

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting – May 21, 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.

Commissioner Strong called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Bever moved to approve the minutes of May 8th regular meeting, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

BID OPENING:

Bids were opened for the Community Crossings 2024-01 Road Resurfacing Projects with the following submitted:

All Star Paving of Seymour, Indiana - \$1,868,655.80
DC Construction Services, Inc. of Pendleton, Indiana - \$2,256,994.00
Dave O'Mara Contractor, Inc. of North Vernon, Indiana - \$1,643,561.00
Milestone Contractors of Richmond, Indiana - \$1,656,440.00
Paul H Rohe Company, Inc. of Aurora, Indiana - \$1,779,921.00

Commissioner Munson moved to accept the bids for consideration and to give them to Butler Fairman & Seufert representative Ben Zobrist to put together a recommendation letter, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

ASSESSOR:

Jeff Coleman presented a 144 to hire Karmen Parrish as a part-time reassessment clerk. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

IT:

Michael King presented quotes to purchase a firewall to meet increased state requirements. He requested approval of the quotes from Endeavor IT for \$6,300 for hardware and \$2,700 for labor, and said he has the funds in his budget to cover the costs. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the purchase from Endeavor IT for a total of \$9,000, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Michael then presented a 144 to hire Jared Schmitker as a part-time IT technician. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Wade Walling gave an update on recent EMA activity including storm activity on May 7th. He gave a list of grant projects he is currently working on, including the following:
State Homeland Security Grant Program – National Priority for courthouse security.
State Homeland Security Grant Program – Enduring Need for a 1 ton truck with lights and sirens, 8 AEDs and First-Aid kits for the courthouse, 2 EVO max drones, 6 Stabilization V-Structs, 24 Ballistic vests, 1 generator.
Fayette Community Foundation Grant – Ember Control for 6 Firehooks Brush Pumps, 6 Firehooks Double Deluges, 6 Firehooks Ranger Carrying Brackets, 3 Reusable Electric Car Fire Blankets, and 2 Portable VHF radios.
Duke Energy to purchase gear, radios, and equipment.
Wade also discussed his proposed projects Loud and Clear and The Whitewater River Way Finder Mile Marker Campaign.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Jay Halveland shared an email from Chris Oakes regarding the chip seal. He said they have five cans left to put in and so far they haven't had any luck on getting them located.

SHERIFF:

Zac Jones requested permission to have Jolissa Bates apply for a federal grant to purchase replacement bullet proof vests. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the grant application, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Zac advised commissioners that he promoted Conner Greenwell to fill the available deputy position left vacant by the resignation of David Jones, who took a position as a City of Connersville police officer.

Zac distributed a copy of the City of Connersville's ordinance regarding peddlers. Commissioners agreed that we should pass a similar ordinance for the county. Mayor Chad Frank spoke and said the ordinance works well for the City and described an incident where the ordinance protected citizens from disreputable salespeople. He said in his experience those salespeople who are legitimate do not have a problem with following the ordinance.

Commissioner Munson moved to have a public hearing on the proposed "peddler" ordinance June 4th at 2 p.m., Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Sheriff Jones will work with County Attorney Wesling on rewording the ordinance for the county.

SURVEYOR:

Bill Macke presented commissioners with a copy of a survey done for a property located at County Road 525 West to help resolve the dispute between property owners as to right of ways.

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Geoff Wesling did not have anything at this time.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

Council member was present but did not have anything for the board.

MAIL:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Donna Schroeder was present on behalf of Historic Connersville, Incorporated regarding Fayette County's Semiquincentennial in 2026. She said in coming months HCI will be assembling a group of volunteers to plan for this event. The initial meeting will be held Monday, June 17th at 6 p.m. at the Fayette County Historical Museum. She discussed the possibility of planting Liberty Trees in the City Cemetery and in some county pioneer cemeteries. Commissioner Bever moved to approve HCI pursuing plans to celebrate the Semiquincentennial, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Proposed Ordinance 2024-03 Adopting Fayette County Indiana and the City of Connersville, Indiana Construction Standards and Details was discussed. A joint public hearing was held on this February 5th, and the City of Connersville passed the ordinance last night. Commissioner Munson moved to approve Ordinance 2024-03 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Strong said that the county would not have to wait until 2025 to apply for another round of the LARE Grant funding, and he requested commissioners go ahead and approve Jolissa Bates submitting an application now for the next round of funding. Commissioner moved to approve allowing Jolissa Bates to apply for the 2025 LARE Grant for the Manlove Park project, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bever reminded the public that they had requested anyone interested in this latest round of opioid funding to submit a proposal by June 1st.

PATRON CONCERNS:

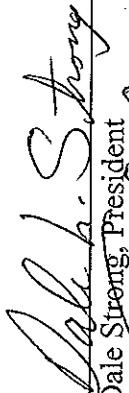
None

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:

Commissioner Munson moved to approve 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 3:22 p.m.



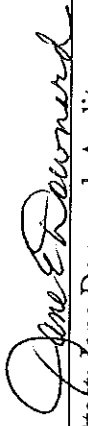
Dale Strong, President



Dale Munson, Vice-President



Trace Bever



Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor