

# MINUTES OF THE CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 22, 2022

9:00 A.M.

The Clinton County Commissioners met for a regular meeting on August 22, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Clinton County Courthouse, 125 Courthouse Square, Frankfort, IN 46041.

Commissioner Jordan Brewer called the meeting to order with the following members shown to be present or absent:

## PRESENT

Jordan Brewer

Josh Uitts

Bert Weaver

## ABSENT

Others in attendance were Commissioner Assistant Jerri Sexton, Rick Campbell, Shawn Mayfield, Carol Price, Rich Kelly, Ashley Kelly, Chris Overman, Rodney Wann, Stephanie Harshbarger, Renee Crick, Mike Hensley, Grace Gouveia, and others are shown to be present in the minutes. Commissioner's Assistant Jerri Sexton recorded the minutes.

## **IN THE MATTER OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Brewer led the pledge of allegiance.

## **IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were received.

## **IN THE MATTER OF UNITED WAY**

Carol Price gave a presentation for this year's United Way Campaign. They are currently serving 17 agencies and 19 programs. Every dollar that is donated will be matched by the state. She requested the county to continue to offer the fair share gift incentive to receive a paid day off. Commissioners agree to allow her to call the department heads to share the information and to offer the incentive.

## **IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY UPDATE**

Rick Campbell reported they are ready to start paving projects. Last week they did 3 miles of road with pug. They did a mile of 1000 East, a mile and a half of 400 North from 1250 East to the county line. They had some left over so they used it for spots in the road that needed attention. They will use the remaining to patch. They have new weight limit signs for bridges that were mandated by the state. The cost of these signs were paid for out of the bridge fund.

## **IN THE MATTER OF AREA PLAN**

Liz Stitzel reported they have had minimal grass complaints and anticipate it will be slowing down as we move into the fall. She got a chance to talk to Mr. Wagoner regarding the condemned house on Michigantown Road. There has been some siding and roofing work, neither of which require a permit. She made them aware that the work does not change the fact that the house has been condemned. She told Mr. Wagoner if he wishes to change that he needs to get on the Commissioner's agenda. Her recommendation given the amount of time that the county has dealt with that house is the only way to consider giving a permit would be if they are willing to financially guarantee the remodel.

Mr. Wagoner stated that he liked the plan he discussed with Liz and is willing to do whatever Liz recommends.

Commissioners agree to a 90 day period for the estimate and financial assurance to be in place before issuing a permit.

## **IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brewer presented the Paul Phillippe grant report for public transportation that the county signs off as a pass through for the grant money that Paul Phillippe receives. Commissioner Uitts motioned to sign the grant report. Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0. .

Commissioner Brewer presented the BF&S speed study for 200 South between 39 and Alhambra. Currently the speed limit is 55 mph if not posted. The travel analysis showed that cars traveled at speeds between 36 and 45 mph. The report suggested lowering the speed to 50 mph. He feels based on the data they should lower it to 45 mph. Commissioner Weaver motioned to reduce the speed limit to 45 mph. Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Brewer stated they wanted to table Ordinance 2022-08 regarding the Nepotism Policy to be addressed at a later date. Commissioner Uitts motioned to table Ordinance 2022-08, Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Brewer opened the floor to anyone who wished to speak regarding the ordinance.

Brant Fuller stated he voted for Rich Kelly, his policies, and administration, hoping and knowing that Ashley would be the Matron. He stated the numbers didn't lie, the people in this county wanted Rich and Ashley in those positions. He feels if the ordinance passes they will lose a lot of services, and programs the matron has implemented. There would be a loss of money and jobs, and nobody wants that to happen.

Commissioner Brewer asked why we would lose things if this moves forward. Mr. Fuller stated that you will lose your Federal Inmate program. The money is providing a lot of jobs and there will be no new jail.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS**

No new business to report.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Renee Crick reported that their air handler went down and hopes it is just in need of freon. She called QPH and they should be there this afternoon.

She reminded the commissioners that their full scale exercise is on September 1st.

Rodney Wann reported he was finishing up their federal grant audits. He made the commissioner's aware he approached the council already and they will be looking to get a part time health officer for 2023.

Sheriff Kelly reported they will start the project in the basement. They have vehicles that are getting outfitted. They are pulling cable for the new phone lines and need to negotiate some labor cost. It is pretty labor intensive and takes the maintenance crew away from their normal duties. The commissioners will check on the matter.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Uitts reported he is still working on the service agreements with the non for profit agencies that the county supports.

Commissioner Uitts stated they get a newsletter monthly from the Indiana Association of County Commissioners, and one thing that caught his attention was a historic preservation fund, a 50/50 matching grant program that other counties have utilized. The Annex building and the Courthouse renovation projects do not include any historical preservation of our clock tower. He would like to get in touch with Cornerstone Grant Management Company and talk to Amy Miller about a 50/50 grant to refurbish the clock tower. The tower needs repairs to the brick, and steps, and is becoming unsafe for anyone to be up there in the tower. The clock itself is in great condition and gets maintenance twice a year. Commissioners support reaching out to Ms. Miller.

Commissioner Uitts reported one other topic that has come up, we have received phone calls regarding the condition of, and who is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of cemeteries. It is the township trustees responsibility to upkeep the cemeteries that are no longer financially viable or no longer in service. This includes family or old church cemeteries. It is very specific what the Department of Natural Resources outlines as the township trustees responsibilities. The Commissioners have the authority to create a cemetery preservation board, and he is currently researching the matter as a possibility. There are over 90 cemeteries in Clinton County and probably less than a dozen that are active.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the following claims as submitted, Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Friday claims dated August 5, 2022 in the amount of \$14,348.79  
Friday claims dated August 12, 2022 in the amount of \$1,201.89  
Friday claims dated August 19, 2022 in the amount of \$2,940.55  
Bi-weekly claims dated August 22, 2022 in the amount of \$608,355.79  
Court claims dated August 22, 2022 in the amount of \$56,576.68



**IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL**

Commissioner Uitts motioned to approve the payroll as submitted, Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

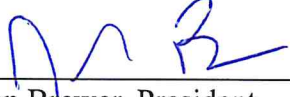
Payroll dated July 29, 2022 in the amount of \$453,610.39  
BOH payroll dated July 29, 2022 in the amount of \$831.95  
EMS payroll dated July 29, 2022 in the amount of \$258.06


**IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER MINUTES**


Commissioner Uitts motioned to approve regular meeting minutes dated August 2, 2022, and Joint Executive Session Minutes dated August 18, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Weaver Motion carried 3-0.

Without any further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Uitts motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Weaver at 9:37 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLINTON COUNTY

  
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Jordan Brewer, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Josh Uitts

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bert Weaver

ATTEST:

  
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Britt Ostler, Auditor