

# MINUTES

## ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

**December 11, 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; 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 October 30<sup>th</sup> (Revised), and November 6<sup>th</sup>, 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:**

Kevin Williams, Building Commissioner, requested acceptance and opening of bids for seven unsafe buildings. Seven Contractors submitted bids on the unsafe properties. Some of them bid on all the properties and some bid on specific properties. See attachment A with all of the bids by property and by contractor in detail. Public comments were allowed on this topic. Craig Blough, 57446 CR 29 Goshen, with Bartel and Company discussed the upcoming auction scheduled for January 27, 2024, for the property address of 68023 US 33. He asked that a pause be put on the demo bid for this property. Ron Davidhizer, 203 Middlebury St., Goshen spoke about 51841 E. County Line Road property, representing it as ready to rent with all issues addressed. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, to accept and review the bids and come back with a recommendation, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, requested approval of electrical proposals for the Foraker-Southwest Tecumseh Project. Nineteen properties were presented to review and accept the lowest bids submitted. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request to accept the lowest bidders.

(Page 427)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested consideration of Tax Sale Certificate Addendum with SRI. This provides for a tax certificate sale for the Commissioners. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

(Page 428)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested approval of the 2023 JAG Grant MOU for \$33,960.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 429)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested approval of the Martell Electric Performance and Payment Bond for the Structured Cable project at the New Courthouse. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 430)

Robert Kelly, County Extension Director, requested consideration of the Annual Agreement with Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 431)

Request approval of Elkhart County, Series 2022 Bonds Disbursement of Funds from Project Fund #1001026397, Requisition #18, Pay App #19 for the Courthouse Construction in the amount of \$3,170,364.10. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 432)

Charlie McKenzie, County Highway, requested approval of amendment to Speed Regulations Ordinance for changes to speed limit on CR 22 between Goshen and Middlebury. Ordinance No. CO 2023-56. This was a request from the public. It also includes improved up to date signage. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 433)

#### **BOARD ITEMS:**

John Heiliger, MS4 Coordinator, requested approval of the Contract, Bond, and Certificate of Insurance with R. Yoder Construction for the Park Restroom Project. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.

#### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Pam Keyser, Middlebury, spoke on the South Bend-Elkhart Regional Partnership for welcoming new Americans to Michiana. She presented a handout on the topic. (Page 434)

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp



	Dana Bontrager Excavating	John \Vard Concrete Inc.	Jerry Reed Excavating	John Boettcher Sewer and Excavating	B and E Excavating	Beaver Excavating	SAR Excavating
51841 E. County Line Rd.	\$ 12,805.00	\$ 14,499.87		\$ 23,506.30	\$ 12,900.00		\$ 14,505.00
54216 Southwood Dr.	\$ 5,375.00	\$ 11,690.31	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 11,780.70	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 13,916.00
58476 Ash Rd.	\$ 20,165.00	\$ 23,750.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 41,589.45	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 17,900.00	\$ 37,214.00
68023 US 33	\$ 12,035.00	\$ 15,631.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 25,968.70	\$ 13,900.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 19,014.00
25220 County Road 6	\$ 8,647.50	\$ 16,264.52	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 22,224.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 23,337.00
30629 County Road 22	\$ 18,615.00	\$ 23,157.58	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 38,683.20	\$ 15,750.00	\$ 29,800.00	\$ 26,618.00
50902 County Road 15	\$ 27,650.00	\$ 16,442.36	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 64,875.00	\$ 17,900.00		\$ 44,139.00

51841 E. County Line Rd.	Dana Bontrager Excavating	\$ 12,805.00					
54216 Southwood Dr.	Dana Bontrager Excavating	\$ 5,375.00					
58476 Ash Rd.	B and E Excavating	\$ 13,500.00					
68023 US 33	Dana Bontrager Excavating	\$ 12,035.00					
25220 County Road 6	Dana Bontrager Excavating	\$ 8,647.50					
30629 County Road 22	B and E Excavating	\$ 15,750.00					
50902 County Road 15	John Ward Concrete Inc.	\$ 16,442.36					

(Attachment A)