

Randolph County Commissioners

May 16, 2022

The Randolph County Commissioners met at their regular meeting at 9:00AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Michael Wickersham, Tom Chalfant and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura J Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Grace Minkis & Chris Beasley – Riverstart Solar Park III agreements

Mike said Grace and Chris. Riverstart Solar Park III agreements.

Grace said we are just here to follow up to keep things moving along. First I just want to mention that we'll be having an energy education day July 26th at the 4-H fairgrounds. Bennett Feuson is our government affairs outreach coordinator. He just wanted me to flag that for you so we got that penciled in. And then more details to come. Second we met with Baker Tilly on Friday and we're just learning more about the way they calculated their numbers and learning more about their methodology. So, they are supposed to send over a couple more tables for us to better understand then we can come back with negotiations following that. We just need to follow up because we still haven't received those tables yet.

Mike said okay there's a short time line for that. I understand that.

Grace said so no new updates in terms of numbers but we are just keeping things moving and wanted to provide you with that update, as far as the EDA goes. Looking at the decommissioning agreement, we are looking to do the decom study with a new group or someone different than the last group that did our decom study. So, I know you all need to approve that vendor. Is that something Meeks I would just send over to you.

Meeks said yes.

Grace said so I'll just flag that for you all. Their names Hanson so we'll be sending their information your way, as well as sending the ERA and public notice to you as well Meeks.

Meeks said yep that would go to Laura, but the public notice, that needs to be ten days before that public hearing. So, it needs to be published ten days before. So, they'll need that notice, how much in advance.

Laura said I think a week.

Meeks said so 17 days before you want it we'll probably need that notice.

Grace said 17 days. Okay.

Mike said is Rick Hall?

Meeks said Rick's on those calls.

Mike said he's been looking at the agreements?

Meeks said he was on the call with me. He wasn't on the Friday call. I don't think. Was Rick on the Friday call. I, he didn't talk, I didn't talk either.

Grace said Rick and Jason.

Meeks said yeah. I don't think so.

Meeks said he was on the call before I remember.

Chris said the last thing we have is that the Riverstart and the Headwater's II road restoration is complete. Meeks I believe I sent email notifications to you.

Meeks said yes, I forwarded it amongst the commissioners.

Mike said I think Mike received that as well didn't he.

Meeks said and I think Mike said when he has those, he'd send it back.

Mike said so I think he's going to start, going to go out, I guess, make his rounds.

Chris said okay so just let us know.

Mike said that's what his email said.

Chris said it all looks good.

Mike said I've heard about 300 West that it's, I've been told how nice 300 W is and why aren't we repaving my road. I've heard that.

Chris said we can't pave them all.

Mike said you do nice things and you get caught up in it. So anyway.

Gary said that one was to have been done last fall, but you just didn't get to it right, 300, what you said you were going to do.

Chris said yeah I think.

Gary said that was just in your other part of the.

Chris said that was to...

Gary said Riverstart.

Chris said yeah it was on Riverstart. And the intent was to get everything ready for winter. And then the roads that were worn but not an issue, we'd pave in the spring. So, they'd have another year left in them.

Gary said that's what a lot of people don't understand. I explained that to someone this last week that was all part of that program, it wasn't something new and different.

Mike said okay. Anything else for us this morning.

Chris said that's it.

Grace said that's all for me.

Mike said any questions.

Tom said the 26th?

Grace said I'm not sure. I could have Bennett send out information. He's going to send out more as the time comes but just wanted to flag that.

Tom said you're going to invite area leaders in nine counties or something like that.

Grace said okay.

Mike said okay very good. Thank you.

Mike Haffner – Annual Report, US Aggregate contract, and Paving plans and Utility agreements

Mike Haffner said you need any of the paperwork?

Laura said I think I got it all.

Mike said we received the annual report.

Mike Haffner said the annual report, that's definitely the most important.

Mike said anything you want to hare with us about it.

Mike Haffner said nothing that really stands out to me as far as annual report, we definitely have surplus in most of the accounts. I think we've got a lot of small structures and stuff that's going to eat up some of that surplus in the needs over the next few years. I think it's pretty important to not do a lot of projects until we get a full understanding over the next year or so on our culvert inspections to see what really we do have.

Mike said okay. Anybody have any questions of Mike. I noticed you haven't signed this yet.

Mike Haffner said I signed my copy so I'll sign that.

Mike said how many copies do we need signed.

Mike Haffner said you just need one.

Mike said okay. Well you want to give us that one to sign. What about the engineer, has he signed this one.

Mike Haffner said since he came in, I can have him sign it, but we didn't have an engineer until late in the year.

Tom said that was through December 31st in that report, basically, yeah he doesn't need.

Mike said no he wasn't here. We need to I guess approve the plan before we sign it. I would entertain a motion to approve the annual operation report for local roads and streets and bridges of Randolph County.

Tom made motion to approve the annual report as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said we have the US Aggregate contract, which we received a full copy of this time around. And Meeks, you've had a chance to review it.

Meeks said it looks fine.

Mike said and you are recommending that we enter this contract.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said I would entertain a motion for us to enter the contract with US Aggregate for the clean construction debris agreement.

Tom made motion to enter this agreement with US Aggregate. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said and then we have Paving plans.

Mike Haffner said paving plan?

Mike said it's on the agenda. Paving plans. I presumed that was going to be your plans for the paving.

Laura said that's what your email said.

