

**Commissioners Meeting
September 3, 2024**

Present: Mark Koors, Jeremy Pasel and Tony Blodgett

Mr Koors welcomed everyone to the September 3rd Commissioners meeting; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill them out and turn them in at the Auditor's office.

Dr James Howell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag then Pastor Gary Johnson offered a prayer.

(Meeting minutes, payroll and claims are emailed to each Commissioner each Thursday before their Monday meeting)

Mr Blodgett moved to approve the August 19th meeting minutes; Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel stated ABC Farms has an open invitation to attend a Commissioners' meeting to explain the charges on the invoices submitted for payment; he then moved to approve the claims, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to approve the \$381,983.00 county payroll for August 30th, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Highway Superintendent Todd Houk, told Commissioners the chip and seal road projects have been completed; the HMA overlay begins tomorrow and crews will start the milling and patching the road cuts for bridge maintenance. He reported crews continue routine maintenance: finished up grader patching, tree trimming is done for the season, still bushwhacking and bushhogging, doing sign maintenance. He learned from an **OSHA Training** through **IPEP** that 'class B' first aid kits are required for all foremen's trucks and 'class A' first aid kits for the other trucks/ graders- 12 of those kits have to be logger certified and all of the highway crew are first-aid certified/trained. Mr Houk has not received any response to any of his emails to the railroad contact person regarding the damage done to County Road 350 West, so he the Commissioners if should go ahead and pave that road then seek reimbursement from the railroad. He has spoken to the contractor hired by the railroad who said he would do what he could to help get this taken care of. Mr Houk believes the traffic safety people, hired by the contractor, who shut down the entire road is at fault. Commissioners asked Mr Houk to give this information to County Attorney Chad Smith and to have him send a letter letting them know this needs to be fixed now. Commissioners have received more complaints on the chip and seal project in addition to the broken windshields at Obermeyers due to **Pavement Solutions**' chip and seal work. A cycle rider almost wrecked in Cory Addition due to excess gravel. Mr Houk did call Pavement Solutions' owner Chris Oaks to pass on information on the number of complaints received because he feels it's Mr Oaks' problem to take care of - broken windshields, excessive stone thrown in yards. Commissioners are not pleased with the way Mr Oaks has done business, it is pretty irresponsible. Mr Houk presented 2 estimates/quotes for adding more electrical power to the heater blocks in the new cold storage building due to each heater block needing to be on individual circuits per **IPEP** during an **OSHA** training. He had reached out to **Forester Electric** whose quote was high, so he got another quote which came in at \$9,200 for 20 circuits and a sub panel. A generator was also installed in the cold storage building for more power plus to power the asphalt tank. Commissioners need more information before approving Mr Houk's request because 6 months ago the building passed state code.

County Building Inspector Kenny Buening has completed: 48 building inspections, issued 23 new building permits/plan reviews and renewed 3 building permits since his last report to the Commissioners. On August 20th he called a Batesville engineer to ask about the Adams Township Volunteer Fire Department construction design since he only had a foundation design release; he was told the electrical meter base and the under-slab plumbing inspections are needed. The engineer also said the **Department of Homeland Security** had lost the inspection reports, he did resubmit those and Mr Buening had the releases the next week so he completed his inspections. Jeff Moore contacted Mr Buening to schedule the final inspection on the 313 West Mulberry (Westport) building; he has scheduled that for the morning on September 5th. **Progress on Lake McCoy clean-up properties:** 3 properties are greatly improved but the other 7 properties were turned over to Mr Smith to send notices for fines. Mr Buening plans to go properties in Burney to document any progress or lack of progress, then if needed give any of those to Mr Smith for notices as well. He plans to check on the Smith property at County Road 850 South. Following up on the complaint on 1764 South County Road 800 East, he spoke to a person living in the mobile home who stated the mobile home has electricity and running water and really didn't want to talk to Mr Buening. A certified letter mailed to the owner of the trailer park at Lake McCoy was returned to Mr Buening as 'not deliverable, return to sender' while the first-class letter which was mailed has not been returned, so Mr Buening turned that over to Mr Smith.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall presented **Ordinance 2023-12**, petitioners **Dan and Jennifer Riley** requesting to rezone 2.99 acres from A1 to A2 for the construction of a single-family dwelling. The APC report showed the 7 members present all voted yes. Mr Pasel made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2023-12**, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Ordinance 2024-14**, petitioner **Dennis Tebbe** requesting to rezone 2 parcels – 1.5 acres and 2.99 acres – from A1 to A2 for the construction of a single-family dwelling on each parcel. The APC report showed the 9 members present all voted yes. Mr Pasel made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2024-14**, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Ms Duvall reminded everyone the **APC Meeting starts at 6:30 p. tomorrow evening (September 4th)** with 2 petitions to consider. The **BZA Meeting will start at 7:00 pm** with **RWE** – several people who signed up to speak but didn’t get to at the last BZA meeting will be given ‘their time’ to speak along with anyone who signed up to speak at this meeting. **600 Land** is also on the agenda to request a special exception for the construction of a facility to convert landfill gas into pipeline-quality renewable natural gas.

Sheriff Bill Meyerrose, presented a ‘clean’ contract for the Commissioners to sign as they had approved the \$7,200 contract with **Ritter Strategic Services LLC** at their August 19th meeting. He told Commissioners the contract with **Southern Health Partners** will roll-over for another year, October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

Mr Koors opened the 4 bids for the **HVAC upgrades at the Annex Building**: Option 1 (move all units to on the ground): **Stiers Heating and Cooling - \$245,634; Koors Heating and Cooling - \$278,741; Koch Mechanical - \$514,200 and Wallpe Heating and Cooling - \$275,621** Option 2 (split – on ground and on rooftop) : **Stiers Heating and Cooling - \$220,409; Koors Heating and Cooling - \$244,400; Koch Mechanical - \$436,900 and Wallpe Heating and Cooling - \$ 188,644. Wallpe also quoted keeping the system as is and replace all split units - \$237,190.** Commissioners agreed to take these bids under advisement and make a decision at the September 16th meeting.

A Request for Use of Facilities was submitted by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes to use the south lawn of the Courthouse on September 25th , 7:00 to 8:00 am where students lead for **Meet at the Flagpole**, a national event, where students pray for the community and nation. Mr Blodgett moved to approve the RUF, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

The next **Request for Use of Facilities was submitted by the Right to Life Group**, requesting permission to place white crosses on the southwest lawn of the Courthouse, October 6th to October 12th. Mr Pasel moved to approve the request, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins told Commissioners he should have the final **Canaan Energy Agreement**, a waste heat project, soon. The **READI group** is about \$40,000 away from hitting the 65% mark which would unlock the **READI 2** dollars; the County Fairgrounds is the biggest project in that, so he wants to make sure everything is set/ready for that.

A reminder that **Saturday, September 7th is Tox-A-Way Day** and help/volunteers are needed.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Pasel moved to recess, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Meeting recessed.

The next Commissioner’s meeting will be September 16th, 2024, beginning at 8:00 AM in Room 106.

Attest: _____ Date: _____