

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, February 5, 2024

Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 a.m. with Pledge to the Flag. Present: Bryan Lewis, Rick Ranstead, David Sommers, County Attorney Holli Shorter-Pifer. and Deputy Auditor Christina Haughs.

PUBLISHING OF WAGES – Commissioner Lewis introduced Michael Bowditch of Consolidated Union to address employee concerns related to the publication of wages for 2023. Commissioners approached Michael to provide credit monitoring which Michael advised then not to do so at this time. There is a clause in the policy that could jeopardize coverage if they attempt to adjust or amend coverage of the policy by adjusting a claim on (employees) behalf. A claim has been submitted to the insurance company. There are potentially four categories the claim could apply: general liability, public officials' errors and omissions policy, public official bond, and a cyber liability policy. Michael offered information for employees to be proactive to protect their personal information. He encourages employees lock their credit score through the three credit monitoring services: Equifax, Experian, and Transunion. He asks employees to lock their personal information so no one can apply for a loan, credit card or information including themselves. He asks employees to keep track of any costs or expenses associated with it. Getting an attorney is not a cost associated with this. An adjuster was assigned this morning and he will be having a conversation with them to determine a course of action. The insurance company adjuster will determine at what point or if and when credit monitoring is offered. If and when they determine if that is offered the County Commissioners would have an option to do something if they choose to do so thereafter. There is no established timeline yet but it should be within a week to ten days.

AREA PLAN COMMISSION – Heather Redinger presented a resolution to amend the zone ordinance:

**RESOLUTION OF THE FULTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT
AMENDMENTS TO THE FULTON COUNTY ZONE ORDINANCE,
SUBDIVISION CONTROL ORDINANCE AND THE ZONE MAP
RESOLUTION 02052024**

A Resolution to Approve Amendments initiated by the Fulton County Plan Commission to the Fulton County Zone Ordinance, Fulton County Sub-division Control Ordinance and Zone Map. The proposed amendments were approved by the Fulton County Plan Commission at a legally advertised public hearing on September 25th, 2023.

WHEREAS, The Plan Commission of Fulton County, Indiana did on the 25th day of September, 2023 hold a regularly scheduled meeting of the Fulton County Plan Commission and considered amendments to the Fulton County Zone Ordinance, Fulton County Sub-division Control Ordinance and the Zone Map and did approve the amendments proposed by the Fulton County Plan Commission at a legally advertised public hearing on September 25th, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the amendments were initiated by the Fulton County Plan Commission; and



WHEREAS, said request did propose that said Fulton County Zone Ordinance, Fulton County Sub-division Control Ordinance and the Zone Map be amended as attached to Plan Commission Resolution PC-09252023

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fulton County Commissioners approve the amendments as certified by the Fulton County Plan Commission to the Fulton County Zone Ordinance, Fulton County Sub-division Control Ordinance and the Zone Map.

Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve, Commissioner Ranstead seconded; carries 3-0. Heather presented a permit waiver request from Habitat for Humanity \$175 application fee for a variance and zoning permit. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. Heather presented the interlocal agreement with Rochester City for code enforcement. Heather reviewed the annual report for 2023.

MAINTENANCE – Kerry Fear stated the carpets in the annex building were cleaned last Friday. Kerry has discussed previously the courthouse boiler replacement, he has encumbered money for the project; Commissioners Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. Judge Heller requests a barrier door be installed in the office. Carr construction estimates a cost of \$2,800; Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. The probation office requests a glass barrier be installed. Rochester glass estimates a cost of \$4,008. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. Judge Lee requests the juror seats be reupholstered. Kerry received two quotes and recommends Tepe Furniture for a cost of \$4,665; Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

HIGHWAY – John Geier presented permit request 24-2 for consideration. Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve, Commissioner Ranstead seconded; carries 3-0. John presented permit request 24-3 for consideration. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. John presented permit request 24-4 for consideration. Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve, Commissioner Ranstead seconded; carries 3-0. John updated on the department activities including running the brush cutter, cutting trees and patching and hauling stone. Community Crossings projects have been submitted and accepted by INDOT, results are expected by March. The presentation for the federal aid project on Old US 31 South was held last week. John feels it went well and they were more receptive this year. He did a video of the road traveling from north to south and how it affects schools and business and they seemed to like that. Bid opening for Old 31 S was held a couple of weeks ago. Phend and Brown won the bid for \$4,063,395.00. It was over the original engineering estimate, INDOT met the new 80/20 match, the local match is \$812,679.17. John presented the LPA/INDOT contract for Commissioner's consideration. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. There are several pipes that need to be changed prior to starting the project. John attended a kick-off meeting for Bridge #33. John is still waiting for USI to complete the task order for updating the ADA/Title VI transition plans. USI will be providing training for department heads. Bids for spring supplies will be held on Friday, March 1 at 10:30 a.m. John received a Ford flatbed from EMA and is not being used. Kerry is having transmission issues with the old highway truck that he received from the Highway Department. John would like to get rid of both vehicles.

VSO – Ric Fouts reported that he received the new 2023 Ford Explorer. There was \$14,000 in donations that made it possible for Vets to attend appointments. Ric thanks everyone for donations and support.

COMMUNICATIONS/EMA – Gail Karas stated she will be hiring someone next week for EMA. Gail and part-timers have been going out there. Last week, Dave Sommers is on the EMA Board so that incident has been filed under emergency management. The 911 numbers and reports were sent down to the State Auditor. For EMS, she thought she was going to get the contract back to Commissioners last week which they should have this week hopefully. There are a lot of changes to review. She presented two documents to Commissioners, they need Commissioner Lewis' signature holding the services that they are currently doing until March 1. There was a lost document that Commissioners need to initial and sign as well as it was approved a long time ago. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. And also going to auction, Gail reached out to the other EMs in the district and so forth in reference to the kitchen, she is trying to get the bay cleaned up. Starke County is interested in that. If they do not want to take it she would like to take that to Olson Auction as well and then maybe a military truck or two. We are just wasting money and resources keeping that stuff up.

CORONER – Jeri Good gave the department report of deaths, investigations and causes of death. In January there were 8 families served with 3 calls within 24 hours, 2 of those calls were within 15 minutes. It took her and 2 of the deputies all working on those calls at the same time but it was smooth and seamless. Of course, she always has great help from Lutheran EMS and law enforcement departments that help them. Friday she will be going to the Coroner's training board meeting.

SHERIFF – Sheriff Heishman reported there were 86 inmates this morning. Of those 15 are federal, 19 are being held for Wabash County, and 14 are DOC inmates. He had good testing for the deputy position on Saturday. He sent six letters, there are three applicants that will continue the process for the open deputy position. He is working on getting AEDs in all the patrol vehicles, a lot of them are equipped now he just needs a few more. He is working on monies to get that finished up. The bid process for Chevy Tahoes was opened up and he was able to order two of those to replace the K-9 vehicles. He is in the process of hiring for the special deputy SRO position, the school was able to find the (financial) resources on that. That will start toward the end of the month and he will be training with the current SRO. The new SRO will attend the SRO program in the summer.

IT DEPARTMENT – Josh Sriver stated he was able to finish the new servers that were purchased toward the fourth quarter of last year. There were about 57 virtual servers that were moved over, there are still a couple of virtual servers running on the old. He is going to migrate those with the new operating system and decommission the old ones. He hates to have the old units go to waste. He discussed with Michael Bowditch to be sure he is in compliance with the insurance company from a cyber security standpoint should they continue to be used. Kerry was able to get the monitor mounts up at the security office in the courthouse, a new server will provide feed to the office. The website will have a kickoff meeting upcoming. He has sent in the information to register for a .gov domain to move away from the co.fulton.in.us domain to a fulton.in.gov domain. Josh asks Commissioners if they would like to have an intern from the high school to work a few hours a week. He has been working with Gail to start the Crossroad GIS project for Spillman.

CLERK – Dawn Ziemek reported that she was able to get a grant from the Secretary of State for signage for polling places, several signs have blown away over the years. She is adding the ADA language to the signs.

ASSESSOR – Kasey Hensley presented a contract with X-Soft that is DLGF compliant. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. The state sent Kasey her compliance letter showing all 2023 sales jived to them. She will do the ratio study next. She would like to set up a mobile assessing office during Form 11 time in various locations in the county from 5-8 p.m.; Commissioners approve.

JAIL MAINTENANCE – Chad Calvert reported the preventative maintenance program with TP Mechanical is not going as expected. The contract can be void with 30 days written notice, he would like use Core Mechanical going forward. There is a price difference but he has it in his budget and he feels it would be worth the money. Commissioners approve terminating the contract with TP Mechanical. The county attorney feels it should be bid out.

TRANSPO – Doug Beller reported on the 4th quarter of 2023. The total income was \$47,772.54, expenses of \$117,879 and he will be going after \$47,773 for the 4th quarter claims which he hopes to have wrapped up this week. He presented a spreadsheet for Commissioners to show how he tracks mileage and expenses.

FEDCO – Michael Ladd announced that he and the County Assessor will be hosting a TIF district seminar on February 16th at 9:00a.m. at the learning center. The regional group is hosting a similar seminar on residential TIF districts at a later date, he will report the date once scheduled. The housing study is proceeding and needs the resolution on the Hoosier homes that will have the third reading today to continue moving forward. They have identified a number of new sites as well at various locations around the town. He plans to have a full study group back together but dates haven't been set yet and will announce at a later date. The industrial park, south, discussions continue. Michael thinks there will be more land than anticipated. Commissioner Lewis read by title only for the third reading Resolution 01162024: Resolution to Enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the Fort Wayne Housing Authority to Participate in the Hoosier Homes Program. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS – Funding Agreements were presented for consideration: Manitou Training Center \$30,000, Council on Aging \$20,000, Fulton County Animal Center \$35,000, Youth Outlet \$6,000, and Fulton County 4-H Council \$10,000. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

PERSONNEL POLICY – Tabled

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION – Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve as presented, Commissioner Ranstead seconded; carries 3-0.

MINUTES – The minutes of the December 29th meeting were motioned for approval by Commissioner Sommers, seconded by Commissioner Ranstead; carries 3-0. The minutes of the January 16th meeting were motioned for approval by Commissioner Sommers, seconded by Commissioner Ranstead; carries 3-0. The minutes of the December January 19th meeting were motioned for approval by Commissioner Sommers, seconded by Commissioner Ranstead; carries 3-0.

CLAIMS- Approved as presented

Consolidated Union	\$ 294,171.00
Utility	\$ 9,789.53
2024 Funding Agreements	\$ 101,000.00
Payroll 1/26/24	\$ 278,534.42
Payroll Deductions 1/26/24	\$ 118,584.58
Misc. Claims Feb. 5, 2024	\$ 272,056.33
Credit Card January 2024	\$ 11,021.55
INDOT	\$ 812,679.17

The invoice for X-Soft presented by the Assessor in the amount of \$24,095.00 was motioned for approval by Commissioner Ranstead, seconded by Commissioner Sommers; carries 3-0.

TRANSFERS – Approved as presented

Department	Fund	From Account	To Account	Amount
		Maint. Copier- \$350.00		
		Dues-\$2,265.00		
		Continuing Education-\$500		
	County	Building Rent-		
Soil & Water	General	\$3,180.00	Contractual Services	\$6,295.00
Transferring the entire soil and water budget into the contract line to pay them one lump sum for the year.				

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS- Approved as presented

Department	Fund	For	Amount
		21000	\$119
		31102	\$185
Health	Health	32102	\$26
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Highway	LRS	23000	\$8,590
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21000	\$984.00
		21007	\$25.00
		21100	\$577.00
		31001	\$35.00
		31400	\$20,693.00
		36000	\$348.00
Sheriff	LIT Public Safety	44000	\$21,480.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		31007	\$809.00
		32010	\$87.00
Highway Admin.	MVH	36005	\$35.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		22102	\$3,043
		22800	\$13.00
		30130	\$794.00
		33900	\$613.00
Highway Maint./Repair	MVH	34100	\$90.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		22001	\$16,834.00
Highway Mechanic	MVH	36005	\$203.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		22003	\$68.00
		31500	\$600.00
	Park Nonreverting	32301	\$84.00
Park and Rec	Operating	33000	\$150.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			

Recorder	Recorders Records Perpetuation	31400	\$1,120.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21104	\$100.00
		31400	\$12,000.00
		31500	\$7,509.00
Assessor	Reassessment	32030	\$375.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		20021	\$256.00
		31003	\$439.00
	LIT Correct/Rehab Facilities	31006	\$200.00
Jail		39106	\$9,551.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Communications	LIT PSAP	33000	\$2,550.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21107	\$6,275.00
	Convention, Visitor, Tourism	21108	\$3,307.00
Tourism		31300	\$6,600.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Auditor	County General	21000	\$921.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21000	\$859.00
		22103	\$125.00
		31011	\$250.00
		31038	\$10,000
		31102	\$800.00
Coroner	County General	31103	\$375.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21000	
		31400	\$641.00
Prosecuting Attorney	County General	39106	
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
County Extension	County General	21000	\$20.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21000	\$395.00
Superior Court	County General	31213	\$350.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21000	\$2,617.00
4-D Program	County General	32301	\$23,500.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		22000	\$8,900.00
		30103	\$146.00
Sheriff	County General	45002	\$8,468.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
EMA	County General	22001	\$21.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		22101	\$1,968.00
Building Maint. Jail	County General	22104	\$516.00

		33000	295.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		30041	\$234.00
		31001	\$2,409.00
		32400	\$270.00
		38000	\$300.00
Commissioners	County General	38101	\$100.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Assessor	County General	30135	\$16.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Clerk	County General	31011	\$450.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
County Extension	County General	31102	\$852.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
County Election Board	County General	31102	\$238.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		31106	\$9,573.00
		31400	\$45,503.00
		31401	\$19,420.00
		41003	\$107,635.00
IT	County General	41110	\$104,725.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Courthouse Annex	County General	38800	\$153.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
		21000	\$1,623.00
Area Plan	EDIT	32400	\$103.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
	Community	39103	\$179.00
Probation	Corrections	22001	\$61.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Assessor	Sales Disclosures	31102	\$188.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Auditor	Cum. Cap. Dev.	35002	\$400.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Sheriff	Cum. Cap. Dev.	44100	\$7,916.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
IT	Cum. Cap. Dev.	41110	\$45,083.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
Sheriff	Extradition & Sheriff's Assist	24100	\$17.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
	Sheriff's Firearms		
Sheriff	Destruction	22100	\$339.00
To cover claims from 12/29/23			
	Supplemental		
Probation	Probation	34500	\$195.00


<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			
Probation	Supplemental Juv. Probation Serv.	32010	\$115.00
<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			
Probation	Alcohol & Drug Svcs Prog. Fee	21000	\$230.00
<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			
Prosecuting Attorney	Pretrial Diversion Program Fee	41004	\$936.00
<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			
Sheriff	Fulton Co. Comm. Host Fee Fund	31400	\$17,299.00
<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			
IT	Fulton Co. Comm.	41003	\$145,823.00
	Host Fee Fund	41110	\$113,612.00
<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			
Courthouse	Fulton Co. Comm. Host Fee Fund	36003	\$2,802.00
<u>To cover claims from 12/29/23</u>			

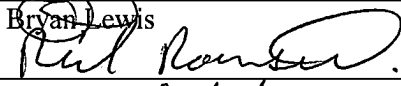
OLD BUSINESS – None

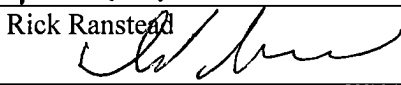
NEW BUSINESS – None

RECESS – Commissioner Ranstead motioned to recess at 10:40 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Sommers; carries 3-0.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS


Bryan Lewis


Rick Ranstead


David Sommers


Christina Sriver

Attest: Christina Sriver, County Auditor

I affirm under penalties of perjury, that I have taken reasonable care to redact each social security number in this document, unless required by law: Christina Sriver

Prepared by: Christina Sriver