Mike Haffner said okay. Well the paving plans, and we've talked about it, is do we want to try paving some roads ourselves by renting some equipment. The cost is approximately \$15,000.00 a month to rent the paver and roller. It's a smaller paver to do more of our wedge and level patchwork. I didn't plan on paving a full road by any means, certainly get started. But we've just got a lot of county roads that before I chip and seal, it makes sense to do a little bit of corrective action on some of these roads.

Tom said like places where there's fifty or a hundred yards?

Mike Haffner said yeah, half a telephone distance or so or maybe just one side of the road is really bad. We want to try to, our engineer has got some bridge deck stuff that's going on. I wouldn't, if the timing would work out, and we would, I'd just like to get some practice in because I just don't feel comfortable in starting right out on a bridge deck with no experience. Now we can outsource that if we don't feel comfortable or it's tough to go out there and buy anything in today's world that's any good. I am strongly thinking we should try to rent something and see if that works, to see if we potentially can do it before we commit into a big project. Now we've got a couple, we've got a local contractor that we could outsource some paving as well. But he is not on our annual bid, which causes some issues as well, because anything a certain dollar amount, I would have to bid out. Now I think the bridge decks would be below that amount and so, I just need some guidance. But I will tell you manpower is still a severe problem. I had another person turn in his two-week notice today. So theoretically, officially that's down three. I've got another employee that pretty much said in June, the first part of July that he will be gone. And then I've got another employee that will be taking a six to eight weeks family medical leave here in the next week. So, I could be looking to be four and five people down. And that is awful tough to even run a chip and seal program, let alone try to get a paving project started with that little manpower.

Mike said who's going to run this paver.

Mike Haffner said well.

Mike said I presume it's a specialized...

Mike Haffner said my plans on running the paver is a combination of what operators I already have that operate the chip and seal program. I've talked to my senior employees, Todd Pegg, Justin Arthur, Mike Hines. They are willing to step in and help out. And then Nate Moore drives our chip box. I would, kind of be, a combination of them type people and cross training some younger ones. But with no assistant, that puts a lot of strain on management to do a project too.

Mike said but none of them have experience running a paver I presume.

Mike Haffner said we do not have a single person that has any experience. Now if we rent one, they will come down and spend time with us and show us. I have neighboring counties that's offered, hey, we'll be more than happy to have your employees come ride our paver for a little while and we can help you.

Mike said is that something you can do before you rent a paver.

Mike Haffner said yes. And I'm in the works. I went to Henry County last week and road on their paver and started working with their people. And I would like to start taking some employees that I intend, and if we do rent a paver, I would see it being very late in the season.

Mike said I would think, I mean if I recall, Joe has shared with us the bridge approaches being difficult to get somebody to come in and finish those for you unless you have several of them at a time.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said so having our own paving equipment to do just that part, if we can do a quality job, would make some sense to me.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said would you agree with that Joe.

Joe Copeland said yes.

Mike said well so, I guess the first thing I would do is, as you said, get some people on a machine and see if they want to do it, see if they can do it. And then, I wouldn't be opposed to renting a paver. Eventually, if you rent one and if we get quality work, and get to that point, maybe we invest in buying one.

Mike Haffner said it's a very challenging thing, but it's a tool that we're going to have to take a serious look in having to deal with, because we've got more bridge decks in the future. So, we're not talking just a one-time deal. We've got projects to support for the next several years. And outsourcing is busy, and a few of them, that's getting harder and harder, not that they won't come in, but will they come in in the same time frame as your mill person. And we can't afford these bridges to be down for two months to get a paving there.

Mike said if we ever want to buy a paver, I think the best way to approach that is to rent one and get good at it, see if it's up, I guess a money maker for us is what I would call that.

Mike Haffner said this has a, you know I could rent it two months, and if we end up buying it, then we would get 80 percent of our reimbursement back out of it. So that also makes sense.

But we, we have to get started. So right, wrong or indifferent, we have to start. So, I guess that's where I'm heading.

Mike said I think it's probably a good plan. Do you think so.

Gary said I think it's a positive move. I've thought you know, we needed to investigate this over the past year or two. And I think the big thing is, is like Mike said, the big issue with paving is have qualified operators because you can do paving and it not be of any quality. And so, you've wasted a lot of money and time. And so, it's important that we get them trained, whoever is doing it, a crew that way they can jump on that job and do it, and have quality work, and move on to another work site.

Mike said okay. Any questions Tom, comment.

Tom said no. Well, other than, if you get somebody good, if you actually get somebody very good, then they'll, somebody will hire them away, because somebody will pay them \$30 an hour.

Mike said Dave's committee is working on that. Meet Wednesday on that so.

Tom said well good.

Mike said okay anything else on paving plans. So, there's five utility agreements here. They all look to be Frontier is I am correct.

Mike Haffner said they're all just pretty simple bore under the road direct, or go down a few feet, and then back over so I didn't see anything.

Mike said and you are recommending we approve these.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to approve all five of these utility agreements from Frontier.

Tom made motion to approve all five of the Frontier Utility agreements. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland - map showing locations and number of small concrete box culverts that exist (<6 feet).

