

MINUTES OF THE CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 5, 2024

9:00 A.M.

The Clinton County Commissioners met for a regular meeting on March 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Meeting Room, at 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 Rick Campbell, Rodney Wann, Chris Overman, Renee Crick, Rich Kelly, Shawn Mayfield, Kelly Moore, Ed Cripe, Grace Gouveia, Caren Crum, Steven Deckard, 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

Kimi Hathaway from Rossville read a statement regarding her concerns about contamination and the upkeep of the proposed solar farm.

Dennis Kern addressed his concerns regarding the tax abatements for solar farms and no local jobs being created with the solar farms. Commissioner Brewer addressed some of the concerns about tax abatements.

IN THE MATTER OF HARDY HILLS SOLAR FARM

Todd Vostry stated he lived on 50 East and addressed some issues regarding the construction equipment and trucks tearing up the road. He is concerned the county will not fix it. Commissioner Brewer stated there is an agreement in place that the road will be repaired after the construction is completed. Rick Campbell stated they can not get hot mix until April. Todd also had concerns about the size of trees and shrubs for the landscaping and who will be responsible for mowing the 3 foot tall grass. Commissioner Brewer stated they will look into the landscaping and the process for tall grass complaints is for him to contact the Area Plan. Commissioner Weaver stated all they can do is address the issues and try to enforce the things they said they would do from the beginning.

IN THE MATTER OF LANDFILL

Dan Baietto reported they have cell construction starting on April 1st and will start digging out cell 6. Seeding will be done in the fall. They are working with the haulers to make sure they are tarping their trucks coming in and out of the landfill. They are still seeing a lot of litter on the highway. He would like to get that cleaned up by the end of the week.

He addressed the concerns of the Rossville citizens about solar panels going to the landfills, stating they have to be recycled; they cannot go to the landfills.

Commissioner Weaver inquired if they had purchased mowing equipment to mow the embankment on 300 North. Dan stated they have had other equipment issues and have not purchased the mowing equipment but have a company they will contract with to get the mowing done.

Commissioner Brewer asked how many cells are there and how long does it take to fill up. Dan replied there are 14 cells and cells 4 and 5 are not full yet and were opened roughly 2 years ago.

IN THE MATTER OF PARKVIEW RESTROOM UPGRADES

Chris Overman stated that his residents approached him about using their funds to upgrade the two downstairs bathrooms, taking out the stand up shower and making it a combined sit down unit. It would be a few thousand to make this upgrade and they have over \$22,000 in their funds. He will get 3 bids for them to consider. Commissioners approved. Chris stated they were back up to 25 residents, and it was a good place to be.

IN THE MATTER OF CENTRAL DISPATCH NETCLOCK QUOTE

Renee Crick presented a Netclock quote for approval to add two additional clocks when they redesign central dispatch. The amount is \$4,020.60. Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the Netclock quote. Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PURDUE EXTENSION CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Caren Crum introduced Josh Winrotte, Area Director at Purdue Extension. Josh stated he had a meeting with Commissioner Brewer and Council President Alan Dunn regarding a proposed amendment to the Extension office contract. After the meeting they ran the proposal through their legal, they would like to offer \$10,000 which is more than what the agreement would have given. The University doesn't want to add to the agreement but offer back the \$10,000 of last year's contractual services due to not being staffed and deficiencies in programming. They are also restructuring within the office. Instead of 3 educators and a program assistant there will be 5 educators servicing the office moving forward. Caren has accepted an offer to move to the Health and Human Sciences position. She'll be moving out of the 4 H position, but will continue to be the department head and work with 4 H. There will be an A&R educator and full time 4 H educator and Esmerelda will still be working with the migrant populations and Health and Human Sciences work and they will hire another position based on need. They will do a needs assessment this year.

Commissioner Brewer asked him to email them the proposed changes and they and Tom will look it over and see if that's what they are willing to do moving forward.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY UPDATE

Rick Campbell reported they would like to make 8000 tons of pug and pave 1 mile of 0 west of Frankfort out of pocket. He wants to chip and seal 40 miles of road and triple seal 3 miles of road that would be converted to hard surface. That would be 300 north from 1250 East to 1400 East and 150 North from SR 29 to 530 East. Take out railroad tracks north of Michigantown Road on Maish Road. Michigantown Road is what they applied for the Community Crossings Grant. They would also like to cut the brush on Michigantown Road. They will check on the landfill contract regarding how many tons the county can dump without charge. They are starting to spread stone. Bridge #55 cement work is done and waiting on the hot mix plant to open. Bridge #21 the inspection and P.E. part is done and RFP is next then they need to choose a consultant. They will need to score again in April.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

Forest Property

Michael Andreoli, an attorney representing Michael Moore, addressed concerns that Area Plan and the commissioners had regarding Mr. Moore's property. He stated most of the materials to complete the house have been purchased and are stored inside the house. He wrote a letter to the Area Plan Director on what Mr. Moore proposed to do and the timeline. He made a request for the commissioners to allow him to finalize the letters, plans and timeline with the Area Plan staff.

Jon Cole spoke in regards to his concerns about Mr. Moore having several building permits, passed deadlines and the continued problems from Mr. Moore and the property he has dealt with for 6 years. He's concerned about his property value declining because of what he lives next to.

Michael Andreoli stated Mr. Moore has only had one building permit that he has been out of compliance with.

