

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

September 5, 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 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 Minutes of the July 24th and July 31st, 2023, meetings and placed them on file.

On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes 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 of electrical proposals for the Foraker-Southwest Tecumseh Project. There are two property proposals to be approved, with the recommendation be awarded to the lowest bidder on these properties. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 303)

Craig Buche, County Attorney, requested Consideration of Special Purchase Resolution & ERS Proposal for Public Safety Radio Booster System. This is for the new Courts Facility. It is a special purchase with ERS and has been reviewed by County representatives. On a motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the board approved this request. (Page 304)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 from Jail CAGIT Fund for Building/Plumbing/Electrical/HVAC repairs at the jail. On a motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the board approved this request. (Page 305)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$2,900,000.00 from Major Moves Fund for the County's share of the Reliance Road

Improvement Project with the City of Goshen. This is for CR17 and CR 28 joint effort to upgrade the road. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 306)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$2,200,000.00 from the General Fund for new Courthouse furniture and fixtures. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 307)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 from the General Fund for the audio/visual needs for each courtroom in the new Courthouse. This is being negotiated with New Era. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

Brad Rogers, Commissioner, Requested use of Courthouse Lawn in Goshen & Courthouse Property in Elkhart by Courtside Ministries for the month of September. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 308)

Tom Boomershine, PMSI Rep., Courts Project Inspector, announced the receipt of proposals for FFE (Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment) for the New Courts Project. Proposals were received from LJ Wagner Home Interiors, Nappanee., Office Interiors, Granger., Sauder Courtroom Furniture, Archibald, Ohio. Business Furnishings LLC, South Bend. Lakeshore, Carson, California. Business Furniture and Company, Indianapolis. These proposals will be accepted and reviewed. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

Charlie McKenzie, Highway, requested approval of INDOT-LPA contract for 2024-2027 Bridge Inspection Contract. This defines our amount of federal aid reimbursement which is \$445,000.00 which is 80% of the total contract. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. (Page 309)

Charlie McKenzie, Highway, requested Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$140,000.00 from Cumulative Bridge Fund to remove and replace the concrete deck on Bridge 310 – CR 21 over Swoveland Ditch, located just north of CR 142. This is a maintenance issue. On a motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the board approved this request. (Page 310)

Charlie McKenzie, Highway, requested Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$15,000.00 from Motor Vehicle Highway Fund to replace two overhead garage doors at CR7 facility that houses Highway, Sheriff's office, and Weights and Measures. Two of the four doors Need replaced. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the board approved this request. (Page 311)

Charlie McKenzie, Highway, requested Appropriation **Reduction** in the amount of \$16,080.00 from Motor Vehicle Highway Fund to reduce the remaining appropriated funds for the project. This was the underrun from the roof replacement project. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the board approved this request.
(Page 312)

BOARD ITEMS:

None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Glenn Null spoke on several issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp