

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

October 30, 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. This meeting was made available for the public and press to attend in person or engage in remote real-time observation.

The approval of the minutes of the September 25, 2023, meeting will be tabled pending some corrections needed.

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:

There were no requests for approval of electrical proposals for the Foraker-Southwest Tecumseh Project this week.

There was no update from the City of Goshen on Peddler/Reliance Road.

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, requested Approval of Work Order #1 with Interlink. This falls under the Master Products and Services Agreement. It is a two-stage pricing model, with a not to exceed cost of \$200,000.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

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Brad Rogers, Commissioner, requested to close one half block of Main Street in New Paris on Saturday, December 2nd from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm to provide safety during the Christmas Tree Lighting Event that will take place from 4pm to 6pm on that date. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

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Jeff Taylor, County Administrator requested Additional Appropriation request for Buildings & Grounds Fund 1114 Department 140 in the amount of \$145,000.00 to pay for Electrical service for the remaining months at the jail. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

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Commissioners decided to table the Additional Appropriation request from IT fund 1138 department 141 in the amount of \$355,000.00 for required IT upgrades for software and services, pending more information.

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Steve Olsen, County Attorney, requested approval of an Ordinance for Health Department Updated Fee Schedule. Ordinance No. CO2023-50. Health Board has Approved the fee schedule. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

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John Heiliger, Surveyors office, requested approval to receive bids for Elkhart County Parks Restroom Improvement Project. Before opening, the County Attorney asked if there were any other bids to receive and offered the opportunity for submission. No other bids were submitted. Three bids received. R. Yoder Construction for \$3,928,419.00, C & E Excavating for \$3,964,161.00, Brown and Brown for \$3,673,037.20. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, to accept these bids for staff to review, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

Cathy Searcy, County Assessor, requested Approval of Contract for Professional Property Tax Services, with Nexus Group, Inc. Reviewed and approved by Craig Buche. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

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Leah Thill, MACOG, requesting a formal letter of support for Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant. Community based partner will be the Tolson Center in the City of Elkhart. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, The Board approved this request.

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Mae Kratzer, Planning, requested approval to receive bids for Demolition of unsafe structure at 55067 Cobus Lane in Elkhart. Four bids received. B & E Excavating \$18,900.00, Bontrager Excavating \$12,890.00, John Ward Concrete \$27,300.00 and Beaver Excavating \$54,900.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick to receive the bids and allow staff review, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

Jeff Siegel, Sheriff, requested approval of Grant Application Review Form for the 2023 Edward Byrne JAG Grant. Amount requested will be \$67,921.00. This will be used for new fingerprinting equipment. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 376)

BOARD ITEMS:

None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Glen Null decided he had nothing to discuss today.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp