

JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING

November 21, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

Annex Building

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

Nora Campbell comes before the commissioners to discuss the heavy truck loads of dirt on 350 West. Nora explains that she and her husband Clyde reside at 2830 N Co Rd 350 West and have lived there most of their adult lives. Nora is concerned about the dredging of the lakes in CSL, this project occurred over the summer. There were tons and tons of dirt that was removed from the lakes and hauled off. 350 W was the route that these trucks used to haul the dirt away. Nora states that this project started on June 15, 2024, Monday through Friday, all day and all night and continued until November 15, 2024. Nora says that this amounted to 920 trips and that she calculated up to 62 million pounds of dirt traveling on the road. She contacted IDEM and they found violations at CSL during this time concerning the water from the creeks. Nora says that there was a lot of dust and dirt and an odor on most days. As a result of the heavy truck loads of dirt, the road is crumbling. Matt said that he has been out there and looked at the damage to the road. Matt said that he is aware that the work needs done. He also states that he sat on the committee that discussed the dredging of the lakes and there really wasn't a good place to go with all the dirt. Matt said that no matter where you went with all the dirt, the roads were going to be damaged. He explained to Nora that her road was not spot picked. The person that wanted the dirt was very close to the dig sight and just happened to be on 350 W. Matt said that the commissioners are aware that the road needs repaired and repaved. The road was very close in the rotation to be repaired and paved anyway, Matt stated.

Jenny Vogel is representing the 4H program and livestock committee. They are looking at making improvements in the 4H program. Jenny asks, who is responsible for maintaining the livestock buildings at the fairgrounds? Part of the poultry barn was built with the original fairgrounds in 1961, and we are still utilizing the building. It has been added on to and expanded as the program has grown. This past year we had 39 exhibitors with 172 rabbits. We only have 96 pins for those rabbits. The committee is looking at demolishing the rabbit and poultry barn and building a new barn. The current building is 4500 sq. feet, and we are wanting the new building to be 6000 sq. feet. 4-H is wanting to have one barn for both species as well as a small show arena. 4-H is not only asking for the commissioners blessing but some financial support. \$62,000 to \$70,000 is the cost that the committee has received back. This doesn't include concrete, but it does include demolition of the old building. Matt said that he would get help in the demolition of the building so that would eliminate \$6000.00 of the cost. Matt asked why they did not want to concrete the floor, and Jenny said it was just to save on the cost. Ideally, they would love to have a concrete floor but was trying to save. Jenny also asks the commissioners about the access to the grandstand for through traffic. Matt said that there is a plan for that, but it will not happen quickly. The fair board is requesting that 4-H have the animals at the fair on Saturday night also. Shane said that in his opinion, until there is an alternate access for the grandstand, they do not have the animals at the fair on Saturday. The commissioners do not feel that having the animals at the fair on Saturday will bring more revenue. Matt said that the county would demo the building and pay for the new building as

long as 4H paid for the concrete and the cages. Shane made a motion to demo the building with using county highway equipment and labor and to pay for the building. The building cost is not to exceed \$75,000.00. This motion is contingent on the Council finding the funding. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

HR is asking, on the behalf of Animal Control, for permission to fill the ACO 2 position, and to hire a part time kennel tech. The recently hired ACO 2 has some health issues and is wanting to step down. Shane made a motion to allow them to proceed, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Seth Jones, with the Parks Department is wanting to get rid of a 1999 Ford Explorer. Seth is asking for guidance on how to move forward. The county attorney said to email him the specs and he will put together an advertisement. Shane made a motion to allow Alex to proceed with the advertisement, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Brittany Owen with Toys for Tots is asking commissioners for a donation from the county. Brittany explained that she had originally went to City council on April 8, 2024; to ask for donations and it was tabled for 7 months. City council told her that she needed to go to the county first. Brittany said that over \$50,000 was raised last year. The last 12 years, Toys for Tots has been run out of Bartholomew County. Donations are majorly down this year. This year Brittany is projecting around 2000 children. She originally asked the city for \$10,000.00. After multiple times of this being tabled, the city council decided to donate \$3,500.00. Brittany explains that she is Toy for Tots for the Marines, but she also supplements toys for the Angel Tree, schools, churches, and a nursing program. The \$10,000 that she originally asked the city for would have been equal to \$5.88 per child (1700). Matt explains to Brittany that she cannot count on cities or counties to being able to budget donation money every year. Brittany said that she hosts multiple fund-raising events, such as golf scrambles to help raise the donations needed. Matt said that his recommendation is contingent upon the councils funding, the commissioners would approve up to \$5000.00 but they also are asking the City to step up and match the counties donation. Shane made a motion to not exceed \$5000.00 contingent on council funding. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Campbell Township sewer board need three new members. Shane made a motion to appoint Jim Beeman and Marshall Steiman on the board with tabling Brian Hatfield for now. Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

WTH contract that was presented in a previous meeting had to be revised to add suspension and debarment. The contract was approved in the last meeting so commissioners will just need to sign the new one.

Matt appointed Sarah Abel and Marie Shepherd to organize the Christmas Party for this year.

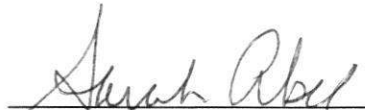
Bob made a motion to approve prior minutes, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

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

Bob made a motion to appoint Addi Bodey to the library board, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

The Auditor presented a travel request for herself and her chief deputy to attend the AIC conference in French Lick. Any fees associated will come out of the Elected Officials Fund. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Bob seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

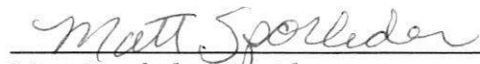
Bob made a motion to adjourn; Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.



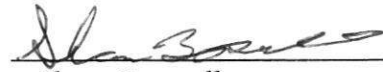
Sarah J. Abel, Auditor



Bob Wilhite



Matt Sporleder, President



Shane Boswell