

## **TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: NOVEMBER 20, 2023**

### **REGULAR MEETING:**

The Tipton County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, November 20, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Dennis Henderson, Tracey Powell, Nancy Cline, County Attorney, Mark Regnier, and Board Secretary and Auditor, Melissa Pickering.

**Others Present:** Sheriff, Matt Tebbe, UGS Representative, Kevin Mandrell, Chemsearch Representative, Jeff Cox, and City Utility Director, Jim Ankrum.

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer by Commissioner, Nancy Cline. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President, Denny Henderson.

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

Regular Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2023

Regular Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2023

Regular Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2023

Special Meeting Minutes of October 30, 2023

Regular Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023

Executive Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023

Special Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2023

The meeting minutes above were tabled by the board until the next regular commissioners meeting of December 4, 2023.

### **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 \$213,514.75 for payment on 11-24-23, 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 November 20, 2023, in the amount of \$454,488.86, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Powell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

Vimeo Wire Transfer Request for Livestream. According to Bill Steen, Vimeo bought the county's livestream and there is a bill due in the amount of \$2,388.00 that will need to be paid by ACH or Wire as the company does not accept checks. The Auditor is asking for pre-approval of the Commissioners to pay the claim in this fashion as it is not a claim approved in the early pay resolution.

Commissioner Cline made a motion to allow Auditor Pickering to pay the Vimeo wire transfer in the sum of \$2,388 as requested above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and the motion carried.

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

### **Community Corrections, Tracy Regnier:**

Tracy Regnier addressed the board with the need for office space and to move forward with hiring another individual so as not to lose the funding with the state. She asked that she be allowed to temporarily utilize the fourth floor, green room. This room is stacked full with boxes and will require boxes to be removed in order to fit someone in that space temporarily.

There was discussion with the board in regard to the temporary fix for the circumstances at hand with Community Corrections.

Auditor Pickering will clear out the Auditor's files from the fourth floor in the next few weeks to assist in getting some of the space cleared out.

### **Maintenance Superintendent, Rich Vautaw:**

Rich Vautaw introduced Jeff Cox from ChemSearch who provides the county with service of water treatment quarterly. The water treatment is imperative to prevent rust from plugging water coils and prevents issues in these systems. A contract for both the County Courthouse and the Jail was presented to the Board of Commissioners for signature. A request for clarification in the contract was made by Commissioner Powell. In clarification, the contract is in the sum of \$2200 annually for the Tipton County Jail and the sum of \$2,197 annually for the Tipton County Courthouse. The contract amount is to be paid one time annually as stated above.

A motion to approve both contracts as stated above and allow Board President, Denny Henderson sign on behalf of the board was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

### **Sheriff's Department, Matt Tebbe:**

Sheriff Tebbe addressed the Board of Commissioners regarding the purchase of a transport van. Sheriff Tebbe requested permission of the board to purchase a van and proceed forward. According to Tracey Regnier, there is money in the fund; however, will need to be appropriated next year to purchase a transport van.

Matt addressed the vehicle bids and presented to the board to open the bids during the meeting. The bids were as follows:

Company	Vehicle Type	Individual Cost	Total Cost
Tipton Ford	2024 Explorer with Police Package	\$41,781.00	\$167,124.00
Academy Jeep	2024 Dodge Durango Pursuit Vehicle 3.6 V6	\$40,692.00	\$162,768.00
Academy Jeep	2024 Dodge Durango Pursuit Vehicle 5.7 V8	\$43,352.00	\$173,408.00

One bid from Dan Young was not presented as it was received after the bid deadline of November 16, 2023.

Commissioner Powell made a motion to allow Sheriff Tebbe to take the vehicle bids under advisement and report back to the board before the end of the meeting to advise his intention to move forward and with which bid. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

Sheriff Tebbe stated that the jail currently has 55 inmates in total. Of which 14 are from Wabash and the remaining 41 are from Madison County. He sent one in transport this morning to the State of Missouri.

Sheriff, Matt Tebbe came in prior to adjournment of the Commissioner's Meeting to relay the information on his decision to move forward with Academy Chrysler Jeep with purchase of Sheriff Vehicles.

A motion to approve the bids from Academy Chrysler Jeep was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

Sheriff Tebbe will be obtaining loans from Encompass for the purchase of the Sheriff's vehicles.

**Tipton County Highway, Bret Morris:**

Highway Superintendent, Bret Morris requested permission of the board to advertise for bids for materials for bituminous mixtures, aggregates and culvert. The bid due date will be December 18, 2023; publish times will be on November 28, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Bids will be opened at the December 18, 2023, commissioners meeting.

