

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING  
March 28, at 6:00 PM  
Annex Building

Matt Sporleder, Shane Boswell, and Bob Wilhite were present. Matt Sporleder opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dan Brookbank is asking to get one of the Veterans vehicles replaced. Dan had forecasted the need for a new vehicle in his 2024 budget so is not asking for additional money. The vehicle that he is replacing has 150,000 miles on it. Dan explains that he has a \$3000.00 maintenance budget, and he depleted that last year. Currently the vehicle is at Miller's tire for an estimate for repairs. Dan went to Family in North Vernon and the quote is \$39,088.00 and Bob Poynter's quote was for \$39,220.00. Shane made a motion to allow Dan to move forward with the Family quote of \$39,088.00. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Tara Thormin wanted to introduce herself. Tara is Mayor Gerkin's administrative assistant, as well as the Event Coordinator for North Vernon. Tara is also secretary for the Animal Control Board.

Nicci submitted a travel request for the Recorder, Child Support Division, and Health Department. The Child Support Division will be attending the annual conference in June 2024. There will be 5 employees attending this conference. The fees will be paid out of the Child Support Incentive Fund. Shane made a motion to approve the travel request, Bob seconded the request, passed unanimously. The Health Department will be attending State training and Backflow training. This is day training, and they will use the Health Departments vehicle, so therefore the county will not incur any cost. Shane made a motion to approve, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The Recorder will be attending a state called conference. The cost for this will come out of county general because this is a state called conference. Shane made a motion to approve, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Nicci also discusses with the commissioners about posting an advertisement on Indeed for an Animal Control officer. Matt would prefer that Nicci advertise the opening on our county website for a couple of weeks first.

Shane said that with other businesses shutting down and the schools shutting down, the commissioners have decided to close all non-essential county offices on April 8, 2024 (Eclipse Day). The essential workers will get a floating holiday to use later. Shane made a motion to close on April 8, 2024, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Louise Malcomb brought the proofs for the bridge plaques that will be put up at the James Covered Bridge and the Scipio Covered Bridge. She is asking for final approval from the commissioners. Matt is asking if they could add the original cost of the bridge on the plaque. Matt asked if the cost of the plaques was on the proof and Louise said no. She said, you are not paying for it, so I didn't include the cost. Louise said she has contributions and that she was going to pay the remainder. Louise said that she would still like for the county to put green and white standard signs at the other major bridges/rivers in the county. Louise also asks about the barrier on the east side of James Bridge. Matt said that they have had issues with the barriers in the past. Alex said that we are good to put the barriers back up.

Sherri submitted to the commissioners the detour routes for the State Road 3 and State Road 7 closures.

The unofficial detour for State Road 3 is Base Road and the traffic on State Road 7 will be getting off at 500N and take it to 700W. Sherri said that the cars would work their way through and that this is mainly for semi-trucks. Alex said that he was told that the 7 closure was going to have one lane open. Sherri said that in June, it will be closed for 2-3 weeks. Matt said that there will be a period that 3 and 7 would be closed at the same time, and Sherri said yes. Shane made a motion to accept the unofficial detours, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Sherri said that they had purchased detour signs and was going to put them up. Matt said that he was under the impression that if you put up detour signs, that would make it an official detour.


Shane made a motion to accept and sign the 2024 Rumpke contract, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Denise Keith appeared before the commissioners a few weeks back about the neighbors dumping waste in her yard. She came before the commissioners again tonight. Alex told her that this was a civil issue and that she would need to see an attorney. She said that she would clean it up herself and wants to know why the Health Department will not do anything to help.

Bob made a motion to sign prior minutes, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Bob made a motion to sign payroll and claims, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Shane made a motion to sign the military contract; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Shane made a motion to adjourn; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.



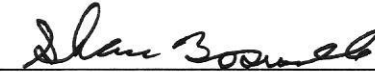
Sarah J. Abel, Auditor



Bob Wilhite



Matt Sporleder, President



Shane Boswell