

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING

May 9, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

Annex Building

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

Sherri with the county highway brought the final inspection form for Bridge 76 for the commissioners to approve and sign. Shane made a motion to sign; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Sherri also presented an ordinance to regulate truck traffic on Base Road. Shane made a motion to sign the ordinance; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Alex states that there is a second ordinance that amends the ordinance that the commissioners just adopted, but he is asking the commissioners to table this until the next meeting. The amendment adds a fine to the original ordinance, but this cannot be adopted today because it must be published in the newspaper. Shane made a motion to table, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Ellie Bright attended a previous meeting and discussed the restricted opioid settlement money with the commissioners. The commissioners were on board with allowing Ellie (JRAC) to oversee how the funds are spent. Matt previously explained that he would like to know of all expenditures coming out of this fund before deciding. Ellie, Sarah, and Amy worked on a spreadsheet to show the commissioners what expenses would be coming out of the Opioid restricted fund. The community coordinator position salary of \$29,025.00 will come out of the restricted funds along with the 2024-2025 salary in the amount of \$31,837.50. JRAC would like to oversee the money and decide where the funds would be best spent. Ben is involved in Centerstone and is currently trying to get an RCO established in Jennings County. Jackson County currently has an RCO and was awarded \$150,000 of Jackson County opioid money. In July they will be hosting a back-to-school event at CSL clubhouse. They will offer backpacks, and supplies. There will be clothing provided and back-to-school haircuts. Ellie said that they would report back in 6 months with the progress of what JRAC is doing with the opioid settlement funds. Shane said he wants the money to be put to good use. Shane made a motion to approve Ellie & JRAC to \$135,000 of the opioid settlement money, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Ellie said she has also applied for state grant funds. Ellie said she believes we are on the right path to making changes in Jennings County. Ellie will report back at the last meeting in October.

Hubert Emly said he is representing 30 other people that could not be in the meeting today. On the south side of 250 in Marion township the roads do not get repaired, and the roads are lousy! A new culvert was put in a few years ago and the road is dipping and crumbing. 910 N a culvert collapsed, and the excess rain runoff is tearing up the roads. He said the ditch will need to be dug out so the water will not cover the roads. Matt asked Bob to go out and check the situation and see about getting things repaired. Hubert said that taxes have increased, and he doesn't care to pay the tax if they work on the roads. Bob explained that we get very little tax money for roads.

Nicci submitted a travel request from Dan Brookbank for the annual training conference. Expenses will come out of his budget. Shane made a motion to approve, Bob seconded the request, and passed unanimously. Chasity with Probation has also submitted a request for the annual conference, and Travis and Jalana will attend the conference also. Expenses will come out of the probation budget.

Chasity will also be attending a summer conference. Shane made a motion to approve the probation travel request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The health department also submitted a travel request to attend a meeting. Shane made a motion to approve, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Animal control is asking to fill their part time position. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Nicci has been working with the Animal Control board on a volunteer application and a waiver of liability. Alex has reviewed and Matt does not see any issues with the application. Bob made a motion to approve, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Ron Hayes with the Sheriff's Department submitted a quote to replace the wall behind the kitchen wash station. The quote from No Limit Paint and Construction is \$4,882.00 and the work will be under warranty. This will need to be completed to be compliant with the state. Matt said in 14 years, this is the third time he has dealt with this problem. Shane made a motion to approve, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Tracy said that one of the employees wrote up a proposal to do the work on the ambulance simulator. The total expenses were \$1826 and the total for the scrap would be \$400.00. Matt said that he doesn't have an issue with it if she can find it in her budget. The simulator will be used for training and may be able to be utilized by other counties. The employee was going to donate his time and materials and he was going to take the scrap for payment. Alex said that he could not be compensated. Matt said that we will accept sealed bids for scrap. Shane made a motion to allow Tracy to proceed; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

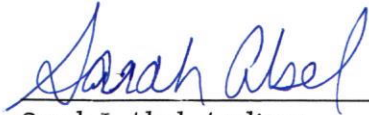
Southwest Indiana Workforce Investment was tabled until the next meeting to allow Alex to look over it.

A quote for a new projector in the conference room was submitted to the commissioners for approval. Shane made a motion to approve the quote for \$1642.45, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Betty Bledsoe came before the commissioners to voice her opinion on the whiskey barrel storage facility. She said she is tired, as she is sure the commissioners are too, but she is not going to go away. Their homes and communities are invested. She wanted to call Matt and talk to him personally, but life got in the way. Betty had a dream of owning a home and to be able to foster and adopt children. In 2008 she had 19 kids. She has had 258 kids in total come into her home. She said she had driven through Lawrenceburg, and it stinks. Matt said he will try to answer her questions but may not have the answers she needs. Betty contacted someone with IEP to do soil testing before the barrel storage facility arrived. The price to start the process is \$1995.00, and that is just a deposit. Matt says that he was elected to represent all the people and the hard part of the job is to do the best thing for many of the people.

Brian Hatfield, President of JNRU discussed the study for the county. The county TIF, city TIF, JNRU, and the county will be sharing the cost of this study. The submittals are due by May 20, 2024. Brian asked about the violation letter from IDEM for Green Acres, Delmar, and Lawrence. Alex stated that the county is currently working on that.

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 adjourn; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.



Sarah J. Abel, Auditor



Bob Wilhite



Matt Sporleder, President



Shane Boswell