

WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Commissioners present for the meeting: Clay Andrews, Craig Greenwood, John Comer.

Also, In Attendance:

Public: Tom Witsman, Mike Day, LeAnn Conrad, Lyn Martin, Cheryl Clark, Jane Craigin, Eric Frantz, Brad Linton, Ben Dispennett.

Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Jud Barce, County Attorney; Jenny Hobough, Highway Office Manager; Matt Herndon, Highway Superintendent; Sharon Hutchison, Grant Writer (Remote); Anthony Pruitt, Sheriff; John Kuiper, Zoning Director; Randy Haddock, Surveyor; Jill Wilson, Human Resources; Justin Brummett, Coroner.

1. The meeting was called to order by Craig Greenwood, President.
2. Clay Andrews, Commissioner President led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. New Business:
 - a. Clay Andrews Support letter Next Level Connection 4. John Comer made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - b. John Comer made a motion to approve the January 16, 2024 Commissioner Meeting minutes with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - c. John Comer made a motion to approve the January 16, 2024 – February 5, 2024 Accounts Payable Claim Dockets with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - d. John Comer made a motion to approve the February 2, 2024 payroll with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - e. Highway – Herndon stated work continues with grading roads and putting stone down.
 - f. EMS Update, Ascension – Jane Craigin, Ascension, introduced Eric Frantz, EMS Medical Director North Region of Indiana Ascension. Frantz gave his background has worked here in 2003. Ascension has about 14 trucks in the state with 3 here. Explained the past year work accomplished, trainings in the coming year as well as past trainings. Working with BC and FC EMS concerning mass casualty incident response training. K-9 training, community paramedic grant application (support to home care). Fire Dept EMT classes to strengthen first response community. Brummett presented quotes for a new ambulance. Quotes include Heartland Ford 2024 Ford F-550 XLT Diesel 4x4 chassis \$74,200, Tom O'Brien 2024 Dodge Ram 550 4x4 diesel chassis \$68,500. Lifeline \$265,000 for the box and assembly. Stryker power cot \$67,956.51. Currently using a Furno cot but will sell. Brummett explained the need for a power cot due to employees getting hurt. HGCA bid agreement will not need to go through State protocol. Chassis will take 90 – 120 days from Heartland Ford. Discussed ordering Hoosier Fire Ambulance Box which will take 30 months approximately for delivery. Clay Andrews made a motion to enter into agreement with Hoosier Fire to order new Ambulance Box at \$265,000 and decided chassis at a later date seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor. Brummett stated after this purchase, County can remount boxes saving 30% in cost.
 - g. Federal Field Services Contract, EMA Sirens – Greenwood explained the \$2,000 maintenance agreement for the sirens. John Comer made a motion approving contract paid from public safety for \$2,000/year seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - h. Resolution Declaring Surplus Property, Wood Chipper – Barce explained to dispose of retired wood chipper. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-0205A Declaring Surplus Personal Property seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - i. Ordinance Authorizing Signatory for Local Public State Contracts – Barce explained Ordinance to allowing Commissioner President, Craig Greenwood, to sign State Contracts. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve Ordinance #2024-0205A seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - j. Suspend meeting to open drainage board meeting. John Comer made a motion to suspend Commissioner Meeting to hold Drainage Board Meeting at 9:30 seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. John Comer made a motion to reconvene the Commissioner Meeting at 9:40 seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - k. Next Level connection 4 – Dispennett explained Level 4 expanding broadband to rural County areas reaching approximately 1200 residents. The County share is \$925,000 being paid from Jordan Creek Wind Farm Economic Development funds. Notification if approved will be June 2024. Application is due Friday and the Council has approved. John Comer made a motion to approve a letter of support seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.

Old Business:

Elected Official/Department Head comments:

- a. Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor – Weston-Hubner stated APC Board member Tony Briles resigned as of 1/29/24. Commissioners will begin process of finding a new APC board member. Discussed 2024 Farm Cash Rent amount. Weston-Hubner explained 2024 budget Additional Appropriations in court grant salaries, utilities and fire department donations. Hall Electric invoice for courtroom bulb replacement has been sent to Bouma and Betten. Discuss Followell Farm Fund Ordinance to use funds for capital projects. The 2024 Salary Ordinance adding CASA Director was approved by Commissioners.
- b. Anthony Pruitt, Sheriff – Sheriff Pruitt gave update on K-9 training which has been completed and thank you to all businesses/Commissioners.
- c. Sharon Hutchison, Grant Writer – Hutchison stated the Safe Haven baby box has been installed in Williamsport.
- d. Craig Greenwood, Commissioners - Knox Boxes have been installed at Courthouse and Health Department with Koorsen activating the program. Discussed 2024 Smith Scholarship does not have openings this year.
- e. Justin Brummett, Coroner – Brummett explained the 2024 cases with 6 at this point, 2 were autopsied.

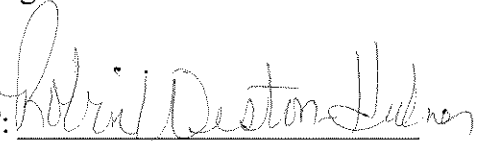
Public Comment:

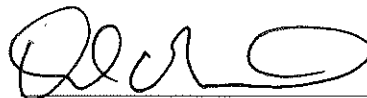
- a. LEAP Project – Bill Miller and Mike Day presented information concerning Resolution/Ordinance for LEAP water project. The LEAP Project is a pipeline from underground river taking approximately 100 million gallons of water per day. Discussed how the project could be detrimental to the County. Discussed the projects currently are in the process and need for more water as time goes. Barce explained 2 different ways of opposing the pipeline. Commissioners will look into this.
- b. Lyn Martin – Martin suggested a LEAP Project community sign opposing the project.
- c. Leanne Conrad – Conrad inquired if the absence of an APC member effect the CO meeting. Commissioners explained this would not be an issue.

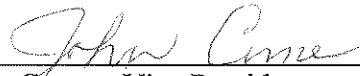
Next Commissioner meeting February 20, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

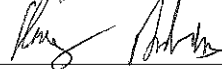
There being no further business John Comer made a motion to adjourn with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.

ATTEST:


Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor


David Craig Greenwood, President


John Comer, Vice President


Clay Andrews