

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

January 13, 2025

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 Steve Olsen, 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 December 16th, 2024, meeting and placed them on file. Please note the minutes for December 9th, 2024, on the agenda had already been approved.

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:

Tim Jackson, County Highway, presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from EDIT Fund in the amount of \$150,000.00 for engineering services for Bridge 193 (CR 43 over Stoney Creek North of CR 42) rehabilitation PE design by SJCA. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 12)

Tim Jackson, County Highway presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from EDIT Fund in the amount of \$150,000.00 for engineering services for Bridge 253 (CR 1 over Baugo Creek north of CR 38) rehabilitation PE design services by USI Consultants. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 13)

Tim Jackson, County Highway, presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from Cumulative Bridge Fund in the amount of \$100,000.00 for supplemental engineering services for Bridge 385 replacement (CR 18/Hively Avenue over Yellow Creek) due to archaeological investigation and supplemental design services by GAI Consultants. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 14)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from General Fund in the amount of \$100,000.00 for American Legal and other expenses that had previously been paid out of #222532 project. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page15)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from Commissioners Fund in the amount of \$500,000.00 for Opioid Restricted Funds Agreement with Oaklawn Psychiatric Agreement with Oaklawn Psychiatric Center, Inc. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 16)

Joe Leichtman, Buildings and Grounds Director, presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from 81.128EECBG Fund in the amount of \$80,000.00 for replacement of two boilers at the Goshen Courthouse and four furnaces-air conditioners at Work Release. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 17)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request for approval of an Additional Appropriation request from General Fund in the amount of \$313,093.17 to upgrade the County fiber network configuration to provide for redundant fiber for the courthouse. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 18)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request for approval of an Appropriation REDUCTION request from Commissioners General Fund in the amount of \$313,093.17 to match the amount of the additional appropriation that was added for the County fiber network configuration. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 19)

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, presented a request for approval of Ordinance Amending the Ordinance Establishing the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Grant Fund. CO2021-16C. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (page 20)

Bradley Rogers, President, introduced a request for consideration of Agreement for Engagement of Elkhart County Attorney. On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried; the Board approved this request. (Page 21)

BOARD ITEMS:

None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ropp