A motion by Commissioner Powell was made as presented above, seconded by Commissioner Cline and the motion carried.

Bret asked that the commissioners sign the bid approval. The bid approval was signed by the commissioner's this date.

Bret has put the landfill project on hold as they are currently doing other work. He cautioned everyone in regard to the opening of the crossing at Division Road and US 31 and emphasized caution at this intersection.

**County Highway Engineer, Phil Beer:**

Highway Engineer, Phil Beer addressed the board stating that 550 and 560 paving is complete. The BOT Project meeting will be directly following the commissioner's meeting.

**Walker Hughes, Kevin Mandrell:**

Kevin Mandrell addressed the board with an extensive claim in the sum of \$157,151.00, that was incurred in August; however, billed in November that the stop loss did not cover, (No pay November). The normal invoice from Walker Hughes is generally in the range of \$62,000. This months' claim from UGS is \$102,125.48. Auditor Pickering wanted to know why the stop loss coverage did not cover this claim.

Kevin Mandrell expressed that since the billing date was in November, that the stop loss coverage would not prepay for this claim thereby resulting in a higher invoice for the month. He further explained that the stop loss of \$25,000 would be applied and requested through the company and that the claim coverage would be reimbursed back to the county within 4 weeks after the entire claim is paid. This invoice includes the credit of the \$37,000 being held at UGS. We should get a reimbursement check in the sum of \$155,000 +/- from UGS, according to Kevin Mandrell.

Kevin addressed a new Federal guideline called the "Gag Clause". Walker Hughes signed a business agreement with the county protecting the county information and the "Gag Clause" is for the interest of the Federal Government to know who the county is in business with. This document covers the county

from 2020 to current. Walker Hughes will include information for a 3-year look back. This document gets filed with the Federal Government by Walker Hughes.

A motion to allow Board President Denny Henderson to sign the “Gag Clause” on behalf of the board was made by Commissioner Cline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and the motion carried.

Kevin Mandrell recommended that the short and long-term disability be tabled until a further date since the commissioners were working on PERF.

The open enrollment was discussed and Kevin stated that the county employees inquired about the increase of the \$200 per year deductible. The increase in the deductible is federally mandated.

**Auditor, Melissa Pickering:**

Auditor Pickering addressed a need to pay one of the Commissioners claims from an account that had insufficient funds. A claim for US 31 Coalition was presented by Commissioner Powell which is normally paid from the EDIT Fund; however, was never budgeted for in 2022 for 2023’s budget. She is requesting permission to transfer \$1,000 from the commissioner’s county general fund 1000.33202.000.068, legal publishing to account 1000.39100.000.068, dues, in order to pay this claim. This transfer is within the same series of funds, therefore, does not require council permission. This would allow Auditor Pickering to pay the commissioners dues for the US 31 Coalition.

A motion to approve the transfer as requested above was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

**ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

Mark Regnier addressed the completed contract for the Coroner’s Rental Agreement. The board of commissioner signed the “Rental Agreement for the Coroner Facilities and Services Between Tipton County, Indiana and Young Nichols Funeral Home”.

Mark also addressed the ALS/BLS Contracts and is working through these and should have completed documents by the next Commissioner’s Meeting on December 4, 2023. Commissioner Powell had questions regarding the number of chargeable runs the townships average. There was discussion regarding the subsidies that the townships are requesting. Mark will send this information to the Commissioners.

**COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Powell discussed the READI II and that it is moving forward. There is a deadline of March 24, 2023. There was a meeting regarding the waste-water treatment facility and the pre-bid meeting for the project (Old SR 28).

Jim Ankrum discussed the upcoming bid process and he expects at least five bids. Bids will be received on December 6, 2023, at 4 pm during the meeting and the city will take the bids under advisement. They are in final stages of design for the elevated water storage out west. They will be submitting that project to IDEM and will also be looking at the project for the water tower.

There was discussion regarding the promised contribution of \$1 million to the city of county ARPA Funds and another \$500,000 promised by the county from funds to be determined. Jim Ankrum stated that Council President Ashley wanted to wait until bids came in before making the final decision on the contribution of the \$500,000, and the transfer of funds to the city. Mark Regnier will work to complete the Interlocal Agreement between the city and the county regarding the funding of this project.

Commissioner Henderson commented that he received a call from the boy scouts and discovered that the issue had already been resolved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Approved this 21<sup>st</sup>, day of November 2023.

Dennis Henderson  
Dennis Henderson, President

Absent  
Tracey Powell, Vice President

Nancy Cline  
Nancy Cline, Commissioner

Attest:

Melissa Pickering  
Melissa Pickering, Tipton County Auditor and  
Secretary to the Board of Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2023.  
MP