

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023**

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Tom Wall; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Jill Landrum, Auditor; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Ilene Haluska, Herald Press; Mayor Richard Strick; Pam Burris; Matt Brinkman, Region 3A; Terry Miller, County Council; Kim Hostetler, DCD Director; Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent; Tim Eckert, Veteran Services Officer; Anthony Goodnight, Lochmueller Group; Dawn Harvey; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager

The following people attended virtually through Zoom: Terry Miller, County Council; Andrew Rossell

Commissioner Miller called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)

10/02/2023

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 2, 2023 Commissioner Meeting. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)

10/18/2023

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Claim Docket for October 18, 2023. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)

10/6/2023

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket for October 6, 2023. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

2024 Calendars

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager presented proposed calendars for the following:

- 2024 Holidays
- 2024 Commissioner Meeting Dates
- 2024 Solid Waste Board Meeting Dates

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the aforementioned calendars as presented. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Purdue Extension Office

Ed Farris, Extension Director, spoke with the Commissioners regarding an upcoming tour for the leadership group from Huntington North High School. They would like to tour the courthouse on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Commissioner Wall will be onsite to give the students a tour.

Ed Farris also requested to close the Extension Office December 27, 28, 29, 2023. The commissioners agreed by consensus.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Permits for fiber optic cable

Joakim Abrahamsson requested signatures on forms that will allow the permits to be pulled to run fiber optic cable under Warren Street to 313 Warren Street. By consensus, the commissioners agreed to the request.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

IT Notification

The Commissioners met with Joakim Abrahamsson, IT Director and Mayor Richard Strick to discuss matters related to the public Wi-Fi. The Mayor asked for advanced notification regarding any IT updates or changes.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Chalk Walk

Chalk Walk organizer, Pam Burris, spoke with the Commissioners about the Chalk Walk being a recurring annual event on the first Saturday in September. The Commissioners agreed, with the caveat that there may be other events that occur that day as well. Pam was asked to call the office a few months ahead of the date, just as a reminder that the Chalk Walk will be happening.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

O'Donnell Center Update

Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager gave an update on the heating/cooling system at the O'Donnell Center. He is working with Johnson Controls to make the system automatically switch from heating to cooling. The Commissioners asked that Phil get some references from other businesses that have used Johnson Controls.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING)

Place of Grace

The 2nd required public hearing for the Place of Grace OCRA Grant application was held with assistance from Region 3-A.

The public hearing was opened at 9:32 a.m.

The following people were present for the hearing: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Rob Miller, Stefanie Barrioz; Phil Hibbert; Jill Landrum; Bob Garrett; Ilene Haluska; Matt Brinkman, Region 3-A; Dave Gee, Region 3-A; Greg Parker; Brittany Renkenberger, Place of Grace; Bridgett Burkhart

Commissioner Tom Wall expressed his support for the Place of Grace grant application stating that this is a very needed service in Huntington County. No other public comment was made.

The public hearing was closed at 9:52 a.m.

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Place of Grace as prepared by Attorney Andrew Boxberger, Carson LLP.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION)

2023-15

Terry Stoffel made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-15 a Resolution authorizing the submittal of the Recovery Housing Program Application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) and addressing related matters. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Veteran Services Office Update

Tim Eckert, Veteran Services Officer, gave an update on his outreach statistics. The Commissioners stated that they would like Tim to do a quarterly update from this point forward.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING)

Amber Real Estate – Rezoning request

The public hearing was opened at 10:15 a.m.

The following people were present for the hearing: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Rob Miller, Stefanie Barrioz; Phil Hibbert; Jill Landrum; Bob Garrett; Ilene Haluska; Greg Parker; Steve Chenoweth; Stephen Kem; Mike Beall; Mark Shane; David Shane; Zakawan Din; Bridgett Burkhart. Andrew Rossell attended virtually through Zoom.

Kim Hostetler, DCD Director stated that Amber Real Estate requested a reclassification of zoning from Agricultural to General Business for a retail building on property located at the SW corner of State Road 9 and 700S. She stated the Plan

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Commission voted 6-0 for an unfavorable recommendation. Steve Chenoweth spoke in opposition of the request because this would put his store out of business. Mike Beall also spoke in opposition of this request. He stated several reasons for his opposition including the affect this would have on local farmers, traffic concerns, and whether Mount Etna would be able to support a business with the population that that have.

Andrew Rossell, Amber Real Estate, addressed the concern regarding traffic stating that he has spoken with a highway engineer. Commissioner Wall stated that the Comprehensive Plan future land use map calls for this area to remain agricultural. He stated they do not like to spot zone. Commissioner Wall also stated Huntington County very much appreciates their company showing an interest in Huntington County.

The public hearing was closed at 10:31 a.m.

Tom Wall made a motion to follow the recommendation of the Plan Commission in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan and deny the reclassification of zoning. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING)
4548 E. Station Road Roanoke Indiana**

The public hearing was opened at 10:34 a.m.

The following people were present for the hearing: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Rob Miller, Stefanie Barrioz; Phil Hibbert; Jill Landrum; Bob Garrett; Ilene Haluska; Greg Parker; Zakawan Din; Bridgett Burkhart.

Kim Hostetler, DCD Director, provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the Unsafe Notice of Enforcement on property located at 4845 E. State Road, Roanoke. Hostetler stated the Commissioners previously upheld the demolition order and the demolition was to be completed by today's meeting date (October 16, 2023). She noted the new owners wished to make a request that they be allowed to remodel the inside of the home. A Zakwan family representative was present and requested they be allowed to remodel the inside of the home. Commissioner Wall stated the Commissioners had waited a year for this home to be demolished and did not want to give any more time.

Commissioner Wall asked about the accessory structures on the property and if they were included in the Order. Hostetler stated they were not included in the demolition order because the Commissioners were trying to work with the previous owner, who is now deceased, by requiring repairs or demolition of only the home. The current owner was ordered to have the home demolished before the December 27, 2023 Commissioners' meeting. The owner is also ordered to appear at the Commissioners' meeting on December 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Hostetler informed the owner that if he did not get the home demolished on his own, the Commissioners would Order DCD to seek demolition bids and a lien would be placed on the property along with other fees.

The public hearing was closed at 10:42 a.m.

Tom Wall made a motion to uphold the Demolition Order and give the owner 60 days to complete the demolition. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)
Additional Station Road properties**

Commissioner Wall stated that he would like the Department of Community Development to re-inspect the other properties located on Station Road that recently had the Orders of Enforcement released. He stated that they properties appear to be needing further attention.

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IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Schneider Geospatial

Kim Hostetler, DCD Director, presented a Professional Services Agreement with Schneider Geospatial, LLC. For GeoPermits Custom Consulting. She stated that she has the funds in her budget to pay the \$584.00 fee. Tom Wall made a motion to approve the agreement. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Lochmueller Group

Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent, presented an agreement with Lochmueller Group to do survey work, road and drainage design for County Road 420 West. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the agreement. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 2-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea and Rob Miller voting yea. Commissioner Wall abstained.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

USI Consultants, Inc.

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Supplemental Agreement No. 1 with USI Consultants, Inc. pertaining to Bridge No. 23 (County Road 900 South over the Salamonie River). Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Highway Department Fuel System

Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent, spoke with the Commissioners regarding the potential replacement of the underground fuel tanks at the Highway Department. He stated that he could potentially get a grant to help pay for the cost of transitioning to above ground fuel tanks.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Surplus Inventory

Tom Wall made a motion to deem the legs and cases to old voting machines as surplus inventory. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Authorization for Early Pay

Tom Wall made a motion to do an early pay for the following two entities:

- Place of Grace – LIT Grant
- Markle Fish & Game Park – LIT Grant

Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Clerk of the Circuit Court Report

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager, presented the Clerk of the Court Report for the month ending September 2023 as prepared by Shelley Septer, Clerk of Huntington Circuit/Superior Courts.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Treasurer's Report

Bridget Burkhart, Office Manager, presented the County Treasurer's report for the month ending September 2023 as prepared by Brenda Hamilton, Treasurer.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

1775 Old US 24 Huntington, Indiana

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager presented the Application for Permit for Metronet in the location of 1775 Old US 24 in Huntington, Indiana. This is a broadband permit and did not require Commissioner approval and was informational only.

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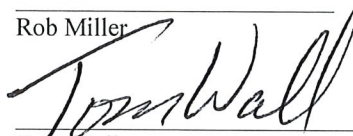
IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Veteran of the Quarter Recognition

The Commissioners and Tim Eckert, Veteran Services Officer, honored and recognized Dawn Harvey as the Veteran of the Quarter.

The Commissioners recessed at 11:15 a.m.

Rob Miller



Tom Wall

ATTEST:


Jill M. Landrum

Terry Stoffel

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