

WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY JUNE 20, 2022

Commissioners present for the meeting: Clay Andrews, Adam Hanthorne, Craig Greenwood.

Also, In Attendance:

Public: Ben Dispennett, LEDO Director; Monte Mickle; Robert Bulington; Leonard Purcell; Cody Dyer;

Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Lori Heidenreich, Treasurer; Jenny Hobaugh, Highway Office Manager; Matt Herndon, Highway Superintendent; John Kuiper, Zoning Director; Sharon Hutchison, Council/Grant Contractor; Ethan Foxworthy, Council; John Comer, Council; Jill Wilson, HR Director; Rusty Hart, Sheriff; Randy Haddock, Surveyor; Ingrid Barce, County Attorney.

1. The meeting was called to order by Clay Andrews.
2. Clay Andrews, Commissioner President led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. New Business:
 - a. Andrews requested to Move UBO up in the agenda. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to approve the amended agenda with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.
 - b. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to approve the June 6, 2022 Commissioner Meeting minutes with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.
 - c. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to approve the June 6, 2022 – June 20, 2022 Accounts Payable Claim Dockets with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.
 - d. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to approve the June 10, 2022 payroll with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.
 - e. Highway – Herndon stated Highway drove to Carmel Indiana to pick up 1 Enterprise pickup truck but still waiting on the other one. Jud is working on the MJ electric issue with the road repairs. Ingrid Barce explained a letter is being sent concerning damaged roads and repairs needed. Hanthorne stated landowners also have issue with the road repairs due to MJ Electric and Barce requested to send the landowners to them. Bridge #36 repair should be finish soon but bridge will be shut down for a few days. Hobaugh and Herndon explained \$5,300 for new bridge signs due to State requirements.
 - f. Bridge #89 Bid Opening – Hobaugh opened the sealed bid from White Construction in the amount of \$950,000. Hobaugh explained approximately \$350,000 will be County portion and Community Crossing grant remainder. The County portion will be from Cumulative Bridge Fund. Discussed Bridge #39 and payout of \$639,000 county share will not be until 2026 which will also come from Cumulative Bridge Fund. Craig Greenwood made a motion to accept the bid of \$950,000 from White Construction paid from Cumulative Bridge Fund in 2022 with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all in favor.
 - g. 2023 Budget – Weston-Hubner presented the 2023 Budget to the Commissioners. Explained the Economic Development Fund, due to additional appropriations 2022, the fund cannot support all items for 2023. Items include Highway Dump Trucks if 2 needed \$200,000; Wabash River/Williamsport Trails \$200,000; Accounting Software 200,000. These items will need to be, if included, added to another fund budget for 2023. Salaries are entered at 7% due to cost of living recommended by State. Weston-Hubner explained the Budget Worksheet. Extension has requested a full-time employee rather than parttime. Cumulative Capital Development fund also has a lower budget due to fund balance. Kuiper stated the possibility of donating to Paws and Claws if they continue to accept animals.
 - h. UBO – Clay Andrews called the UBO Hearing to order. Ingrid Barce began the hearing.
 1. Mickle, 1523 N Van Buren Independence – Barce inquired about the progress and status of compliance. Mickle stated all weeds and yard have been cleaned up over weekend. Kuiper stated he had photos from Friday. Mickle presented photos of work that was done. Kuiper stated still some brush cleanup and inquired about the house. Mickle stated the house is being worked on and his daughter will be living there. Clay Andrews made a motion to release the Mickle UBO at 1523 N Van Buren with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor. Barce explained the release and if there are issues in future, we will contact him.
 2. Purcell, 1630 N Van Buren Independence. Barce inquired about the progress and status of compliance. Kuiper stated significant progress has been made to the building and grounds. Purcell stated the building will be used for a storage unit. Barce inquired of additional work to be compliant. Kuiper stated keeping moving forward with cleaning and continue to improve the cosmetics of the property. Craig Greenwood made a motion to affirm the UBO and approve a 60-day extension with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. Purcell inquired about the structure grandfather status. Kuiper explained the footprint must remain unchanged. Barce stated the next hearing will be August 15th at 8:30 a.m.
 3. Bulington – Barce inquired of the progress and status of compliance. Bulington stated a contractor is there today to take the house down and brush but removing the house rubble is an issue with difficulty getting dumpsters. Kuiper inquired of Bulington's intentions of the lot. Bulington explained he will need to fill in the basement and later build a garage. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to affirm the Bulington UBO and grant extension of 30 days with a second from Clay Andrews, all in favor. Barce stated the next hearing will be July 18th at 8:30 a.m.
 4. Dyer, 1561 Van Buren Independence. Barce inquired of the progress and status of compliance. Kuiper explained Cody has cleaned up the parcel and his father's parcel. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to release the Dyer UBO with a second from Clay Andrews, all in favor. Barce explained the release and if there are issues in future, we will contact him.

5. ~~Grogan – Unable to attend. Kuiper explained the progress and showed photos stating the parcel has been cleaned up. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to release the Grogan UBO with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.~~

Property Maintenance was discussed concerning County getting a dumpster. Kuiper stated he will investigate a dumpster. Discussed where to place the dumpster. Discussed letters to be sent. Dumpster in July and by Aug 1st cleaned up. Town wide cleanup posters were discussed. Barce stated letters will go out this week. Kuiper stated a list will be sent to Barce.

Clay Andrews made a motion to close the UBO hearing with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.

- i. 2023 County Schedules – Weston-Hubner presented the 2023 County Holiday, Accounts Payable, Payroll, Commissioners schedules. Discussed the schedules. New Year's Eve 2023 will be given in 2024. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve 2023 AP, Payroll, Commissioner Meeting and Holiday with a second by Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.

Old Business:

- a. Pence Water System Upgrade – Greenwood explained the engineering firm has been contacted for work on this project. Sharon Hutchison, Grant Writer, explained OCRA grant funding and local funds will be used for engineering fees as preliminary engineering fees paid prior to the grant process. Greenwood will work with Hutchison to be sure things are completed as should be.
- b. Courtroom/Courthouse Repairs – Greenwood explained Arsee is working on the invoice for repairs in probation office as they feel it is too high. Water fountain install is on hold.
- c. Jail Generator – Discussed the estimate for freight. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to amend the prior motion to \$75,000 from public safety for jail generator to include freight with a second by Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.
- d. Ceres lot Survey – Andrews explained the survey has been completed and will have invoice soon.
- e. Fire & Smoke Alarms County Buildings – Greenwood explained Koorsen is working on engineering drawings. Tabled until next meeting.
- f. Extension – Hanthorne explained a quote from Pat Cole for soffit and gutters at \$5,850 which is 3ft soffit, new fascia, gutters and downspouts which can be completed after the Fair. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to go approve the quote paid from Jordan Creek Wind Farm Expense Fund for \$5,850 with a second by Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.

Elected Official/Department Head comments:

- a. Rusty Hart, Sheriff – Hart explained one rooftop HVAC unit is not fully operational and all 3 units have a lot of age on them. Quotes for replacement of 1 unit and all 3 will be presented soon. Discussed have all 3 units replaced while crane is here and price better on 3. Discussed using Barnhart Crane for this project. Weston-Hubner presented invoice from Sentry Room for the roof repair with the server room HVAC unit of \$380.00 which is much less than original quote.
- b. Matt Herndon, Highway Superintendent – Herndon explained CDL Testing for 80 hours includes 2 driving tests at Fort Wayne IV Tech or South Bend for \$3,250. The new employee at the Highway will need this training but we have 90 days to complete. Hutchison explained grant money will not be available until July.
- c. Sharon Hutchison, Grant Writer – Hutchison inquired about her contract. Weston-Hubner stated the contract will end July 3, 2022. The fees are \$400/week and 3% of each grant. Hutchison explained the grants she has facilitated include 2 grants court \$500,000, EMA, LEPC, Recycling, Community grants for towns. Discussed amending the contract to 1 year, July 1 through June 30 contract. Ingrid will write up and send to Commissioners.
- d. Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor – Weston-Hubner stated the State NAVs have been received. Discussed Judge request for Custodian bonus but others must be considered as well such as Jail Matron, Deputy Zoning and Assistant Custodian. Tabled until a later meeting.
- e. Cemetery mowing – Greenwood explained the termination by Jeff Griffin of the county home cemetery mowing agreement. Perry Lawn Service will take over this agreement.
- f. Budget Meeting – Hutchison requested the July 25th Joint Budget Meeting be held at the new extension. Discussed other possible locations.

Public Comment:

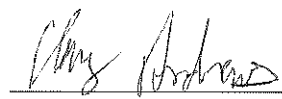
- a. Ben Dispennett, LEDO Director – Dispennett explained July 18th the County Comprehensive Plan meeting will be held at Seeger for public comments. Towns must accept the plan. READI grant projects are about to begin.

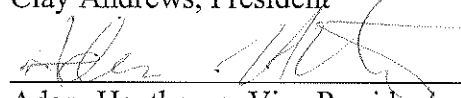
Next Commissioner meeting July 5, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

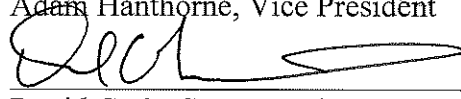
There being no further business Adam Hanthorne made a motion to adjourn with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.

ATTEST:


Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor


Clay Andrews, President


Adam Hanthorne, Vice President


David Craig Greenwood