

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING

April 11, 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.

Sheila with the county highway submitted an ordinance to regulate the speed on Base Road. Shane made a motion to sign and approve the ordinance, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Sheila also submitted a permit termination for Bridge 76 for approval and signatures. Shane made a motion to approve the termination, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

The Health Department roof started leaking a few weeks ago and tarps had to be placed on the roof. With this being an emergency, Matt reached out for bids for a new roof. There were three bids received from the Auditors office and a fourth bid was emailed to Matt. Alex explained to Matt that the bid that was emailed cannot be used.

Jeff Royse - \$14,425.00

First Choice Construction - \$14,125.00

Exterior Solutions - \$17,120.00

United American Roofing (can not be used due to it not being a sealed bid) \$14,980.00.

Shane made a motion to proceed with First Choice Construction for \$14,125.00. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Trisha Gasper with INDOT came to the commissioners to ask for the fees to rent the community building to be waived for their community engagement day. Shane made a motion to waive the fees; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

JL Brewer came before the commissioners to ask for a letter of support for the community corrections grant. They are asking for \$1,230,646.00 from the Indiana Department of Corrections to fund Community Corrections Services. He is currently working with Judge Bright to start a drug court program in Jennings County. \$187,500.00 of the grant request is for the drug court program. Matt mentioned that the amount of the grant for this year is substantially higher than last year. The biggest increase is health insurance increase for the employees. They did increase the fees at the work release center and the fees on the electronic monitoring system last year to help cover some of the additional costs. Over 1/3 of the people in the work release program are from Jennings County. Matt told Mr. Brewer that we appreciate what he does for our county. Shane made a motion to sign the letter of support; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Jodi Comer with SIRPC just came to touch base with the commissioners on sewer and drainage issues. Matt told Jodi that Grayford Road was still in need of water. Jodi will follow up with North Vernon Water on this issue.

Mitchell Burns from Lovett states that his septic system is not working properly. The water is backing up into the ditch line causing his septic not to work properly. Shane asked Mr. Burns if the Health Department had looked at it yet and he said that he had not. Mr. Burns gave Matt his phone number so that he or the health department could reach out to him. Mr. Burns said that his septic

would be okay if the road ditches were dug out. The neighbor's culvert needs to be replaced, but no one lives there currently. Shane told Mr. Burns that the commissioners cannot make the neighbor replace their culvert.

Nicci Lucas presents a travel request for Stacy Lane and the extension office. The only cost will be mileage and they will pay that out of their budget. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Marie Shepherd also has a travel request for the inspector to go to a conference. The cost for this conference will come out of Marie's training budget. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Marie also has a rezone request for Hughes Property Management from commercial-to-commercial planned business. The property address is 470 S Co Rd 700 W (Old Hayden Corner Store). This property will be a fuel station with 2 gas pumps and a store inside. Shane made a motion to approve, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sarah Abel submits two quotes for a new phone system. Our current phone system was installed 25 years ago by Lou King. This analog system has become obsolete due to inability to replace parts and service the equipment. Lou explained to Sarah that the current system has simply reached its functional viability. We have had numerous outages due to storms, water, and the age of the system. Sarah received two bids, one from Metro-Net and the other from RTC.

RTC - \$22,044.00 annually with a \$17,000.00 one-time set up fee.

Metro-Net - \$35,053.00 annually with no additional set up fees.

In looking at the quotes, the Metro-Net quote includes the phone/set up fees in the monthly amount. RTC came in and created a fax bridge because the fax machines were down. RTC came in quickly and created these fax bridges so that the offices could get the fax machine up and running again. Shane made a motion to table until the next meeting so that Alex to have time to look over the contracts. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Brain Hatfield is wanting the county to take over a section of road that JNRU owns. This piece of road is off 300 N. The road is roughly 1000'. JNRU is expecting a lot of traffic on this road once Highway 7 is closed. The road currently has two speed bumps that Matt will want to remove. Alex said that an ordinance would need to be adopted with the description of the county road. Shane made a motion to table until the next meeting, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

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.

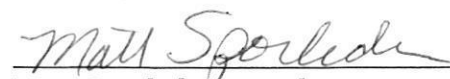
Shane made a motion to adjourn; Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.



Sarah J. Abel, Auditor



Bob Wilhite



Matt Sporleder, President



Shane Boswell