

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting – January 2, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Commissioners of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular scheduled session on the above date at 2:00 P.M. with the following present: Commissioners Dale Strong, Dale Munson, and Tracie Bever and Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

Auditor Jane Downard called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Auditor Jane Downard asked for nominations for the position of Board President. Commissioner Munson moved to appoint Dale Strong as President, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Auditor Downard passed the gavel to President Strong. Commissioner Strong then asked for nominations for the position of Vice President. Commissioner Bever moved to appoint Commissioner Munson as Vice President, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Munson moved to approve the minutes of December 19th regular meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Matt Sherck presented 144s to move two current employees into different positions. He would like to make Melissa Kavanaugh the county health nurse, moving her from the school liaison nurse position, and then move Gail Marcum from the COVID testing nurse to the school liaison nurse. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the 144s as presented, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Strong asked if he had anything he wanted to share regarding current COVID numbers. He said COVID is still around, and there is a lot of stomach virus going around. They are still doing COVID vaccines at the Health Department that covers the newest strains of the virus. They also still do flu shots along with other vaccines.

AUDITOR:

Jane Downard presented a 144 to hire Hana Glover as a full-time property tax deputy to fill an existing vacancy. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

IT:

Michael King has two phone contracts he needs signed for Metronet to add two new phone lines, one for the IRACS program at the jail and one for the new Drug Court employee.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Wade Walling said January 4th is the new date for installing and testing the siren, and he will push out some information to the public on that.

SHERIFF:

Zac Jones said the IRACS team started December 1st and all the inmates have been seen. So far, anyone who has been released has not returned to jail. They have three team members inside the jail working with inmates and one is taking people out and helping them get birth certificates, drivers licenses, find employment, etc.

Jeff Riedman has two 2023 vehicles at a cost around \$37,800, and he would like permission to move forward with purchasing two vehicles. His 2024 budget was approved for the purchase of two vehicles. Zac said they are averaging between 20,000 and 30,000 miles a year. Commissioner

Munson moved to approve Zac moving forward with the purchase of two vehicles, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Zac also shared they were approved for the JAG grant and it would put 15 mobile phones in the sheriff vehicles.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

No council member was present.

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Geoff Wesling did not have anything at this time.

MAIL/E-MAIL:

Commissioners received the Coroner's Annual Report this week and it showed the following statistics: Investigated 81 cases, 49 male and 32 female. There were 11 accidental drug overdoses, 1 covid-19 death, 2 trauma cases, and 20 autopsies ordered. Coroner averaged 6.75 cases per month.

EDG Director:

Dan Parker gave an update on 2023. He reminded people that Economic Development Group is tied in with the Urban Enterprise Association. He said in 2023 the UEA granted \$12,332 in five residential grants, nine special exception grants totaling \$267,807, and five scholarships totaling \$5,000. The work of retention, attraction, and expansion of businesses brought in NOVA Chemicals.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Board Appointments

Health Department Board - Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Barb Watkins to a 4 year term expiring 12.31.27, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Fayette County Board of Finance – will be Dale Strong as Council President through 12.31.24.

Council of Aging & Aged – Commissioner Bever moved to reappoint Dale Strong to a 2 year term expiring 12.31.25, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Cemetery Commission – The Cemetery Board has recommended that Kristi Vest be reappointed to a 5 year term expiring 12.31.28. Jay McAtee and Brian Doub have been resigned their positions, and the Cemetery Board has recommended that Commissioners appoint Donna Schroeder to the remainder of Brian Doub's term that would expire 12.31.25. Commissioner Munson moved to approve both recommendations, Commissioner Bever seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Economic Development Board – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Dale Strong to a term expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Bever seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Alcoholic Beverage Board – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Ed Herrell to a term expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Bever seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Extension Board – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Tracie Bever to a term expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

4-H Council – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Tracie Bever to a term expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Redevelopment Commission – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Dale Strong to a term

expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

E-911 Advisory Board – Commissioner Bever moved to reappoint Dale Munson to a term expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Strong seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Local Elected Officials Alliance for Strategic Growth – This was removed from the list of appointments due to lack of activity on the board in recent years.

Community Corrections Advisory Board – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Tracie Bever to a term expiring 12.31.24, Commissioner Strong seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Fayette County Tax Abatement Advisory Committee – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Jane Downard to a term ending 12.31.24, Commissioner Bever seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Public Defender Board – Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint Tracie Bever to a term ending 12.31.24, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Fayette County Tourism Board – Commissioner Bever moved to reappoint Donna Schroeder to a term ending 12.31.25, Commissioner Munson seconded, motion carried 3-0.
Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission – current members are Dale Strong, Scott Bevington, Krista Gibson, Dan Parker, and Jim Spence. All are willing to serve an additional term. Commissioner Munson moved to reappoint all five to a term ending 12.31.24, Commissioner Bever seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Department heads – Commissioner Munson moved to table department head appointments until the second meeting in June, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

PATRON CONCERNS:


None

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:


Commissioner Munson moved to approve payroll and claims as presented, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0. Commissioners then signed all paperwork on camera.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Munson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0.
Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.




Dale Strong, President



Tracie Bever



Dale Munson, Vice-President



Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor