

September 20, 2022

Council Chambers
Vigo County Government Center
Terre Haute, Indiana

Roll Call:

Present: Mike Morris and Brendan Kearns

Others Present: County Attorney Terry Modesitt, Kevin Gardner, Tim Cunningham, Diana Winsted-Smith, Kristy Jerrell, Ryan Keller, Jared Bayler, Adam Grossman, Tony Cassiseah, Bob Murray, and several members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Morris called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Minutes/Claims. Deputy Auditor Karen McCammon presented meeting minutes for September 6, 2022 for approval. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the September 16, 2022 minutes. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 2-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. McCammon then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of September 3, 2022 through September 9, 2022 in the amount of \$3,307,292.97. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the September 3, 2022 through September 9, 2022 claims in the amount of \$3,307,292.97. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 2-0, the motion unanimously passed. Next, claims were presented to the Board with expenditures for the period of September 10, 2022 through September 16, 2022 in the amount of \$987,786.75 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,135,688.48 for a total amount of \$2,123,475.23. Mike Morris commented on an expense for bridge and pipe replacement in the amount of \$132,007.30. This is an example of how the County continues to make repairs to the bridges throughout the County and what it costs. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the September 10, 2022 through September 16, 2022 claims in the total amount of \$987,786.75 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,135,688.48 for a total amount of \$2,123,475.23. Before a vote was taken, Brendan Kearns added that they had been having other issues with bridge repairs and replacements that they were having difficulty funding. There was an issue with the deck replacement on a bridge located on Fruitridge Avenue yesterday where it was going to take more material than originally thought which will require in higher costs. They have a bridge on 13th Street that has issues from when it was constructed 40-50 years ago that will cost \$230,000 for correction. They also have broken beams in a bridge on Greencastle Road where the supplies are a minimum of \$50,000; there is a broken pre-cast beam in a bridge on Morris Place that will need replacement. That bridge is currently closed. They also have culverts that are in pretty dire condition. Getting the extra materials currently is very hard. Even though all the Commissioners have been advocating for the County Council to give them money for those repairs, it has been a struggle. He did note that some of the Council members had driven the roads to view the situation. After further discussion, Brendan Kearns seconded the motion on the floor. Upon a voice vote of 2-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Resilient Plan – Ryan Keller. Ryan Keller of THRIVE talked about the Resilient Plan, which was funded by Economic Development Administration as a result of the COVID pandemic. This was a 2-year plan study that started in 2020 and was finished this year. It identifies the region's most pressing challenges for economic recovery and resiliency long term after the pandemic. This gives many statistics for our region and will be updated regularly in the years to come. Commissioner Kearns asked Mr. Keller to talk about the Broadband section. Mr. Keller briefly reviewed the statistics. Commissioner Kearns said that this is their current big infrastructure project to make broadband available to every single resident within Vigo County and spoke

about what had been accomplished so far. It has taken a number of groups working together to get all this done. Discussion continued. The data compiled in this study provides information about what areas need the most attention for funding and improvement throughout the region. It was noted that Indiana's public health system is chronically underfunded and out of all 50 states, Indiana ranks 48th in state-provided public health funding. It was also noted that 6.7% of people throughout our region do not even own a vehicle. Rural transportation and transportation for aging and disabled is what THRIVE does. They still do not meet the demand being faced and are working in public and private partnership areas to get creative and try to help solve the rural transportation problems in West Central Indiana in different forms. Lengthy discussion continued. In conclusion, they felt like education and awareness were the next step and they will continue to do more public forums where they talk about this and then start to connect with local leaders and others in the region to find out how THRIVE can help connect them to funding and other partners who can help them be successful and continue to advance the region.

Resolution Authorizing App. Sub. And Local Match Commitment – Kristy Jerrell. Kristy Jerrell indicated that this will be the public hearing for the local match commitment. Vigo County will be the lead applicant with St. Mary-of-the-Woods being the sub-recipient. This is a project being submitted to the Indiana office of the Community and Rural Affairs into their public facilities program for an historic preservation project on the Conservatory of Music Building. Two public hearings are required, one before the proposal is submitted and one before final application. Round 2 officially opens tomorrow (September 21). They plan to submit the proposal on October 21 and final application will be due December 22 and hopefully Vigo County and St. Mary-of-the-Woods' names will appear on the grant award on February 23. This is an all or nothing grant. She reviewed the total project cost and what it consisted of. These are federal grant dollars coming from HUD that trickles down to the State. The Lieutenant Governor's office through OCRA manages, awards and disburses those funds. The local match requires at least 10% but they actually raised almost 20% and will be contributing more and reviewed where all of the funding was coming from and in what amount. She then reviewed the project scoring. Once the proposal goes in on October 21, then OCRA will schedule a site visit, talk about the project, and tell them how to make the project more competitive. A budget was provided and discussed. Karen Dyer of St. Mary-of-the Woods talked about improvements that had already been made to the inside. After additional discussion, Ms. Jerrell read Resolution 2022-08 being presented today for approval. Mike Morris made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-08. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 2-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Approval of Sycamore Engineering Contract – Terry Modesitt. Terry Modesitt explained that this is for continuing maintenance on the new Security Center. He had suggested some changes to the original proposal from Sycamore Engineering and they had pretty much agreed with all of them. Mr. Modesitt is now good with the contract as written. Brendan Kearns said this is for maintenance above what the County can provide. They have researched and interviewed other companies that use Sycamore Engineering and they are the right fit for this. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the contract with Sycamore Engineering. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 2-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Brendan Kearns noted that Adam Grossman had stepped out of the meeting but, for the record, Mr. Grossman had intended to ask to make Bono Road one way, local traffic only, from Oregon Church Road to Harlan for Pioneer Days on October 1 and 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They do this every year but he wanted to make it official. This will allow better traffic flow.

Public Comments. There were none.

Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Elected Officials. There were none.

Next meeting will be October 4, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting recessed at 10:40 a.m.



Chris Switzer, President



Mike Morris, Vice President



Brendan Kearns, Secretary

Attest:



James Bramble, Auditor