Joe said I don't know if you got the big screen on these. It's kind of hard to see on letter size, I I by 17 is a lot better. Instead of doing a bridge report, I'm a more visual person. And I look at this, I can see where they're at, what condition they're in, and just one single page. Into the culverts that I found using the inventory that Ed gave me for culverts, and I did find a couple that were not on that report, and included them of course. We have seven that need replacement soon. Nineteen that need to be checked periodically, a year or two. They are showing deterioration, but they are not to the point that I don't think they are going to fail okay. And a lot of those in a rating, the bad ones, a lot of it, the wings have separated from the structure, the

concrete walls, the bottom of the walls is borderline a lot of them are gone. The concrete, so I've had a few where the backfill on those walls are starting to come underneath the wall out into the stream or the bottom of the culvert. They are pretty sad. Some of them I might be able to get a pipe in. But most of them are more of a low profile, I got to test the drainage area but may require a box culvert, concrete box culvert.

Mike said these are the 19 yellow ones. Is that what you are referring to in these.

Joe said the red ones, seven.

Mike said oh the red ones okay.

Joe said seven red ones. Those are the ones, then I've got another one that's well it's up on 950 but it's over six feet that I'm going to be replacing too. Cody had found it I believe. So, I'm working on it now. It's an 8 by 4 box, looks like what we are going to put in. Thirty feet long.

Mike said is it on this map.

Joe said no, because it's over six feet. It's on 950 North, east of 700 East.

Mike said east of 700 East, so it's clear up there in the corner.

Joe said yes. Some of them are, they're, I've never seen some of the structures that are in place. I know those pictures I brought showing the block that they'd done in an arch, I'd never seen that done before. I found I think three or four of them like that throughout. One of them is pretty rough shape. What is it, Arbor Road.

Mike said Arbor Pike.

Joe said north of 36, it's pretty rough.

Mike said so do all seven have the same priority or do you, have you designed a priority list yet.

Joe said I'm going to design each one. And then we'll just start with them yeah.

Mike said okay.

Mike Haffner said I would think the Arbor, since it's a higher trafficked road.

Mike said yeah I would think traffic count all the way around would be the one, the way you'd approach them so.

Joe said I might be able to get a pipe in there. It has a lot of head room. I tried to get out before the weeds started growing so I was there to get the most of them before the weeds got a good start.

Mike said there's a red, a yellow and a gold fingertip on this map.

Joe said there's one, it's a rating three just south of 36 on Arbor Pike and it's pretty rough too.

Mike said then the one is in very good condition up above, it would be interesting to know what the ages of those different culverts were.

Joe said yeah that was the best one I saw. It looked like it'd just been put in.

Mike said it's in very good condition.

Tom said do we have any records of those, when we replace a culvert.

Joe said I don't believe that that spreadsheet that Ed gave me, give me the dates, I don't think it did.

Mike Haffner said I, we do have dates on the ones we've replaced, but it might only go back about eight years. I think anything past that then we wouldn't have.

Mike said okay. How long would it take you to do all of these.

Joe said I don't know. I've been doing them off and on for over a month, a little over a month maybe. There's my cheat sheet.

Mike said time based on what SJCA does for us.

Joe said I didn't take a lot of pictures and I didn't do a lot of measurements and I didn't you know.

Mike said okay good report.

Mike Haffner said we've had ten traffic, each county, we do ten a year. And so, we supported some bridge stuff to give him information on what the proper, most recent traffic count so we know potentially what kind of bridge we want to do and rehab. So, we selected ten bridges that's kind of on our hit list to do some traffic measuring to support that program.

Joe said they are going to count it you say, the traffic.

Mike Haffner said yeah in August they'll put the strip out by these bridges. I've got a list that I'd talked to you giving you some data.

Joe said can they also measure speed to that, should be able couldn't they.

Mike Haffner said I will ask.

Joe said see if they would give us the speed on those vehicles.

Mike said okay so anything you need from us.

Joe said no.

Mike said anybody have any questions of Joe.

Gary said I appreciate this. I've been wanting this information for some time.

Tom said how much is this going to cost.

Joe said I haven't got the price yet on an 8 by 4 box just to start with. I did a 12 by 6 box last year, 54 feet long. The box itself cost \$36,000, just the box.

Tom said and what's the rough installation price.

Joe said the total job was a little over \$80,000. But it was long, long, it was 54 feet.

Tom said pipe would be a lot cheaper than a box if you could do it.

Joe said oh yeah. Yeah installation, we would have to hire a crane. Some of these boxes will require a crane. Those pieces that we said are 12 by 6 were 20 tons each. A big crane.

Mike said okay. We have a couple of council members here. Anyone from council want to share anything this morning. Missy.

Missy said just I appreciate the Court house letting us have a lot of kids in. I know Angela and Laura particularly I know, helped coordinate all that and I appreciate it.

Mike said that's good okay. Dave do you have anything for us.

Dave said no.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Mike said Art, Randolph County Sheriff. Have anything for us.

Art said I do not sir.

Minutes of March 7, 2022

Mike said okay. We received a copy of our minutes of March 7, 2022 via email. Were there any additions, corrections or deletions to those minutes.

Gary said I didn't see any. I'll move we accept the minute as presented.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$232,746.98

Mike said payroll claims in the amount of \$232,746.98. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

Gary made motion to approve the payroll claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Deductions \$264,009.89

Mike said that brings us to our payroll deductions as required by the state board of accounts in the sum of \$264,009.89. I'd entertain a motion to approve.

Gary made motion to approve the payroll deduction claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Regular Claims \$1,887,940.34

Mike said regular claims in the amount of \$1,887,940.34. I'd entertain a motion to approve these claims.

Tom made a motion to approve the regular claims as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randolph County United \$18,837.00

Randolph County United Tourism \$1,996.00

Mike said next two items, Randolph County United claim in the amount of \$18,837.00. This is for monthly draw. And Randolph County United Tourism in the amount of \$1,996.00, their monthly draw. I'd entertain a motion to approve both these claims.

Gary said I move we approve both the Randolph County United claims as presented.

Tom said I just have some questions about the tourism and the board wanting to go their own way. I don't know what the plan is in the future with the changes in leadership, but anyway, yeah, well I thought this is the right time. I guess I'd like to have some discussion on Economic Development and tourism and the chamber, you know, I was doubted that we could get a county-wide chamber started, but I think it's a very good thing and I don't want to jeopardize that. But I just don't know if we can find a person to lead all three groups when we have three different boards, one of them dealing with taxpayers money, one dealing hybrid with taxpayers and private money, and then the chamber is all private money. I just think it's very complicated to find a person to lead those three and I just wonder about letting them, the boards manage their own mission and not being co-joined at the hip I guess. So, I don't know if this is the time to discuss that or not.

Mike said well let's finish this tourism thing first and then we can discuss it if you want to.

Tom said okay.

Mike said I'll second the motion for the Randolph United claims.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said so I guess the loss of the executive director or the president of Randolph United creates obviously, a hole there. I think there is a pause in the, from what I gathered from sitting on the Randolph United Board, there's been a pause in the Tourism Commissions Board wanting to go their own way. There's a, I think you are correct, there's some on the tourism board that does and some on the tourism board that does not. And there's some, I guess agreement as to, and I think the issue came up because of the tourism board wanted more say in what the tourism commission, the director did, Scotti, what she did. And I don't think there's any objection to that. And then you balance that with her being in the office then, as who has supervisory responsibility for her in the office. We're trying to blend that and if that is successful, then I don't see an issue with that respect going forward. If it's not successful, then the tourism commission would then probably choose, need to choose to separate.

Tom said well that one time it was a unanimous decision to do that.

Mike said I don't think that's the case. I would disagree with you on that, I've talked to Cheryl Jones who is on the tourism commission, and she did not vote to do that so.

Tom said well I think I have Minutes show otherwise, but maybe she didn't understand what she was voting for so.

Mike said they are still there and the council has appointed the tourism commission president to the Randolph United board and she sits on that board. From our respect, she wants to do whatever the commission wants to do, but she also understands the value in it being a part of Randolph United, and really saving taxpayers money, and not having to have your own office, your own payroll staff, and all those expenses that go with it. How it comes out, it's yet to be known. Just like we don't know who will be the next Randolph United president. And all I understand is the executive committee has established a search committee to find that right person. And I would suspect at this point in time, I can't do anything but trust that they have the ability and obviously, they have the authority to do that at this time. So, I would trust in their decision at this point in time. Do you have anything to add Gary.

Gary said no I agree. I think we need to move forward and see what happens as far as hiring a new CEO first of Randolph United.

Mike said any thoughts.

Tom said well I disagree. I, you know, I'm still waiting for the report of the last 25 years of Economic Development and the benefit to our county. That was supposedly forthcoming, but there's always change, turnover. I just think whatever the idea was the State Legislature to make these public, private partnerships where taxpayer money gets turned over to private individuals, and there's less accountability, I just, I think it's fraught with a lot of dangers. Our founding fathers understood that the purse to the people who had a two-year term and I just think it's very

important that the money stayed with people who would have to run for election, have to answer questions about responsibility and so forth. So that's my two-cents worth.

Mike said so I guess I'm hearing you say it's beyond what tourism, it's evidently unanimously to do, it's the whole idea of having a private/public partnership with Economic Development and we don't need that office at all.

Tom said well we need a, we need a person. I don't think we need an office I think we need a person to run Economic Development because the state has made it an institution. And therefore, we have to respond with that. But I think we could spend all the Economic Development tax, with this board we have enough requests to spend that money. And of course, there's a board there, and we have an EDIT board, but we spent back up completely. But I think we've got, you know, the room right below us is not being utilized. I don't know why we can't use that for office space, and we've got a suite of offices over there that we're basically paying for with taxpayers' money. I think we're not as efficient as we could be. There are some savings, but there's a lot of other things that, and having three boards trying to be run by one person, and being pulled this way and that way, public dollar, private dollars, I just don't think it's a very good way.

Mike said I guess I would disagree with that. You've got three boards, each with their own, whatever title you want to give it, they have their own director. You have Scotti Harvey, who is the tourism director. You have Jackie Welch who is the chamber director. And you have Ceann Bales who is the Economic Development director. They all are under the office of Randolph United, and Ceann Bales is president of Randolph United, and is responsible for the management, supervision and discipline of those two employees, as well as the additional employees in that office. So there's a separation of responsibility there. Now if Scotti Harvey gets haywire and goes in a direction, different direction than the tourism commission wants her to go, they have the authority to pull in her reins. And I don't think Ceann Bales is going to object to that. I think Ceann Bales would support the by-laws and responsibilities.

Tom said she's gone. So, the next person.

Mike said well the next person would, the next person would be advised that these are the by-laws we operate under and this is what your responsibilities and authorities are. And that can work, but it begs the question that we don't need the office at all. That's a different subject all together. If we don't need an Economic Development office, then that's a different thing. Then you would have one person doing Economic Development. You could have a chamber-wide, or county-wide chamber, and then you could have a county-wide tourism office. And you would set up, and that's kind of what, although we didn't have a county-wide chamber, we had a Union City chamber, a Winchester chamber. And tourism and Economic Development has been together, I'm going to say since the Tourism Commission was established, the Innkeepers' Tax was established. I don't know that they were ever separate. That goes before my time in county government. As far as I know, they've always been together. I guess we are going to have to agree to disagree.

Tom said yeah I guess so.

Mike said okay. Anything else on the two claims.

Pink Energy Claim \$231.00

Pink Energy Claim \$349.00

Mike said that brings us to the Pink Energy Claim, one for \$231.00 and one for \$349.00. These are refunds of building permits for solar, projected solar. I'd entertain a motion to approve these two claims.

Tom made motion to approve these two claims. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Butler Fairman Seufert Claim \$18,228.55

Mike said brings us to the Butler Fairman Seufert claim in the amount of \$18,228.55. This claim covers two months of design fees for the new taxi lane design, which is going to add taxi lane to the new t-hangar facility which will be built at a later date. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

Gary made motion to approve. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

J&K Communications Claim \$6,000.00

Mike said this is a J&K Communications claim in the amount of \$6,000.00. I believe this is for the looks like the final work completed.

Gray said no. It's just, well we still owe, we owe about them about \$207,000.

Mike said yeah I see that now. So, I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim for J&K Communications in the amount of \$6,000.00.

Gary made a motion to approve. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said so the contractor hasn't signed this claim, but they've submitted an invoice. Does that work for us? The architect has signed it. The contractor has not.

Tom said that was J&K.

Mike said J&K. But they have attached a company invoice for the same amount. I don't know, what do you think.

Meeks said I have to look at it.

Mike said I'll show it to you.

Tom said he can't just look at it. He's got to take it back to the office and look at it.

Meeks said I'd send it back, tell the contractor to sign it. It certifies the work's done.

Tom said and then we can pay it then because if he signs it, we'll pay it.

Mike said so can we approve this claim subject to him signing.

Meeks said if he signs it yeah.

Mike said is that part of your motion. All in favor of the motion to approve this claim contingent upon the contractor signing the document E7021992 signify by saying aye.

Gary made motion to approve. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

MPX Claim \$27,000.00

MPX Claim \$9,628.15

MPX Change Order 03C-02

Pyramid Claim \$4,000.00

Pyramid Claim \$233.28

Pyramid Claim \$2,280.00

Pyramid Claim \$8,000.00

Pyramid Claim \$1906.24

Cobalt Civil Claim \$3905.25

Mike said MPX Claim, Pyramid Claim, Pyramid Claim and Cobalt Civil Claim. Those all have to do with the towers. And I presume that we are going to continue to table those.

Tom said when is our meeting?

Mike said well that's, we haven't set that yet. I was going to say, I told him I was going to bring it up today. He'd like to have an executive session with us to talk about all of these and he's requested us to meet with him the week of May 23rd, May 30th or June 9th and Mondays are not good days for him.

Tom said our legal counsel said we can't meet in an executive session.

Meeks said we can.

Mike said yeah he's changed that.

Meeks said we can. I gave it to, I gave it to Laura. We can for initiation of litigation.

Mike said well I'm going to be off Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. But other than that, I'm pretty open during those other weeks. I guess I should ask the question, do we see a benefit in meeting with him in an executive session.

Gary said we've got to do something. You know, he's not answered our questions in the past that we've asked.

Mike said we found out why he doesn't come to our meetings. Mondays aren't good days for him so.

Gary said he's got other people that work for him.

Mike said I know. Todd's been here, but Todd has just kind of nodded us on and kept on going.

Gary said yes he has.

Mike said I'd like to meet with Terry. So I'm, what day of the week do we want to do it, middle of the week or end of the week.

Gary said middle of the week is better for me.

Mike said want to do Wednesday.

Tom said the, June 1st.

Mike said Wednesday, June 1st. That should work for him.

Mike said say June 1st at 9:00 a.m. works for me.

Meeks said are you going to follow up with him.

Mike said I'll just go ahead and alert him for that. I can do that now if you'd like while we talk about comp time reports.

Comp time reports

Mike said we received a copy of those via email. Any comments or questions about comp time reports.

Gary said we still got a lot out. But then some of those areas are challenging, particularly with sheriff, EMS, 911 with staffing, jail. The jail did come down.

Mike said Tom any thoughts.

Tom said no.

Amended EDIT Plan (Set EDIT meeting)

Mike said amended EDIT plan. Meeks prepared one and sent that to us. Any questions or comments about the amended EDIT plan. It has the loan to the airport board of \$139,808.

Meeks said I think there's two things added to the plan.

Mike said pardon. Was Randolph Central added to it. So that has two on there, Randolph Central School Corporation for the welding plan, welding expansion program of \$86,274 and the Randolph County airport loan. I'd entertain a motion to approve the amended Edit plan.

Gary made motion. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Tom said are we setting a date.

Mike said we do need to set a date. Those are usually on Wednesday evening.

Laura said and I think Wednesdays work best because the towns have their meetings on other days.

Gary said right. None of them have it on Wednesday.

Mike said the earliest I could do it on a Wednesday would be June the 1st.

Gary said that's alright with me.

Tom said fine with me.

Mike said which that's a 9:00 a.m. and a 6:00 p.m. So, we are setting an EDIT meeting for June 1st at 6:00 p.m.

New Time Clock/fobs

Mike said okay new time clock fobs.

Laura said you asked the question; do we have to replace them all. And it was actually in the email, I just didn't see it. But she said she had asked the question in case someone asked, the old clocks can be replaced one at a time. Mainly, right now, she's just wanting the one on the first floor replaced.

Mike said so what's that going to cost us.

Laura said \$2,300. And then she wants to order new fobs because she's out. And occasionally you get employees who can't get the fingerprint to work, she has to hand out these fobs. So, there are 15 of them. That's \$75.00.

Mike said and the new fobs are for all the clocks.

Laura said yeah they'll work for any clock yeah.

Mike said well it sounds like something we need to do.

Gary made a motion to approve the purchase of a new time clock for \$2300.00 and 15 fobs for \$75.00. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Laura said where do you want to take the funds from. Do they have a line that those can be bought from?

Mike said for repair or equipment buying that we can use.

Angela said you have a cum cap repair line.

Mike said what about equipment. I'd say we use that out of equipment.

Angela said we can do that.

Mike said is that okay Gary.

Gary said yes.

Mike said Tom.

Tom said yes.

Mike said okay so make that part of the motion.

US Flag Etiquette Program

Mike said US Flag Etiquette program.

Laura said yeah I had sent that also last meeting and I checked with the veterans, I talked to them and they said Farmland was probably the closest or Ridgeville for the American Legions. So, Farmland said they collect them and then they turn them over to another organization to do the destroying. They don't have that. I can drop them off there and I would be willing to do that. It's right on my way home as the box gets full.

Mike said so we would maintain the box here.

Laura said we would have the box here in the Courthouse and when we got too many or so many, just take them over and drop them off at the Farmland Legion.

Gary said sounds like a good plan.

Mike said so do you want to be, will you be responsible for the box?

Laura said I will take that responsibility.

Tom said are you going to put it next to your office or are you going to put it just down in the lobby where would be convenient for people or.

Laura said I would probably put it in the lobby where, unless you know, people start throwing trash and stuff in it, then we'll move it.

Mike said well you hope that wouldn't.

Laura said yeah I would hope not. But just keep an eye on it and see how it works.

Mike said okay thank you.

Youth Salute pictures in the Courthouse foyer July 22 to???

Mike said youth salute pictures in the Courthouse foyer starting July 22 to...

Laura said yeah she wasn't sure how long, but usually I think they put them down there for a couple of weeks.

Mike said does someone want to move approval of that.

Gary made motion to approve the youth salute pictures. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Arcasearch quote

Laura said and then the next thing is when I did the quote from Arcasearch to scan our transfer books, I didn't think about it at the time, but I have quite a few old ordinance books and minute books in my office that are also not backed up. And they can add that to the system so that they would be searchable, which would be very convenient, being able to search ordinances or even minutes by like a word search or whatever. So, he gave me a quote to do that, those books that are in my office. And that's what that is that I sent to her. And they could do it like while they are here.

Gary said so the additional with the \$11,370 then, that's the yearly maintenance fee.

Laura said \$11,370 is the project price, and then the annual fee is the \$1021.00. And if you choose to approve it, I'd like to pay for that out of ARPA.

Mike said ordinance books, are those ordinance books that have been eliminated or overturned.

Laura said no, every time we make an ordinance.

Meeks said they are codified in here.

Laura said yes.

Meeks said not all of them, you would have fiscal ones that wouldn't be in there.

Laura said so they are just the books of ordinances that have been approved over years and they are back in my office and if we go to search those, it's just a matter of...

Tom said if they're nullified, we don't really do anything different.

Laura said they are still there.

Mike said well it doesn't sound like the job will be complete unless we do this.

Meeks said I'd think it would be a no brainer on the minutes. And the ordinances which you might as well get those in and just get it all done.

Mike said that's what I'm thinking. The minutes could be.

Gary said I think since they are here and there's just an add on, I move that we go ahead and approve this quote with the annual fee of \$1021.00 and take it from the ARPA funds before we touch the other.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Request to use Bicentennial Park

Mike said next item is request by Cheryl Jones to use bicentennial plaza on June 3rd, Friday, June 3rd for a downtown customer appreciation block party. And her office obviously, is across the street, ad she signed a bicentennial park agreement so we need to approve the request, or not approve the request. I think this is the first time we've had a private organization requesting use.

Meeks said she's done that every year.

Laura said she does it in front of her office. She hasn't used the bicentennial.

Gary made motion to approve this Bicentennial Plaza request as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Electronic Map Data Agreement

Mike said electronic map data agreement. This is agreement to use the GIS system. This group is doing it for the benefit of Union City. And has asked that the \$1200 fee be waived. And it's for Union City's new ordinance program. And our policy allows waiving for cities and towns and other public entities. I'd entertain a motion to approve this agreement data map application and have the fee of \$1200 waived.

Gary made a motion to approve. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said that brings us to the end of our agenda. Laura do you have anything for us this morning.

Laura said I have permanent minutes and then also the Veterans officer, Bethany has gotten information to get her certification from the state. And she needs this background investigation certification signed by her supervisor. We do those background checks during the onboarding process. I had Melinda look up the date we did it and had her complete that.

Mike said so we need to approve or certify this background check, I don't know if it needs action or not. It's already been certified when we hired her so. Let's take action. Someone want to move.

Tom made motion to certify the background check for the Veterans officer. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks Cockerill – EDPR agreements

Mike asked Meeks do you have anything for us.

Meeks said I do not, other than we did have another conversation with them last Friday, with EDPR, and hopefully, they'll have something for the next week or so.

Tom Chalfant – Ambulance services in Farmland

Mike said okay. Tom do you have anything for us.

Tom said well I think our agreement with Farmland on the ambulance has ran out and they seemed to be willing to let us keep renting it. They haven't said otherwise, but Duane says he doesn't think it's a permanent situation. So, I think, have they billed us.

Laura said they did. They billed us for three months and we just paid the whole three months.

Mike said recently?

Laura said yes. We just got that bill about a week or so ago.

Mike said so the next three months. We really need to figure out what we're going to do there.

Tom said well I have a citizen who would convert the building to our needs probably for a hundred thousand dollars. So, he would do it and just basically do it for the, to provide ambulance service, but he'd want some kind of assurance of a payback.

Mike said okay. How long a payback.

Tom said he didn't say. I'm sure he's agreeable to something that would be acceptable, I think ten years. Unless we do it ourselves, and if we wanted to do it ourselves, we're not going to be able to do it for a hundred thousand dollars. And it might be more than that for him, but I don't know. He was thinking so, probably ten years. I'm sure if he could figure out ten years to get a payback on that.

Mike said building in Farmland.

Tom said yes. He was talking about the old car wash. Bringing it over to two bays and a day room, we'd have to have facilities.

Meeks said you'd probably have to bid that and figure out what a reasonable rental value and if it's over three years, the county council has to approve it. There's a lot of requirements, which we could do. But if you are going to go that route, we'd need to get on that.

Mike said it's a step up of what we're doing now.

Tom said and I don't know how long Farmland is willing to allow us to do it. Duane didn't seem to know. They didn't say anything so.

Mike said I guess that if we are leaning or going that direction, we either need to come to an agreement with this resident, or have this resident tell us what he wants from us, whether it be a ten-year payback at, I don't know, \$2,000 a month or a ten-year payback at \$500 a month.

Tom said a \$100,000 over ten years it's \$10,000 a year.

Mike said right. I understand that. But I don't understand what he wants.

Tom said he was just trying to be accommodating for us so. As long as he doesn't lose money on it, he's willing to front the money as long as he gets his money back over time.

Mike said I understand that too. But I still don't know what he wants. And I guess unless we tell him what we are willing to pay.

Tom said well what he wants is he wants us to tell him what we are willing to pay and he'll say yay or nay.

Mike said okay so then we need to decide what we want to pay for this ambulance building in Farmland.

Gary said we are projecting that this is just going to be as present, the day facility.

Tom said well I mean it would be, you could run it, I'm assuming if we have our own place, we would run it 24/7. We would station somebody there all the time I think.

Gary said well we don't have it staffed right now. That's the reason we're not.

Tom said and until we have staff, when we do have staff, we would probably run it continuous. But until then, that's probably 16 hours a day or 12, whatever.

Meeks said probably want to get Andy out there to tell you what's a reasonable rental value, at least that's what we can pay, we can't just pay anything.

Mike said well and the other issue becomes who knows what our ambulance service will look like in ten years. So, what happens if we don't have an ambulance service in four years.

Tom said I'd think for anybody who runs a county-wide service a station in Farmland would logistically make sense. I think that's not going to go away. I don't think Farmland is going to become a city and going to have their own ambulance service like Winchester and Union City the next ten years. I think that part of it, the need is there.

Mike said we've been without one for a long time. It's only because Culberson decided they are not going to do it. That's the reason so, and I guess for me, it's a real possibility that, I mean, maybe Reed expands its service and can cover the southwest part of our county. And we don't need an ambulance in Farmland anymore. We go back to the way we were.

Tom said do you think Reed would be willing to do that?

Mike said well they picked up Culberson in northwest Wayne County.

Tom said but they weren't willing to do it now.

Mike said no but that doesn't mean they wouldn't be willing to do it in two years. I guess that's my point. And you have St. Vincent's that would like to take over our ambulance service. And they may need a place there and they may not. I don't know. I guess what I'm trying to say is are we going to bind the county to a ten-year agreement or is there going, or what would be the buyout provision in that to get out of the deal if don't have ambulance service. And what would he be willing to accept in that respect.

Tom said well I would guess if we do the five years and we owe \$50,000.00, he'd want a \$50,000.00 buyout.

Meeks said any lease is subject to the appropriations of the county council.

Tom said I think he's willing to work with us, but he doesn't want to get hung.

Mike said I understand that. I don't want to hang him either. And I don't know what the fair market value of an ambulance station is in Farmland, Indiana, what the rent would be. I mean you are saying we should do what.

Meeks said it was originally around that, but you probably should figure out what it is and ask Andy Wagner. See if he'd give you a ball park for it. And then when we have to do something, we could hire him to make it official.

Tom said and so what are we asking him to appraise?

Meeks said we are asking him what would be a reasonable rent allowance.

Tom said of one bay and a red day room?

Meeks said I don't know. Ask Duane, I don't have the ambulance. I have no idea.

Tom said well I would think we'd only need one ambulance over there and a day room.

Mike said I suppose whoever does this remodel could remodel it to the extent that you could have another tenant for the rest of the property. Should we ask Duane to research this with Andy. I think he would be the best position to tell us what we would need in Farmland going forward.

