

## TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: JULY 1, 2024

### **REGULAR MEETING:**

The Tipton County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, July 1, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Commissioners Dennis Henderson, Tracey Powell, County Auditor Melissa Pickering, and County Attorney, Mark Regnier.

**Others Present:** Pastor Brown, Phil Beer, Bret Morris, Abbey Smith, Rich Vautaw, Adrienne Jenkins, Tim Horton, Judy Coker, Dick Klein, Steve Brown, Mark Baird, Kevin Mandrell, Roy Burkhart, Matt Tebbe

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer by Pastor Brown from Normanda Christian Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Commissioner Henderson.

### **Agenda Amendment:**

Commissioner Powell made a motion to amend the agenda adding Tim Horton and Kevin Mandrell from Walker-Hughes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

### **CLAIMS AND REPORTS:**

The Payroll and Operating Claims were presented as follows:

**Payroll Claims:** The Commissioners' Payroll claims in the amount of \$226,766.76, for payment on 07/5/2024, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell to allow the payroll clerk to proceed with insurance business dealings with Unified Group Services. The motion carried.

**Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating claims for payment on 07/1/2024, in the amount of \$193,685.25, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Powell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

**Early Docket #1:** Drain Maintenance in the sum of \$84,859.87. The early docket was approved on a motion by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

**Early Docket #2:** Plan Commission Postage and Highway Maintenance in the sum of \$4,000.00. The early docket was approved on a motion by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

**Early Docket #3:** Clerk and Election Board Postage in the sum of \$9,908.00. The early docket was approved on a motion by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

Commissioner Powell mentioned that there wasn't an early docket for Walker-Hughes or Unified Group Services.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting Minutes, June 17, 2024 – Tabled to until next meeting.

**DEPARTMENT BUSINESS AND REPORTS:**

**Bret Morris - County Highway:**

Bret Morris stated they were about 75% done resealing the stone and milling pads. As soon as they are done the crews will start maintenance seals on the roads.

**Phil Beer - County Engineer:**

Community Crossing Matching Grant:

Progress has been made on Doverview. Mr. Beer has had a discussion with Bret Morris regarding a survey of the portion of 600 South that needs reconstruction. He has a proposal of \$25,000 for USI Consultants to provide the survey and indicated the County Highway has the funds available. The survey would determine the centerline and edges of pavement to allow an accurate profile to be made. A motion was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the proposal. The motion carried.

Courthouse Renovations:

Mr. Beer expressed a need for funds to cover the cost of moving the Plan Commission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The carpet was ordered at a cost of roughly \$1,000. There will also be approximately \$6,000 needed for 3 cubicles. There will also be additional funds needed to purchase the security scanning equipment (\$12,000-\$15,000) and approximately \$12,000 for a monitor stand. Commissioner Powell indicated there is an EDIT fund 89 that had funds available to cover part of the cost.

Mr. Beer indicated that he should have quotes for replacing and/or repairing and maintaining the Courthouse roof in time to present to the BOT committee the following Monday.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tim Horton:**

Requested that the Courthouse restrooms be open to the public on the following dates:

French Market – July 13 9:00am-4:00pm

Autumn Market - September 28 9:00am-4:00pm

A motion was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the use of the restrooms on these dates. The motion carried.

Time: 22:30

**Bill Steen - IT Department:**

Asked if the Commissioners wanted him to proceed with the cabling for network in the Plan Commission's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor office and indicated that the cost would come out of the IT Department budget. The BOC gave permission to proceed.

**Kevin Mandrell, Walker-Hughes Insurance:**

Stated that Walker-Hughes had dealt with the HIPA information to get the transition from the previous Auditor to the new one. Attorney Regnier indicated that the Chief Deputy would be assuming the role and would be acting Auditor in the interim. Mr. Mandrell indicated that there was approximately \$130,000 in open claims through Unified Group Services that hadn't been processed, which may cause pushback from employees due to doctors and hospitals not being paid in a timely fashion.

Mr. Mandrell presented a Plan Summary from Unified Group Services that hadn't been signed. He stated that he needed the signature of the BOC President. Nothing on the policy had changed except for the stoploss carrier. There are 3 claims that the County is entitled to reimbursement from the stoploss carrier pending signature of the document.

There is also a document needing signed to allow TrueScripts to send data to SpringBack, the company Walker-Hughes uses for analytics. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline to allow TrueScripts to send information to SpringBack and to sign the Plan Summary document. The motion carried.

**Matt Tebbe - County Sheriff:**

Sheriff Tebbe stated that all the vehicles that were ordered have been delivered and are back from the outfitter and would be on the road this week. He is currently going through vehicle inventory to determine which ones would be retired/traded in.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Attorney Comments:**

County Attorney Mark Regnier had a discussion with Judy Coker, Tipton County Plan Commission regarding septic issues in Curtisville. The property owner had a medical emergency and could not attend the meeting. Ms. Coker indicated that the issue was not an emergency and could be dealt with in a future meeting.

**Abbey Smith:**

Abbey Smith stated that the Commissioners given a letter of support for the Tipton County Foundation for submitting a potential project to the Lilly Endowment for funding. They have made it past the first round and have been invited back for an interview. The project is a potential housing project on Fairground Road just west of Doctor's Park on an approximate 4-acre parcel of land owned by the County. One of the first steps is to get an environmental assessment done. The North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council has a grant available to cover the cost of the assessment. They are asking for a property owner access consent form to be signed by Commissioner Henderson. A motion was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the signing of said document by Commissioner Henderson. The motion carried.

**TRANSFER REQUESTS:**

None

**COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Powell:**

Indicated that there is a document presented by Steven Ray from the North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council regarding Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that needs to be signed. The document is relevant to interchanges along US31 through Tipton, Howard, Miami, and Fulton counties. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline to approve the signing of said document by Commissioner Henderson. The motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Auditor Melissa Pickering stated that the delay in payment to Unified Group Services was because Mike Hoffmeier was told that Ms. Pickering had been terminated and no longer had authority to authorize payments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell to close Public Comment. The motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Henderson, President

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Nancy Cline, Vice President

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Tracey Powell, Commissioner

Attest:

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Jon DeBaun, Tipton County Auditor and  
Secretary to the Board of Commissioners