

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

January 3, 2023

Auditor Patricia Pickens called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in room 104 in the County Administration Building, 117 North Second Street, Goshen, Indiana. Board Members, Suzie Weirick, Brad Rogers and Bob Barnes were also present. Others present were Craig Buche, County Attorney; Jeff Taylor, County Administrator; and Anita Mock, Administrative Manager.

***This meeting commenced pursuant to public notice under the Indiana open door law and Governor Holcomb's Executive Orders. This meeting was made available for the public and press to attend in person or engage in remote real-time observation and remote electronic participation.

Auditor, Patty Pickens, opened the floor for nominations. On motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, Brad Rogers was nominated as President of the Board.

On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, Suzie Weirick was nominated as Vice President of the Board.

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the various assignments as follows:

President – Brad Rogers
Vice President – Suzie Weirick
MACOG – Suzie Weirick
St. Joseph River Basin – Bob Barnes
Drainage Board – Bob Barnes
Plan Commission - Brad Rogers
Oaklawn – Brad Rogers
Community Corrections Advisory Board (CCAB) – Brad Rogers
CCPC – Personnel Liaison – Brad Rogers
Affirmative Action (EEOC) – Bob Barnes
Emergency Management Board – Suzie Weirick
Public Defender Board – Brad Rogers
Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council – Suzie Weirick

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried the Board approved the Minutes of the December 19th & December 27th, 2022 meetings and placed them on file.

On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Allowance of Claims, as presented by the County Auditor's office.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved the 2023 Appointments to various County Departments as follows:

Director, Buildings & Grounds – TBD
Veteran's Service Officer – James Snowden
County Highway Engineer – Charlie McKenzie
Manager of Transportation – TBD
Director, Human Resources – Kirt Hunsberger
Chief Information Officer – TBD
Weights & Measures – Todd Barrows
Emergency Management Director – Jennifer Tobey
County Administrator – Jeff Taylor
County Attorney – Craig Buche

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointments to various County Boards for 2023 per County Manual and placed them on file.

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Elkhart County Drug Free Partnership, Jessica Koscher, requested approval of Elkhart County Drug-Free Partnership, 2023 Drug-Free Community Fund Allocation Recommendations in the amount of \$318,436. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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Positively Elkhart Representative, Jessica Koscher, requested approval of additional appropriation from the General Fund in the amount of \$50,000 for 2023 allocation for Positively Elkhart County. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of Initial Acceptance Letters for Falcon's Lair Sections #1 and #2. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested to withdraw the request for Final Acceptance of Falcon's Nest Section #2.

County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of Final Acceptance of Falcon's Nest Section #1. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of additional appropriation from Major Moves Fund in the amount of \$4,000,000 for funds to pay for construction and associated costs for the County Road 38 – County Road 35 to State Road 13 Project. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of additional appropriation request from EDIT Fund in the amount of \$4,000,000 for funds to pay for construction and associated costs for the County Road 38 – County Road 35 to State Road 13 Project. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of additional appropriation from Major Moves Fund in the amount of \$3,150,000 to pay for right of way acquisition, construction and project associated costs for the County Road 20 and County Road 37 Improvements Project. Request is to transfer load funds to the SE TIF Fund. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of additional appropriation from Middlebury AG TIF Fund in the amount of \$246,211.44 to transfer funds into Middlebury SE TIF Fund County Road 20 and County Road 37 right of way acquisition, construction and associated project costs. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Highway Engineer, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of additional appropriation request from Middlebury SE TIF Fund in the amount of \$4,000,000 to pay for right of way acquisition, construction and project associated costs for the County Road 20 and County Road 37 Improvements Project. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Administrator, Jeff Taylor, requested approval of additional appropriation from the American Rescue Plan in the amount of \$13,850,847 for funds needed for the balance of the fixed price contract for the New Courthouse. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Administrator, Jeff Taylor, requested approval of additional appropriation request from American Rescue Plan in the amount of \$400,000 for funds needed for the addition of Tecumseh Acres to the Foraker-Southwest Project. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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BOARD ITEMS:

County Attorney, Craig Buche, requested approval of Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Thomas W. Stump & Council Member, Dave Hess, Disclosure of Family Member's Proposed Contract with Elkhart County, Indiana. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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AUDIENCE ITEMS:

Director of Emergency Management, Jenn Tobey, recognized the Jeep Club for their assistance during the recent snow activity.

Glenn Null spoke on several different issues.

On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned their meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Mock