

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

October 7, 2024

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.

Craig Buche, County Attorney, suggested we add by motion to amend the agenda to accept bids for demolition of properties at the appropriate location on the agenda, possibly as item 1D. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved the amendment and added it as item 1D.

On a motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes of the September 23, 2024, meeting 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:

Brad Rogers, County Commissioner, requested approval of a road closure on Saturday, November 30th, 2024, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Main Street (CR 23) from Market Street to First Street in New Paris, for a holiday tree lighting event. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 877)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request for permission for the Riders Motorcycle Club to cross the New Paris Highway Garage property for the annual motorcycle race the weekend of Nov. 2nd & 3rd, 2024. Craig Buche, County Attorney, recommended if the Commissioners are inclined to approve this the following conditions should be added: Submit proof of Commercial General Vehicle and Liability Insurance with amounts acceptable to Elkhart County. List Elkhart County as additional insured. The Riders Motorcycle group will be primary and not seek contribution from Elkhart Counties Insurance. They will Coordinate the ride with the Highway manager. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request with the recommended requirements. (Page 878)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request by River Oaks Community Church for a Noise Ordinance Variance. The church is located at 58020 CR 115, Goshen, they will be hosting a hog roast on Saturday, October 12 from 4-8pm. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 879)

Kevin Williams, Building Commissioner, opened the following bids for consideration for demolition of unsafe properties. The first bid was from Dana Bontrager Excavating and Trucking, Inc. from Middlebury, Indiana. 1200 E. Bristol Street, Elkhart, \$14,537.50. 25134 Snyder Street, Elkhart, \$ 21,945.00. 25167 Dunny Street, Elkhart, \$12,152.00. 53081 Conrad Street, Elkhart, \$18,335.00. 54385 Berkley Ave, Elkhart, \$8980.00. The second bid was from B&E Excavating from Nappanee, Indiana. 1200 E. Bristol Street, Elkhart, \$5950.00. 25134 Snyder Street, Elkhart, \$9450.00. 25167 Dunny Street, Elkhart, \$9890.00. 53081 Conrad Street, Elkhart, \$18,500.00. 54385 Berkley Ave, Elkhart, \$8200.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick and seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried by the board, for staff to accept and review the bids, and come back with a recommendation. (Page 881)

Andrew Bylsma, Health Department, presented a request for approval of Drug Free Partnership Community Fund grant. This grant is \$40,000.00. A motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 880)

BOARD ITEMS:

None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Pam Keyser, Middlebury, spoke about the pedestrian bridge and what the cost to the County was. In addition, she wanted to know if it was part of the construction cost of the Courthouse. She requested an email response.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp