

WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY OCTOBER 7, 2024

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

Also In Attendance:

Public: Kara Dewlen, LEDO Director; Bev Morgan, Lyn Martin, LeAnn Conrad, Shannon Stanos, Shane Kellener, Stanton Lambert, Michele Stuckey (online).

Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Charity Perigo, Chief Deputy Auditor; Ingrid Barce, County Attorney; Matt Herndon, Highway Superintendent; Jenny Hobaugh, Highway Office Manager; Sharon Hutchison, Council; Anthony Pruitt, Sheriff; Jill Wilson, HR Director; Derek Puterbaugh, VSO; Laci Frodge, Health Department Nurse.

1. The meeting was called to order by Craig Greenwood, President.
2. New Business:
 - a. Add Community Foundation to agenda. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the amended agenda with a second from John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - b. John Comer made a motion to approve the September 16, 2024 Commissioner Meeting minutes with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - c. John Comer made a motion to approve the September 16, 2024 – October 7, 2024 Accounts Payable Claim Dockets with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - d. John Comer made a motion to approve the September 27, 2024 payroll with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - e. Highway – Herndon requested additional appropriation to stone budget of \$100,000 in Fund 1176, Commissioners approved. Weston-Hubner will take to the Council for approval. Greenwood inquired about the CCG, Hobaugh has sent for approval. Herndon stated milling and paving in Pine Village area. Calcium is included on the SR 28 detour by INDOT and SR 26 bridge on west end is now open. Hendon postponed work on 900W until SR 28 bridge and harvest are finished. Work on 900 W will take approximately 3 weeks to complete. Hobaugh explained letters of interest for bridge 39 inspection from 4 firms. INDOT has provided a report card for 3 people to rate the firms. Hobaugh gave the report cards to the Commissioners and requested to be returned when filled out. Bridge 39 construction will begin in 2026.
 - f. Ordinance Regulating Tattooing and Body Piercing – Frodge explained Ordinance is health safety which requires permit from Health Department and inspection of the facility. Discussed the Ordinance and effects. Greenwood explained penalty of \$1,000 for each violation. Robison explained this is State required. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve Ordinance #2024-1007A seconded by Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor.
 - g. Ordinance Concerning Administration and Expenditures of Opioid Settlement Funds – Greenwood explained this will enable JRAC to make decisions on use of the funds. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve Ordinance #2024-1007B seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - h. Ordinance Establishing Park Rules for Warren County Parks – Greenwood explained the Ordinance is needed due to questions on park usages. John Comer made a motion to approve Ordinance #2024-1007C seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - i. 2025 County Farm Cash Rent – Discussed keeping rent same as 2024. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve 2025 cash rent for County Farms at \$250/acre seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - j. Purchase Zoning/Animal Control Truck – John Comer made a motion to approve \$15,607 to Enterprise paid from Sale of County Owned Property seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - k. EMA Purchase Sheriff Tahoe – Greenwood explained Sheriff Tahoe normally trade in for \$13,000 and EMA's need for vehicle. John Comer made a motion to purchase Sheriff Tahoe for \$13,000 paid from Sale of County Owned Property fund seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. Sheriff Pruitt explained the requote to have the lights on the Tahoe changed to red/white and siren which is a requirement. Discussed lights/radios for the Tahoe and quotes to make road ready. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve quote from Tip of the Spear LLC paid from 4901 for \$1305.80 seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - l. WTH Grant/Next Generation 911 – Weston-Hubner explained the 911 GIS. Defer to next meeting.
 - m. Warren County Fire Ban – Greenwood explained the need for approval through a meeting. Craig Greenwood made a motion to approve EMA request to place county wide burn ban 9/18/24 which has since been lifted seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - n. JOINK/Health Department Internet Agreements – John Comer made a motion to approve the Joink agreements for Health Department internet seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - o. Community Foundation – Stanton Lambert, Wabash River Enhancement Corp and Shannon Stanos, Niches explained land is being auctioned October 7th located on the Wabash River totaling 217 acres. Stanos explained the items Niches is currently working on in the county. The goal is protecting the 217 acres for habitat and vast improvements to quality of life. Niches would like to partner with Warren County to protect this land. The land is being auctioned in 5 tracts. Niches would like the County to bid on the parcels then purchase the parcel from the county. Lambert explained Wabash River Greenway which is enhancement of the Wabash River corridor. Tippecanoe County has been the primary focus but now working regionally. Hutchison, Council, stated concern with who could purchase the land to develop and the County will be stuck with the repairs on the roads/infrastructure if the county has no control over this land rather than purchased by individuals. Discussed purchasing the parcels but Niches would have purchase agreement with the County. Nov 7th auction and Dec 5 closing. Barce explained County purchase of real estate over \$25,000 must have 2 appraisals with 10% down payment or earnest money to Columbia Title with remainder on or before Dec 9th. Stanos stated Niches has 1 appraisal of \$1,020,000. Discussed appraisal process. John Comer made a motion to move forward with 2 appraisals up to \$5,000 total paid from Jordan Creek Wind Farm Economic Development Fund 4918 seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.

Old Business:

- a. Health Department/Jail Parking Lot – Greenwood explained Sheriff/Jail parking lot bid from Bi-state for \$3,500. Craig Greenwood made a motion to accept Bi-State Asphalt Agreement in the amount of \$3,500 to be paid from Cumulative Capital Development seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.

Elected Official/Department Head comments:

- a. Derek Puterbaugh, VSO – Puterbaugh explained VSO temporary office is located in the Extension building. Computer lines will be ran this week and a printer has been provided by Human Resource Director.



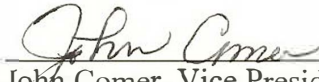

- b. Jenny Hobaugh, Solid Waste Director – Hobaugh explained a semi-trailer is needed for recycled paper storage due to paper mill shutdown. Will present quotes at the next meeting.
- c. Kara Dewlen, LEDO Director – Dewlen explained the progress with Stellar Grant.

Public Comment:

- a. Kara Dewlen, LEDO Director – Dewlen explained the progress with Stellar Grant.
- b. Bev Morgan – Morgan explained work at Kickapoo Springs over the years. Community workers and volunteers have worked on the project. The springs have a lot of recreational use, also used for 3rd grader field trips. No funding has been requested by the County to this point, but the next project will need help. Inquired about grants but no one volunteered to help. Morgan presented her contact information.

Next Commissioner meeting October 21, 2024 @ 8:30 a.m.

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

ATTEST:  Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor
 David Craig Greenwood, President
 John Comer, Vice President
 Clay Andrews