

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

November 6, 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.

On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the September 25th and October 2nd, 2023, meetings and placed them on file.

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 of electrical proposals for the Foraker-Southwest Tecumseh Project. Two proposals were received, and the recommendation was to accept the lowest bids. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 380)

Craig Buche, County Attorney, requested consideration and approval of TEG Virtual Energy Management Services Agreement and addendum. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 381)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested approval of the purchase of replacement washers and dryers for the jail. This is for 6 washers and 8 dryers, from Spin Techs in South Bend. The cost is \$269,675.80. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, to not exceed the \$269,675.80 unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

(Page 382)

Craig Buche, County Attorney, requested recommendation for award on the Parks Restroom/Latrine Project. The bids are still being reviewed, so this agenda item will be tabled until next Monday.

John Bowers, Landfill, requested acceptance of bids for Piggyback 3 Cell Expansion Project. Miller Brothers Construction of Archibald, Ohio, for \$2,962,986.33. Niblock of Bristol, \$2,595,587.50. Fox Contractors Corp. of Ft. Wayne, \$2,290,079.00. C & E Excavating of Elkhart for \$2,322,500.00. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved to accept and review the bids and come back with a recommendation.

(Page 383)

John Bowers, Landfill, requested acceptance of bids for Piggyback 3 Gas System Improvement Expansion. Four bids received. Ryan Incorporated of Janesville, WI for \$422,650.00. Miller Brothers Construction of Archibald, Ohio for \$709,857.60. Blue Flame Crew, Naperville, ILL for \$261,660.00. Advance 1 Development of Charlotte, NC for \$320,625.00. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved to accept and review the bids and come back with a recommendation.

(Page 383)

Charlie McKenzie, Highway, requested additional appropriation from Cumulative Bridge in the amount of \$100,000.00 for funds to clear trees in advance of utility relocations required for the bridge replacement project. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

(Page 384)

Charlie McKenzie, Highway, requested additional appropriation from Highway Fund 1112-980 in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 for funds to pay for Right of Way acquisition and associated costs for the Super 2 Improvement of CR 17 between CR 40 and CR 142 in order to acquire the necessary property for the project. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

(Page 385)

Kyle Wagner, Highway, requested approval of snow plow contracts for 2023-2024 year. C & E Excavating and Jonathan Zimmerman for main roads. Subdivision roads are Accu-Dig Excavating, Alliance Contractors, Aquascapes of Michiana, BAM Tree Service, C&S Construction, Darrell Martin, Indiana Earth, J&K Septic, Law's Lawn Care, Masters, LLC, Mike's Fencing, Rain Drain, Stone Ridge Landscaping, Thompson Landscape. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

(Page 386)

Mae Kratzer, Planning, recommendation for award on the 55067 Cobus Lane, Elkhart demolition to Dana Bontrager Excavating and Trucking of Middlebury. In the amount of \$12,890.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

Mae Kratzer, Planning, request for Transfer of Appropriated Funds from Planning Acct Number 43210 Publication Legal to Acct Number 42010 Printed Forms to cover envelopes and 2024 planning calendars being printed. The amount of \$1000.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 387)

Mae Kratzer, Planning, requests an additional appropriation request from Code Enforcement in the amount of \$25,000.00 for legal fees to cover the costs of completing unsafe structure demolitions. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 388)

Mae Kratzer, Planning, additional appropriation request from CR 6 & 17 NE TIF in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 for PCR Water Utility Project, to focus on Phase 3A-Berry St & open up water access to 30+ homes. This will be tabled until January. Redevelopment Board needs more time to evaluate.

Mae Kratzer, Planning, additional appropriation request from Middlebury SE TIF in the amount of \$300,000.00 for Construction of water tower & affected utility. This will be tabled until January. Redevelopment Board needs more time to evaluate.

Mae Kratzer, Planning, additional appropriation request from Middlebury East TIF in the amount of \$480,000.00 for Construction of water tower & affected utility. This will be tabled until January. Redevelopment Board needs more time to evaluate.

BOARD ITEMS:

None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp