

## **TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: APRIL 24, 2023**

### **REGULAR MEETING:**

The Tipton County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Sessions on Monday, April 24, 2023, 9:00 a.m.. Those in attendance were Dennis Henderson, Tracey Powell, Nancy Cline, and County Attorney, Mark Regnier.

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer. The pastor invited the community to a National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the Tipton County 4-H Fairgrounds. The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Commissioner, Denny Henderson.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Meeting Minutes of  
Executive Session, February 13, 2023,  
Executive Session, March 13, 2023,  
Executive Session, April 3, 2023,  
Executive Session, April 10, 2023, were all approved on a motion made by Commissioner Cline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and the motion carried.

The Meeting Minutes of  
Regular Meeting Minutes, February 1, 2023,  
Regular Meeting Minutes, February 27, 2023,  
Regular Meeting Minutes, March 13, 2023,  
Regular Meeting Minutes, March 27, 2023,  
and Regular Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2023, were all approved on a motion made by Commissioner Cline with three changes as amended on the minutes of March 13, 2023, in public comment, the realtor is Scott Schuler; the minutes of March 27, 2023, in public comment, should read Tom McKinney; the minutes of February 13, 2023, under claim for the Guardian Advocates regarding the need for an additional \$30,000 for an additional appropriation to be for legal fees should be added. The motion was seconded as amended by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:**

The Payroll and Operating Claims were presented as follows:

**Payroll Claims:** The Commissioners' Payroll claims in the amount of \$199,856.19 for payment on 4-28-23, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Cline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and the motion carried.

**Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating claims for payment on April 24, 2023, in the amount of \$240,468.51, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Powell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

The Commissioner's questioned a food service contract for election pole workers between the Clerk and the Love Bug. The Commissioners requested that the contract be changed for signature to be performed by the Commissioner's on this contract. A motion to approve the catering contract with the amendment that the Commissioners will sign was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

Early Docket #1 for payment \$400.00, for the Treasurer to open the drawer for the tax season, was submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Powell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

The Early Drainage Docket in the sum of \$2,636.80 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT BUSINESS AND REPORTS:**

#### **Tipton County Highway:**

Highway Superintendent, Bret Morris presented the highway award for the Community Crossing Matching Grant in the sum of \$999,706.87. This amount will change once it has been sublet for bid. This Grant is for Old SR 28 from 300 W to 560 W and from 300 W to 300 S. Commissioner Powell would like to know the breakdown. Phil Beer will present this breakdown during his presentation.

Bret Morris stated that he needs a lot to place store the millings from the CCMG Project Grants. The millings will be reused in place of #53 stone at a later time. The soccer field lot behind the Chrysler Plant was mentioned. The Auditor will contact someone to discuss this item.

Bret submitted his annual report for signature by the board. A motion to approve the annual report was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

Commissioner Henderson commented on the Salt Barn reimbursement funds from the Council. There was further discussion by Commissioner Henderson. Commissioner Cline would like a formal answer on the salt barn from the EDIT Fund.

Attorney, Mark Regnier inquired about the flow of traffic at Division and US 31 and whether or not south bound traffic would be able to cross over US 31 to exit on division road. He wanted to know if semi traffic would be able cross over US 31 to Division Road. Phil stated that the median on US 31, located at Division Road, would not be opened for cross traffic.

#### **County Highway Engineer:**

Highway Engineer, Phil Beer addressed the board with the "CCMG", Community Crossing Grant, 2023-01, county matching portion in the sum of \$333,235.36. He submitted the breakdown of the cost and explained that \$239,476.25 would come from fund 4508 (the Old SR 28 Relinquishment Fund) and \$93,759.38 would come from the highway fund (1176, sub account 1173). It must be under contract by August 10<sup>th</sup>; bid on June 19<sup>th</sup>, with adv. On May 21<sup>st</sup> and June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in the Tipton Tribune. A motion to accept bid date and advertisement was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

There has been no documentation presented for the CCMG Matching Grant at this time.

