

JUNE 26, 2023

The Jay County Commissioners met in executive session on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. in the auditorium in the courthouse. Attending from the commissioners was Brian McGalliard, Rex Journey, county attorney Wes Schemenaur, auditor Emily Franks, and Chad Aker president presiding. The Jay County Commissioners met in executive session to interview prospective employees pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(a)(5).

With no further business, Rex Journey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 p.m., Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERSChad AkerBrian McGalliardRex JourneyAttest: Emily FranksJay County Auditor**JULY 10, 2023**

The Jay County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 10, 2023, in the auditorium in the courthouse. Attending was Brian McGalliard, attorney Wes Schemenaur, auditor Emily Franks, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the minutes from June 26th, regular and executive sessions on June 26, 2023. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JEMS

Gary Barnett and John McFarland, shift supervisors, came to the commissioners for them to appoint the vacant shift supervisor position due to an employee's retirement. They have asked that Kyle Gerlach, paramedic, be appointed. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve Kyle Gerlach as a shift supervisor effective July 10th, 2023. They will also need to remove Larry Nuckols from all JEMS bank accounts and add Kyle Gerlach to the bank accounts. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the changes with the bank. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The last item was in regards to Power of Attorney for John McFarland in relation with the Controlled Substances Act. This would allow him to order schedule II controls substances in Mr. McFarland's absence. Brian McGalliard made a motion to change POA to Kyle Gerlach from Larry Nuckols. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JCDC

Travis Richards, director, came to the commissioners to give them a quarterly update. He has been working on Make My Move applicants. There have been 44 applicants with 1 that has accepted at this time. Mr. Richards questioned if there was any assistance needed in regards to the HELP! program with OCRA and Klempeter Consulting. The commissioners did not see a need at this time but might need assistance in the future. The READI 1.0 money for the Salamonina schoolhouse has been requested but has not yet been received. The funding has been obligated for the childcare facility project. On READI 2.0, there was recently a regional workshop with more in the works to be scheduled.

Mr. Richards spoke about the recent tax abatements approved by Portland. They have created 20 jobs between the eleven Portland businesses with \$78 million invested. Brian McGalliard questioned how jobs were being created with so many open positions already open in the area. Mr. Richards indicated it was a tight labor market but the newly created jobs might be filled by employees in other positions. They have visited New Castle and attended Indiana Main Street Seminar on downtown building ownership and renovation with Portland Main Street Connect. They have reviewed potential updates to the Portland Historic Preservation Commission guidelines. Their next steps are towards a cultural district.

Mr. Richards updated the board on various work with the cities and towns. In Redkey, they have been continuing to work on their INDOT sidewalk project including quarterly reporting. They have been awarded a planning grant through OCRA for a master utility study. In Dunkirk, they helped sort out a property transfer issue with property recently purchased. They have also discussed potential projects with Dunkirk Industrial Development Corp. In Pennville, they have met with Pennville Industrial Development to help a small business. They have also been connecting the park board to resources. In Bryant, they have been facilitating help with the community crossings grants and have discussed a potential project with Bryant Industrial Development Corp.

Lastly, Mr. Richards spoke about various other activities including hosting a “fireside chat” with Gary Thompson of the ECI Regional Planning District on all things broadband. They are working towards putting together one to cover broadband funding options. He has put out a series of videos covering various businesses, events, and other happenings in Jay County. They are hoping to be able to release more soon. He participated in filing for the IEDC’s BR &E program and was awarded the Jay County Chamber of Commerce young professional of the year.

Mr. McGalliard inquired about whether any new business was interested in moving to Jay County. Mr. Richards has met with potential new businesses but most were not interested. Mr. Aker asked if they had a running list for why industries/businesses decided not to choose here. Mr. Richards stated without looking he would say 2/3 to ¾ are looking for a spec building not available in the area. Mr. McGalliard questioned if utilities were in for the Dunkirk Industrial Development Park. Mr. Richards said it would be low pressure and infrastructure would need to be put in for larger development. Mr. Aker questioned the status of the daycare project for READI and what the timeline would be with the Portland Foundation. Mr. Richards was unsure about the project’s timeline. Mr. McGalliard questioned what hours would the daycare be open and if it would be two shifts. Mr. Richards was not sure about the final set up.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Eric Butcher, superintendent, came to the commissioners to give their monthly update. Mr. Butcher presented quote paperwork for installing the new bed, underbody, etc. for the new dump truck chassis from W.A. Jones \$92,794 and LINCO \$93,671. W.A. Jones is an hour away whereas LINCO is three hours away. He will verify how long the quotes are good through and how long the build out will take before making a final decision at the next meeting. They have chip and sealed 67 miles with 35 miles to go. There have been some issues with their distributor to spray the correct grade, but the problem should now be corrected. Mr. Butcher expressed his wish for citizens to understand the cost difference between chip and sealing and paving a mile of road. The number of roads they are required to maintain, monetarily forces them to chip and seal roads instead of paving.

The spraying for dust mats started last week with the final application being laid today. The delay was due to a supply issue with Great Lakes Chloride. He will seek out alternatives in case they run into this problem again next year. Mr. Butcher would also like to investigate the possibility of removing the county from the equation of offering dust mats. Mr. Aker believed the county was involved due to the challenges of coordinating a company to come to the county and spray.

Lastly, Mr. Butcher updated the commissioners regarding the culverts discussed at the June 26th meeting. The paperwork has been signed with both projects moving forward with a completion date in the fall. Mr. Aker questioned if the projects were covered in the budgets and would not impact the bridge grants. Mr. Butcher believed there should be enough money to cover all projects. He also informed the commissioners a representative for Beam, Longest and Neff had an initial estimate for the repair of the Seventh St. Bridge at \$1.3 million. They are hoping they can get community crossings grant to cover \$1 million of the project cost.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Samantha Rhodelamel, director, came to the commissioners to request approval for an overnight stay related to training in Colombia City for Basic Emergency Management Training. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the overnight stay. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The payroll docket was presented for commissioner approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the payroll docket. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim for Cleaver Cabling & Consulting was presented for commissioner approval. The purchase of a laptop for the deputy prosecutor was over the \$1,000 with the total claim for \$1,810. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the purchase and claim. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to the Indiana Bond Bank for the June Administration fee of \$1,010.25 was presented for commissioners’ approval. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the claim to the Indiana Bond Bank. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The June 2023 County Home Report was presented for commissioner approval; after review, Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve the report. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Meridian Health Services submitted a letter requesting commissioners to appoint an individual to their board of directors. They suggest the appointment of either John Coldren or Doug Inman who have served on the board in the past. Brian McGalliard made a motion to approve John Coldren to the Mental Health Services Board. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business, Brian McGalliard made a motion to adjourn at 9:53 a.m.; Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker

Chad Aker

Brian McGalliard

Brian McGalliard

Rex Journa

Attest:

Emilia Frank

Jay County Auditor