

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
January 23, 2025, 6:00 P.M.
Annex Building

Matt Sporleder, Alex Zimmerman, Shane Boswell, and Charlie St. John were present. Matt opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sherri submitted the plans for the Brownstown Road/O&M project for signatures. Shane made a motion to approve, Charlie seconded the motion, passes unanimously.

Nicci submitted the PHI contract for the commissioners to approve and sign. The county attorney has reviewed the contract and said that the contract was good to sign. Shane made a motion to approve the contract, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Nicci also presented two travel requests. The first one is for Dan Brookbank. He will attend annual training in June, and there is no cost to the county. Charlie made a motion to approve the travel request, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The second travel request is for Marie Shepherd. It was a last-minute meeting in Greensburg that she attended today, January 23. She drove the county vehicle and there was no cost to attend. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

John Jayne with EMS is requesting a county credit card. There are certain places that EMS does not have accounts and therefore cannot buy from these places. They can purchase supplies online with a credit card cheaper. Shane made a motion to approve a \$1000.00 credit card for EMS, Charlie seconded the request, passed unanimously.

Marvin Loudon, Troy McHaley, and other residents come before the commissioners to voice their concerns about 450S in Vernon Township. Troy said that the road was graded but they didn't put gravel down, so they basically graded dirt. Troy said that they would like to get the road chip and sealed. The bridge on the road was supposed to be fixed about 14 years ago. The bridge is bad and there are no side rails. With the recent snow, the people that live on the road cleared the snow. Troy said that for three or four days no one could get out. The county put the sand down later for the school buses. The road is approximately one mile long. Shane said that he has been commissioner for five years and has heard only one complaint on the road. He said that he doesn't know who the bridge/culvert issue got reported to, but he just learned about the issues this week. Shane said that he had a complaint one time about gravel and sent them down to gravel it. Troy replied that he doesn't think that is right. Marvin said that there was a little bit of gravel placed in different spots on the road. Shane said that the road will need to be raised two and a half feet to put the culvert in. He says that this isn't a one-day job. Shane said that the residents on the road will be blocked for two days, or they will need to figure another way out. Troy said that he has access all the way to another county road. Tommy Rayburn told the commissioners that they could use his property if needed to. Shane said that they would get started once the weather gets better. Shane said that he would get the road added to list for chip and seal, but it would possibly be one year or more before it gets completed. He said it could possibly get done this year if they have the extra money. Shane said that it needs gravel, but it will be a few days before he can get to it. A gentleman that lives on the road spoke to the commissioners and said that he has three of the six kids that ride the school bus,

and he could plan to get his kids to and from school while the project was going on. Shane said that he would reach out a couple days in advance to make the arrangements.

Sarah spoke to the commissioners about the board appointments for 2025. Shane made a motion to appoint Eli Brown to the Area Plan Commission, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Eli will take Tom Beeman's seat. Eli Brown will also take Tom's seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Eli Brown is the only new appointment for the commissioners. Shane made a motion to reappoint all seats, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Matt said that if someone changes their mind and does not want the reappointment, they will address that later and appoint someone in their spot. Alex said that he is not the library attorney. Matt told the Auditor that he appreciated the layout of the appointment. He said that he has been asking for this for 15 years! Shane said these boards are getting harder to fill because they do not pay anything.

Wes Bradshaw is asking to use the parking area at the fairgrounds on July 19th for a antique tractor show. Charlie made a motion to approve the request, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Roger Smith introduced himself to the commissioners and wanted to let them know that he is an enrolled agent and has the same access to the IRS as an accountant would. Roger is willing to file taxes for free if you are filing a simple form. Roger said that he would file for anyone that cannot afford to file. He explains that he was a pastor for 30 plus years, and this is his ministry now. To help anyone that crosses his path. Matt thanked Roger for his willingness to help!

Shane made a motion to approve prior minutes, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Charlie made a motion to sign payroll and claims, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Matt said that while they are signing claims, he has one more item that has been bothering him and he doesn't know how to go about fixing it. Several years ago, it was decided that the county would help with the Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) insurance. Matt said that the county has paid every year since. Matt said it would be a good idea to put into the minutes every year that they continue to do that. The VFD insurance is budgeted for \$80,000 and the estimate for 2025 is \$90,000.00. Matt said when they started paying the VFD insurance it was \$60,000.00. Matt said that this should have been discussed when they were talking about all the other insurance for the county. Shane made a motion to approve the \$80,000 contingent on council finding the other \$10,000.00. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Shane asked Nicci to put a reminder in to discuss this when insurance rolls around.

Matt asked if the issue with the meeting minutes was figured out? Sarah replied with yes, the minutes are being uploaded onto the Data Pit Stop website.


Matt asked if the Rumpke bill he was signing was for the Recycling Center. The Auditors office replied, county general utilities. Matt said that he knows where it is supposed to come from, and it is not there. Matt said that the Recycling account has \$500,000 in it because this bill hasn't been taken out of the right account. He said that it has been happening for a while, and he isn't blaming the Auditors' administration. Matt asked the other commissioners if they would like to change it from the utility line to the recycling budget. Shane made a motion to move it to the recycling

budget, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Matt said that this would start with next month's billing cycle.

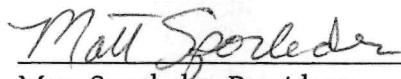
Charlie made a motion to adjourn, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.



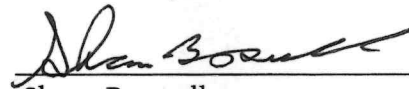
Sarah J. Abel, Auditor



Charlie St. John



Matt Sporleder, President



Shane Boswell

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