Phil Beer addressed the BOT Project and the approval to advertise for \$374,000 from the ARP Funds and hold a public hearing. He submitted the Public Private Agreement of the Tipton County Jail Remodel Project in the sum of \$373,250. He approximates that the project will cost somewhere in the ballpark of \$3.5 million to renovate the old jail. The second project for consideration is the old doctor's park. Commissioner Powell would like to see a space for storage soon in order to resolve the county storage issue. Commissioner Cline wanted to know if the storage would require a specific level of climate control in regard to moisture. It was also discussed as to what funds the historical society might be able to contribute with the sell of the historical society building. Phil stated that the historical society is working

on obtaining an estimate as to the potential sale of their building should they and the county desire to move forward with locating their facility in the old jail once renovated.

Attorney, Mark Regnier stated that the Council is on board with this project; however, it has not been through public hearing as of yet and this appropriation is pending the public hearing.

A motion to approve the public private agreement with Envoy pending Council funding was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried. The prior motion was amended to include the President of the Commissioners be allowed to sign the public private agreement with Envoy by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

#### **County Maintenance Supervisor:**

Rich Vautaw presented quotes for the 4-H Fairground building roof. He contacted Red Diamond who walked the roof with him on the Friday prior. He is getting more information on roof repair. He also contacted Lashure Concrete in order to work on the concrete at the south door. He wanted to ensure with the Sheriff's Department the safety of inmates entering and leaving the building at the courthouse while doing concrete work. He spoke with Perfection regarding thermostats and discovered it was an IT issue which Bill Steen and Perfection corrected. The cost for the three combustion fans by Perfection is the sum of \$5,310.33. The cost for the blower motor repair with Perfection Group is \$1,177.00. That being said, Commissioner Cline made a motion to approve the services with Perfection in the total of \$6,487.33. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The previous motion was amended to approve Commissioner Henderson to sign the contract for services by Commissioner Powell. The motion to amend was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

Rich presented an Estimate by Pickens Roofing breaking out sections of the 4-H Fairground roof. Commissioner Cline asked that he look through the estimates to determine the estimates and the total cost for the repair and present to the board once determined.

Rich addressed the leak on the courthouse roof which is located in the tower area of the courthouse. It was mentioned to Kyle Clouser regarding repair of the roof. There were two storms that came through Tipton which caused damage to the slate on the courthouse roof. Attorney, Mark Regnier stated that at minimum, the roof needs to have leaks repaired immediately. Temporary repair of the roof was discussed to prevent further damage to the courthouse roof. Mid-State Roofing did the prior repair to the slate on the courthouse roof.

Rich discussed the possibility of switching vehicles with the Community Corrections Department. There is a difference of approximately \$11,000, which would require a transfer should they decide to switch the community corrections truck with the highway chevy traverse. This amount would be \$11,154 from the courthouse budget to the community corrections department should they decide to move forward with this transfer.

Commissioner Powell addressed a potential contract with List Lawncare for fertilizer at the new jail for two applications per year; one in the spring and one in the fall. No decision was made at this time.

Commissioner Cline moved to approve contracts for Cage's and Lawn Tech's mowing contracts. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### **Tipton County Treasurer's Office:**

Tipton County Treasurer, Gregg Townsend addressed the board with the interest earned with investments with Trust Indiana as compared to last year's interest earned. In 2022, the total interest earned was

\$262,366.47. Thus far in 2023, the county's earned interest is \$239,135.00. He stated that he has placed the money from the relinquishment money in Trust Indiana, was agreed upon by the Council as well. In early May, he will report on updated interest earned by county funds. He is able to track specific funds and interest earned on those funds specifically.

**Community Corrections:**

Tracey Regnier submitted her Annual Report and the request to the Indiana Department of Corrections in regard to pay increases. She is asking for the Board's support and for signature on the letter of support. This is a Community Corrections Grant from the Indiana Department of Corrections. Commissioner Cline made a motion to give Tracey Regnier the approval to apply for the Community Corrections Grant. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Community Corrections, Tracey Regnier discussed the new position that was approved in 2023 and is still looking for more office space to be able to sufficiently staff her office. Commissioner Cline stated that the Community Corrections department may be moved to the Health Department once they are moved to either the old jail or the doctor's park.

**Tipton County IT Director:**

IT Director, Bill Steen addressed the need for an NVR System which is starting to fail. Bill submitted two quotes for the new NVR System. The two quotes were as follows:

CDWG	\$13,954.80	Limited Stock
Provantage	\$13,817.63	3 in stock currently

Bill is proposing the move of \$13,954.80 from outside professional services into equipment within the 9200 fund, which would need to go through Council. Kevin Stiner stated that should this fail, the county will lose both cameras and memory. A motion to approve the quote for the security camera pending Council approval and going before the Council for a Council transfer was made on a motion by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

Bill stated that the county insurance is requiring the county to go to two factor authentication. This is a requirement by our cyber security insurance. Personal cell phones will be a requirement in order for individuals to obtain their security code upon login with the two factor authentication.

Commissioner Cline brought up another concern for security involving confidential information of residents and working with LOW. She wants to make sure each department has access to their needed information. Bill addressed social security numbers and the LOW System.

Auditor Pickering addressed the need for security within the LOW System and the Payroll system and that no one other than the Auditor's Office approved staff should have access to this information. It attempting to open access to this software when it was never done in the past creates a security issue in general. Auditor Pickering explained that each office head has their own security profile for their staff in their own office and there is no reason that IT should have control over whom is in payroll, nor in the financial software in the LOW System. This is a security issue and should remain in the control of the Auditor since the Auditor is responsible for these tasks. The Auditor does not control any other office software that would require their individual access; only that in the Auditor's Office.

**Tipton County Sheriff:**

Sheriff, Mathew Tebbe addressed the board in regard to replacing two sheriff deputies. He has four gentlemen that have passed the written exam. Sheriff Tebbe stated that he does have in his budget, the funds for SRO Officer at Tri-Central Schools.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was a letter received from a middle school student inquiring about information in Tipton County. The Auditor will send information to the student.

**Tipton County Appointments to Boards:**

There was one appointment to a board that needed to be filled. Commissioner Powell would like to have Blake Edwards as the fringe appointment to the planning commission. Commissioner Cline seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

There was discussion regarding a windshield repair for the planning commissioner, where a rock flipped up and chipped the windshield. Commissioner Powell will look into this repair.

**Tax Sale Agreement:**

Auditor Pickering presented a Tax Sale Agreement between the county and SRI. SRI has a price increase per tax sale parcel from \$100 to \$125 since they have not had a price increase in several years. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

**Tipton County 4-H Fairgrounds Association:**

Tipton County 4-H Fairgrounds Association, Inc. request for support of \$7500. This item was tabled as no one was present to give a report to the Commissioners.

**Elevator Contract:**

The elevator contract was tabled to the next commissioners meeting. TK Elevator is not being paid as they have not submitted a contract to the Auditor's Office after multiple requests by the Auditor and the County Attorney, Mark Regnier.

**Coroner Contract:**

Mark Regnier is working with the Coroner towards a completion of a contract between the Coroner and the County.

**County Attorney:**

County Attorney, Mark Regnier, discussed an Ordinance regarding Virtual Meetings. This Ordinance adopt the state guidelines that will cover all of the governing boards in the county.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Henderson addressed the IMPA's new solar park at the industrial park, where he signed to allow them to obtain a variance to increase the height of their fence around their solar field. There was no copy of the variance agreement. According to Commissioner Henderson, he signed so that this could go before the BZA.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Auditor Pickering addressed the Board of Commissioners regarding security within the Auditor's Office Financial Software and her concerns as to the board allowing IT and others in the financial software putting the Auditor's Office data and security at risk. The Auditor does not have control over any other offices' software nor security. The Auditor has concerns with the Board of Commissioners giving

permission to the IT Department to set permissions to others in the county for the Low Financial Software that is used to move funds in the county as well as payroll and to cut checks. This should not be something that the IT Department has control of; furthermore, has never been in the hands of the IT Department in the past. The Treasurer needs to simply call LOW to obtain access in his software for his office in order to perform his duties. This is a major concern to the Auditor and a breach of access should IT or another department control the access within the financials in the Auditor's Office.

There being no public comment, Commissioner Cline made a motion to close public comment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell and the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_, day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

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Dennis Henderson, President

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Nancy Cline, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracey Powell, Commissioner

Attest:

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Melissa Pickering, Tipton County Auditor and  
Secretary to the Board of Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2023.