Commissioner Uitts asked why the notice of condemnation had been removed and the fine had not been paid. Mr. Andreoli stated that he removed it to bring to his office to copy and put it back and they will pay the fine immediately.

Commissioner Weaver stated they had previously addressed some issues that wouldn't have cost any money, such as miscellaneous items in the ROW, or wrong property line and 30 days later none of those items had been removed. There has been no follow through from Mr. Moore. Mr. Moore stated that those things have been removed now.

Commissioner Weaver stated he would like time to talk it over with staff and the other commissioners. Commissioner Brewer stated the first step would be to pay the fine and they would have time to talk it over with area plan staff, and he would want the septic to be completed at the same time as the house in August.

Commissioner Weaver motioned to continue discussion of the project at the next meeting pending all fines have been paid. Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Weaver motioned to table the demo bids until the next meeting. Commissioner Brewer seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Mowing Bids

Commissioner Brewer read the following mowing bids based off 30 mows for the year:

<u>Platinum</u>	<u>Smith</u>	<u>Warren</u>
\$8,250.00	\$15,274.00	\$11,254.00
Aeration:		
\$75.00	\$378.00	\$150.00
Spring Clean Up:		
\$1,750.00	\$5,470.00	\$3,380.00

The other bid from Brightview was considerably higher than these three.

After discussion about the bids, Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the bid from Warren, Commissioner Uitts seconded. Commissioner Brewer voted no, he would have gone with Platinum because he was the lowest bid. Motion carried 2-1.

Annex Pay App #4

Commissioner Brewer presented the Annex pay app for \$261,115.47 for concrete, labor, site work, plumbing. Commissioner Uitts motioned to approve the pay app #4 for the Annex, Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

EMT and EMT-P Instructor contracts for service agreements

Steven Deckard stated previously the students paid the instructors directly and to be more transparent the students will now pay the county and the county will pay the instructors and have a contract for an hourly rate instead of a fixed amount. After some discussion Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the contracts for EMT and EMT-P contract service agreements. Commissioner Uitts voted no. Commissioner Brewer seconded. Motion carried 2-1

Sign Placement Requests

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve sign placement on the courthouse lawn for the Election Board posting dates of the election. Commissioner Uitts abstained. Commissioner Brewer seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the City of Frankfort to place a sign on the Courthouse lawn for the Solar Eclipse Event. Commissioner Uitts voted no. Commissioner Brewer seconded. Motion carried 2-1.

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve Healthy Communities sign placement for Child Abuse Awareness. Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Sheriff Kelly presented the 2023 Annual Jail Report. They passed their inspection with a few notes about mechanical and structural issues. Sheriff stated one of the k-9 handlers has resigned and has left them with a K-9 that is very aggressive they don't have a handler for it. They want to release it to a company that will re-train the dog and get it to someone that can use it.

Commissioner Uitts motioned to change the ownership of the dog to the new company. Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff Kelly reported they are in the outfitting process of the last 6 Tahoes. They have two internal promotions. They will be hiring for possibly 3 positions and starting a hiring process later in April and will advertise this Friday. One is for the deputy that left and the two SRO's.

Commissioner Weaver stated he would like to get rid of the non-functional x-ray machine that's been sitting in the hall for years. Sheriff Kelly stated he could help him get rid of the machine.

Renee Crick reported that March 10th-16th is the severe weather preparedness week and in conjunction with the state wide testing Tuesday the 12th around 10:15 a.m. they will be doing a full activation of Tornado sirens. She encourages everyone to get a weather radio.

Renee stated they sent out a message yesterday that 2 miles east of Kirklon on 38 is going to be closed through July. Next week she'll send out that 38 from Mulberry moving east to 39 will be closed for several months.

Commissioner Weaver stated Renee has been attending an organization for safety and protocols for Clinton County. There are two representatives for Clinton County, one is the EMA Director and one an appointment

from the Commissioners. Commissioner Weaver motioned to have Renee Crick serve on District 4 as the representative for the commissioners. Commissioner Uitts seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Steven Deckard reported that the zoll monitors that they sent were not able to check blood pressures. The monitors have to go back and zoll will be sending replacements. Steven stated they have added harm reduction kits to all their ambulances with the support from Healthy Communities coalition. They will distribute those when they respond to opioid overdose victims.

Sheriff Kelly stated the roads around the solar farms are dangerous and do slow down the response of first responders and ambulances.

Rodney Wann reported he had a job description change from RN position to an LPN. They will table this matter until the next meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Brewer reported they received notice of more opioid settlement distribution. Restricted amount is \$98,959.18 and unrestricted in the amount of \$38,996.30 for a total of \$137,955.48.

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 February 23, 2024 in the amount of \$20,954.11
- Friday claims dated March 1, 2024 in the amount of \$43,624.70
- Friday claims dated March 1, 2024 in the amount of \$8,234.41
- Bi-weekly claims dated March 5, 2024 in the amount of \$386,909.40
- Court claims dated March 5, 2024 in the amount of \$5,813.50

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL

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

Payroll dated February 9, 2024 in the amount of \$532,148.15

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER MINUTES

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve regular meeting minutes dated February 7, 2024, and regular meeting minutes dated February 20, 2024, seconded by Commissioner Uitts. 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 10:36 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLINTON COUNTY



Jordan Brewer, President

Josh Uitts



Bert Weaver

ATTEST:



Britt Ostler, Auditor