Gary said well he needs to definitely be involved in making, evaluating this, making a recommendation to us because it is, right now, it's a necessity to be there. We really don't have a choice. And I think by being in Farmland, it's better than being in Parker. He's decided that. And I don't disagree with him because of access to going south. And he's given us the times that it has benefited as far as getting to the different locations near to Farmland and that area. So, it's something I think we need to pursue but we need to get details. And like Meeks said, get some figures we can work with and then talk to the person that's interested in doing this, and see where we are at. I think from just what little I've talked to them at Farmland, they are willing to continue doing what they are but, I'm not sure to what extent that's going to be. If Duane comes up here in another three months or six months that they may say well we need that part of the building back. I don't know that but I'm saying it's a possibility.

Mike said the last bill, was it for May, June and July.

Angela said March, April and May.

Mike said oh I think we just got the bill.

Laura said we did.

Mike said so we're paying in arrears then. I misunderstood that. That was basically their original agreement. What do you want to do?

Gary said in reference to the future three months or what.

Mike said with ambulance service in Farmland.

Gary said well we need to keep it there for now but, as I said, we need to do some more investigating of this other structure from my perspective. And we need to go ahead and renew our lease with Farmland for another three months.

Mike said well I'm more than willing to do that if they are willing to do it for us. So, I would second that motion.

Tom said so we want to give them six months rent, and then bind them for another three months.

Mike said well if we, if they want to park their water truck outside, we pay them June, July and August, that gives us 90 days to determine what the fair market value of rental of a bay, and whatever Duane thinks we need in Farmland, to go back to the resident in Farmland to tell him

what we would be willing to pay, and for how long we would be willing to do that. And what protection he'd have that we would do that for the length of the contract. And if he accepts that, then we would have to go to council to get that approved, and jump through all the other hoops we would need to do that to enter a lease that I presume is going to be longer than ten years, or three years, unless we want to make it a short-term lease of three years. I don't know if it's three years or 35 months. I can reach out to Duane to see if he has time to share with what we desire to have in Farmland, and once we've made that determination, talk to Andy Wagner and see what the monthly cost of that would be. Is that fair.

Tom said uh huh.

Gary said yes.

Mike said and then who is going to talk to Farmland about extending our lease June, July and August.

Tom said I could if you want.

Mike said will you be able to convince them of that.

Tom said well maybe.

Mike said good. Okay if you do June, July and August, you might get September, October and November because it's probably going to take longer than three months to turn the other place.

Tom said I'll see what I can do.

Mike said okay. Anything else for us this morning Tom.

Tom said yes. I'd like to recognize Angela Lowe for her years of service to the county. Apparently, she won't, might not be here at our next meeting. I'm not sure so.

Mike said is that the case. You won't be here at our next meeting.

Angela said that is correct.

Mike said if we moved that meeting up would you be here.

Angela said no.

Mike said no okay. You answered my question so. Well you have served the county well and I will say, probably not the only one to say sorry to see you go. Wherever you are going, it's going to be their gain, our loss. Thank you.

Gary said yes, I've appreciated what you've done, and I've appreciated being able to work with you. We will miss your expertise.

Gary Girton – Update on new radios

Mike said that's it okay. Gary do you have anything for us.

Gary said on the, I don't know, Art may have some on the radios. The radio's are in according to J&K and they are programming them. They were supposed to start today to work out some of the bugs they had when they were here a week or so ago with the towers. And then as soon as they get those issues corrected, they are going to put the rest of the equipment in the jail basement. And then get that up and going. Right now, everything is in and it's just a matter of them getting everything up and going, and getting on line. That's the email I got last Thursday I believe.

Mike said okay. Anything else Gary.

Gary said I was going to mention to Missy awhile ago about the program they had here at the courthouse and so on, I had other people in the community, a couple asked about what it was. And when I tried to explain to them, they were very glad that we were doing something like that. And then others who could have been involved or at least were here, talked about how well it was attended, and how good it was.

Mike Wickersham – Website

Mike said okay. I think we all got an email from Laura regarding the website. I don't know are you, I've never been involved in the creation of the commissioners' page on the website. So, I don't think we have a lot of pages. Our pages typically go under you.

Laura said yeah the minutes and such.

Mike said you are going to figure out a way to keep those from being documents and just links to them.

Laura said correct.

Mike Wickersham – Union City loan terms

Mike said okay. The only thing I have is the Union City subdivision loan from Windfarm funds of \$350,000.00. Council has stayed the course and kept their terms approved at seven years, \$50,000.00 a year, no interest, beginning in May of 2023. Is that correct.

Meeks said yes.

Mike said okay. So, our last was not those terms, so we need to reflect that in our minutes that we either agree to those terms or we don't agree to those terms. And I would make a motion that we approve the terms as presented by council of \$350,000.00, no interest loan to the city of Union City, payable back at \$50,000.00 a year for seven years beginning May 1st, 2023.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

Mike said any citizens here have a comment for us this morning.

Adam said a very concerned individual that pays taxes. I want to follow up on what Tom said about how we use our buildings. You know, the community corrections building we use about a quarter of that building. The cable in that building is old and is going to have to be replaced at some point. I talked to Jake about HVAC over there. It's going to have to be dealt with at some point as well. We really under utilize our buildings. The second floor is really empty now that we don't have as much paper down there. I just, I know there needs to be more an investigation on how we use our space so that we can utilize those tax dollars a little better for everybody. That's my personal opinion.

Mike said okay. Thank you. Any other comments.

Adjournment

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned.

Reviewed and signed this 15 day of August, 2022.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS







ATTEST: 

Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County