balance. Ms. Conley meets all the categories. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Terri Conley as a member of the CIB. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

OCRA Approval. Tammy York-Allen received a message this morning indicating that application approval for the submission to OCRA (Office of Community Rural Affairs) for food pantries needed to be obtained. A sign-in sheet for the people attending the meeting needed to be completed and has been done. The application needs to be approved at a public meeting before submission. It has already been advertised. Possible recipients are not yet being named due to the fact that the grant may not be awarded to Vigo County. The Commissioners were made aware of an opportunity for a grant for a large

amount of money. The Commissioners heard from a group and asked them to pursue the grant and this is our meeting to say that this has been done and we are accepting the application. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the application. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Vigo County Representatives. Larry Robbins gave a brief update on recent snow removal and what was involved and being done. It was noted that the County had done a very nice job. It was mentioned that there were 826 miles of road in the County that had to be plowed. That number will fluctuate some in the future as subdivisions are accepted into the County. Further discussion took place.

There was a short discussion about the jail progress. Chris Switzer had recently toured the premises and gave an update on things that are taking place and what has been accomplished so far. It was noted that the project was still on budget and on time.

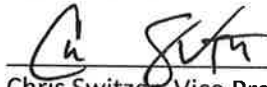
Vickie Oster of E911 gave a report on things taking place at E911 and the recent snow situation in the County and how it affected E911. She introduced Sarah Holbert, her new Assistant Director. She also discussed new employees, training, etc.

Public Comments. There were none.

Today's meeting recessed at 9:40 a.m.

 3/2/2021

Mike Morris, President



Chris Switzer, Vice President



Brendan Kearns, Secretary

Attest:


James Bramble, Auditor