

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

July 24, 2023

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

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

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, Requested approval to hold Fall Fest at the River Oaks Community Church on their property for fellowship & outreach event to be held on Oct. 7th , 2023 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This request is for a variance from the noise ordinance. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 275)

Craig Buche, County Attorney, Requested approval of Engagement Letter and Terms of Engagement from Barnes and Thornburg for the landfill gas project. Discussion on future selection of firms for projects that fees be investigated and reviewed before awarded the project. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 276)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, Requested approval of electrical proposals for the Foraker-Southwest-Tecumseh Project. One proposal to be awarded to Anglin Electric for 24976 CR 40 which was the lowest bid received. On a motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, The Board approved this request.

Craig Buch, County Attorney, Requested approval of appointment for Jennifer Davis to the County RDC as the non-voting school board representative. She is a member of Concord School Board, and her term will expire in June of 2024. This is a two-year term. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 277)

Craig Buche, County Attorney, requested approval of Real Estate Exchange Agreement with Elkhart Hospital for the multi-use path project at US 33 and Rieth Blvd. This is a switchback of property in exchange for land only. This is a sliver of land that the county needs to complete the project and clears up the right of way to Reith Blvd. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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Craig Buche, County Attorney, Requested approval of Credit Card Ordinance for Commissioners. This is a single credit card account for the Commissioners. This ordinance follows the same format as the one used for the Sheriff's office. Suzie Weirick is opposed to this ordinance. If it does not pass unanimously, it will be represented next week for the final vote. Brad moved to approve the ordinance, seconded by Bob Barnes. Brad Rogers-yes, Bob Barnes-yes, Suzie Weirick-no. Not approved unanimously.

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Charlie McKenzie, Highway requested approval of CR 4 from CR 17 to CR 19 Extension Project Maintenance Bond. This is a three- year bond. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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Charlie McKenzie, Highway, introduced the 2023 Highway Summer Interns. They gave a presentation on the projects they worked on this summer. There were 5 interns this year, and Charlie was very pleased with their work.

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Weights & Measurers Report from June 16th, 2022 to July 15th, 2023.

BOARD ITEMS:

Steve Olsen, County Attorney presented Addendum #1 to the RFQ for the qualification project for the electrical improvements for the Foraker-Southwest-Tecumseh project. This is allowing for additional time needed to complete the installations. By extending the date of completion, this allows further contractors the ability to bid according to the completion dates listed. They will be considered as three separate locations. Tecumseh deadline is 9-22-2023. Foraker deadline is 10-27-2023. Southwest deadline is 12-15-2023. Article 5 updates dates of the RFQ. Article 7 changes the RFQ date from August 31, 2023 to the presented new dates by Location. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR;

Cindy Hajicek spoke on her public library concerns.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp