

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

December 4, 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. Other Board members: Suzie Weirick was present. Bob Barnes was absent, assisting in the Election recount. 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.

A motion made by Suzie Weirick and seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes of October 23, 2023, and placed them on file. The meeting minutes for October 30, 2023, were tabled.

A motion made by Suzie Weirick, and seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Allowance of Claims as presented by the County Auditor's office.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Request approval of electrical proposals for the Foraker-Southwest Tecumseh Project. No bid proposals were submitted.

Craig Buche, County Attorney, requested consideration of License Agreement between Blocked Crossings LLC and Elkhart County. This agreement monitors blocked crossings to assist first responders and the public when intersections are blocked. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.
(Page 418)

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, requested approval of Special Purchase Resolutions for Information Technology Systems. Resolution No. CO-2023-55. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request.
(Page 419)

Craig Buche, County Attorney, requested approval of an Ordinance to update the fee ordinance for the County Recorder. Ordinance No. CO-2023-54. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 420)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested consideration of the winter services agreement with Beary Landscape. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 421)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested consideration of the winter services agreement with Asher Lawn Maintenance. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 422)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, requested consideration of lawn and landscape agreement with Asher Lawn Maintenance for 2024. \$95,750.00 is the amount of the agreement. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 423)

Charlie McKenzie, County Highway, requested approval of Amended Lease Agreement for Union Station. Amendment to extend the lease for dark fiber network, the rate would stay the same through April of 2025. Then there is an automatic 2% escalator for the next five years. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 424)

Katie Niblock, Highway Engineer, assisted Concord High School Students with presentations on Minuteman Way traffic improvements. These students are members of the Senior Government Class. Jack Beery and Noah Norwood (absent) recommended speed bumps or speed humps to slow drivers down and improve safety of students and pedestrians. Second group of Jayden Snell and Collin Shrock presented a plan for some options to help reduce high traffic areas in the mornings. Three options presented were a 4-way stop sign, stoplight at intersection, and a proposed new entrance to the north of the current location. This was presented to the Concord Principal and the Superintendent. The students were thanked for the presentations.

BOARD ITEMS:

None.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Glenn Null spoke on several issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp