

WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY MARCH 17, 2025

Commissioners present for the meeting: John Comer, Clay Andrews, Craig Greenwood (remote)

Also, In Attendance:

Public: Doug Hess, interim LEDO Director; Lyn Martin, LeAnn Conrad, Kathy Allen, Paul Coffman, Cheryl Clark, Vickie Strickler, Terri Wargo, Brian Jordan, Vanessa Johns, Jim Lanham, Brian Jordan, Greg Robison (remote), Michelle Stucky (remote).

Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Ingrid Barce, County Attorney; Matt Herndon, Highway Superintendent; John Kuiper, Zoning Director; Jenny Hobaugh, Highway Office Manager; Laci Frodge, Health Nurse; Jim Morson, EMA Director; Ethan Foxworthy, Council.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Comer, Commissioner President.

2. New Business:

- a. Add Ordinance Appointing the Authorized Signatory for Local Public Agency State Contracts, Straub UBO Hearing to the agenda. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the amended agenda with a second from John Comer, all voted in favor.
- b. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the March 3, 2025 Commissioner Meeting minutes with a second from John Comer, all voted in favor.
- c. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the March 3, 2025 – March 17 2025 Accounts Payable Claim Dockets with a second from John Comer, all voted in favor.
- d. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the March 14, 2025 payroll with a second from John Comer, all voted in favor.
- e. Highway – Herndon stated storm damage cleanup has been completed. Hobaugh presented a contract between Warren County and Woolpert construction for inspection of bridge #39 in the amount of \$300,186 that was previously approved. INDOT has approved and the Commissioners will sign.
- f. UBO – John Comer opened the UBO Hearing.
 - i. Straub - Discussed Straub UBO. Kuiper explained inability to get into the back of the parcel to take pictures, but regardless there is still a lot of scrap and trash. John Comer made a motion to approve Straub UBO for April 21st Hearing in order to allow Kuiper access and further progress, seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - ii. James - John Kuiper, Zoning, explained photos sent on Sunday. Windows and roof are new, yard has only partially cleaned up due to inability to have a dumpster placed. John Comer made a motion to extend the James UBO-60 days seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. John Comer closed the UBO Hearing. James UBO Hearing is set for May 19th.
- g. Property Maintenance – From the meeting, Kuiper stated he has discussed the progress with Purcell. Clay Andrews made a motion to extend the Property Maintenance for Purcell 60 days seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor. Purcell made a motion to extend the Property Maintenance for May 19th.
 - i. Purcell – Purcell was not present for the meeting. Kuiper stated he has discussed the progress with Purcell. Clay Andrews made a motion to extend the Property Maintenance for May 19th.
 - ii. Mickel – Mickel/Dyer were not present for the meeting. Kuiper explained the land has been transferred with no work accomplished by the new owner. Discussed sending Dyer a letter concerning the property maintenance. Clay Andrews made a motion to extend the property maintenance 30 days with a letter to Dyer, seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
 - iii. Dickens – Dickens was not present for the meeting. Kuiper explained photos that show vehicles and parts, camper sitting in right of way, etc. Clay Andrews made a motion to apply fine if no progress is made seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
- h. Williamsport Town board/Williamsport Pool – Coffman explained the timeline with the Williamsport/Warren County Pool which began 9/2021 with pool committee attaining a bid of \$3.1 million with no splash pad and \$1.6 million to upgrade the current pool. December 2021 a pool survey was sent to residents. March 2022 the Town allocated \$2 million and Warren County allocated \$1 million with DNR grant of \$700,000, \$200,000 private donations. June 2023 Town received notice of the DNR grant award. February 2024 committee requested HWC move forward with new quote which came back at \$5.3 million. Town and Committee decided to trim back to \$4.5 million. Limited on trims back due to DNR grant requirements. Pool name was changed to Warren County Pool. Town Board is requesting additional \$1 million from the County totaling \$2 million County donation. Final money at \$2 million Town; \$2 million County; \$700,000 DNR and \$200,000 donations totaling \$4.9 million. Town is proposing applying for READI grant of \$1 million which town will split with the County if awarded. Vicki explained the use of the pool by the community, Park Program, elderly, families, etc. Park Program is donations/grant based. If we do not have a pool MSD will charge \$2,000 for 8 weeks use of the school's pool. Normal number of swimmers at the pool is 100-200 swimmers per day with night swims for family time. Comer asked about READI funding as no letter of commitment has been sent in. Weston-Hubner inquired about the process. Coffman stated 3 bids will be reviewed, town will decide the awarded bid. The pool has very little revenue each year. About 40-50% of the people using the pool not living in the Williamsport. HWC is the engineering firm and fees are \$250,000. Splash pad is separate so can be open when the pool is not which is motion activated. Coffman stated bids will be received the end of April. READI grants are not guaranteed so hard to know if the County will need \$2 million or \$1.5 million. Comer stated if the council approves at their meeting tomorrow, the Commissioners will discuss at their April 7th meeting.
- i. Community Crossing Grant Bid Opening – Discussed the bids for CCG 2025-1 of \$874,840.55 Milestone; \$904,507 Reith Riley. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve Milestone bid of \$874,840.55 seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
- j. Smith Scholarship – Comer explained the scholarship is to Purdue. John Comer made a motion to approve Jisela Buranosky, Easton Brier, Kayne Action, Jacob Potter 4-year scholarships with Ella Foster Alternante and Alex Childress, Clayton Oliver, Janiah Hayman, Joanna Salts, Morgan Warrick and Case Garritt continued scholarships seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. John explained there are 10 scholarships total each year as such the number of open scholarships depends on how many graduate in a given year.
- k. Resolution to Declare Surplus Personal Property – Surplus items to be sold are Ditcher, Grader, Chip Spreader and Door Handles. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve Resolution #2025-0317A seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.
- l. Ordinance Appointing the Authorized Signatory for Local Public Agency State Contracts – Barce explained the Ordinance. John Comer made a motion to approve Ordinance #2025-0317B authorizing John Comer, President of the Commissioners signatory seconded by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.

3. Old Business:

- a. Annex Building Construction/Remodel – Progress is being made and work continues.

4. Elected Official/Department Head comments:

- a. Matt Herndon, Highway Superintendent – Herndon stated SR 55 project starts at the end of March with Old SR 55 old used for detour but no trucks will be allowed and State will pay is torn up.
- b. ~~Jim Morson, EMA Director – Morson explained Warren County fared well after severe storms. Burn ban will be lifted today. State Road 63 will be down to 1 lane on or after 4/1. Barce sent letters to people with equipment in county owned north tower building as this equipment should have not been allowed to be installed and must be removed. March 25th Morson and Craigin will be meeting with vendors for EOC upgrade. Morson explained he will be out of office this week at training and Craigin will be covering.~~
- c. Michelle Stucky, Community Foundation – Weston-Hubner explained Stuckey has asked for permission for murals to be painted on bridge abutments.
- d. Doug Hess, interim LEDO Director – Hess introduced himself.
- e. Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor – Weston-Hubner stated working on State requirements for County donation practices, tax bills are being printed currently. Explained the Redevelopment Commission would like to use Pike/West Lebanon TIF funds to invest in possible TIF districts in the County but are in need of Attorney budget and is requesting \$100,000 for this purpose. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve \$100,000 budget for Funds 4309/4310, \$50,000 each seconded by John Comer, all voted in favor.


5. Public Comment:

Next Commissioner meeting April 7, 2025 @ 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


John Comer, President


Clay Andrews, Vice President


David Craig Greenwood