

## **FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **Regular Meeting – September 17, 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 Munson moved to approve the minutes of September 3<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

##### **EXTENSION OFFICE:**

Heather Caldwell's last day will be Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. She was here just over five years and has learned so much about county government, city government, and organizations in the county. She is so grateful for the opportunity to serve Fayette County. She is sad to leave but is excited for new opportunities going forward. There will be a position posted. Stephanie McCurdy will become the County Extension Director on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Nyah Frank is the Office Manager and has learned in leaps and bounds and is such a great asset. Heather encouraged members of the community to volunteer, to ask questions, to go talk to people in person. She recommended you do not take to social media but get involved. Commissioner Strong wished her all the luck in her new endeavors.

##### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Missy Kavanaugh presented a 144 to move Bruce Price into a full-time position as an Environmental Specialist. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

They are having a cruise in for flu clinic and she is requesting permission to park the Union County mobile unit in the courthouse parking lot for Thursday and Friday while they get it ready for the Saturday event. Commissioner Munson moved to approve, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

She reminded people that they have the labs up and going and a few people have taken advantage of those services. She encouraged people with questions to call and inquire about it.

##### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Jay Halveland said the chip sealing went pretty well and they got half of what they planned in Bentonville done so far. They are putting in cans now while they have a break from paving. They are doing some brush cutting too. Jay said they did 15 miles of chip sealing. He said the intersection in Harrisburg and the one at 200 and 200 are rough and will need to be redone.

##### **IT:**

Michael King presented quotes for a firewall VPN needed for 911. He presented two bids, one from SHI for a total of \$5,325.39 and one from SCW for a total of \$5,938.72. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the purchase of a 50 simultaneous Cisco AnyConnect VPN from SHI, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

##### **SHERIFF:**

Zac Jones presented a proposed contract for the IRACS Program for 2025. The contract will give us \$30,000 to help with the program. He said the program was successful, and that the program employees help out in the jail. County Attorney Geoff Wesling said he did not see a problem with the contract. There is no financial obligation on the part of the county, and the reporting requirements are something Sheriff Jones is committed to do. IRACS stands for Integrated Reentry and Correctional Support. He said IRACS employees are in the jail and help resolve

issues and de-escalate problems with inmates. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the Sheriff signing the contract, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

**SURVEYOR:**

Bill Macke did not have anything today. Dick Robertson was present and had discussed with Bill Macke and Jay Halveland that INDOT has some grant opportunities including one for signs. We would take an inventory of all our signs and the following year could apply for a grant to replace all the signs. Dick has all the information and would be happy to forward it to us. Another grant that is available is for road striping. Commissioners and Council would have to sign a commitment letter to send with the grant application. Commissioner Munson moved to move forward with the county highway sign inventory grant and authorize the county surveyor and the county highway supervisor to do whatever is needed to move this forward, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Strong thanked Mr. Robertson for sharing the information.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY:**

Geoff Westling did not have anything for commissioners at this time.

**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:**

There were no Council members present.

**MAIL:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Strong said he had received a request from someone in the Columbia area requesting children at play signs north and south of the intersection in Columbia. Highway Director Jay Halveland said he didn't know if he had any of those in stock but they could order some if needed. Commissioner Bever moved to authorize Jay Halveland to proceed with placing children at play signs on the outskirts of town in all four directions, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Munson suggested we look at a burn ban. Commissioner Munson moved to put a burn ban in place until the next rain, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

**PATRON CONCERNS:**

None

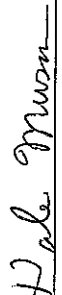
**PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:**

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 2:51 p.m.

  
Dale Strong, President

  
Dale Munson, Vice-President

  
Tracie Bever

  
Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor