

February 7, 2023

Council Chambers
Vigo County Government Center
Terre Haute, Indiana

Roll Call:

Present: Mike Morris, Chris Switzer and Mark Clinkenbeard

Others Present: County Attorney Terry Modesitt, James Bramble, Cheryl Loudermilk, Tammy York-Allen, Larry Robbins, Diana Winsted-Smith, Chris Eldridge, Kevin Gardner, Bruce Allen, Tim Cunningham, Jordynne Shelton, Josie Thompson, Tona Bean, Leanna Moore, Glenna Cheesman, Emily Owens, Howard Greninger, Tony Cassiseah, and members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Review of Minutes/Claims. Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk presented the Board with meeting minutes for January 31, 2023 for approval. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the minutes for January 31, 2023. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Loudermilk then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of January 28, 2023 through February 3, 2023 in the amount of \$374,121.91. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the January 28, 2023 through February 3, 2023 claims in the amount of \$374,121.91. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Ms. Loudermilk then presented the Board with payroll through February 2, 2023 in the amount of \$1,164,408.59. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve payroll through February 2, 2023 in the amount of \$1,164,408.59. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Appointment - Commissioners. Chris Switzer read the following appointment: This is to certify that you, Chad Morgan, are re-appointed to the Prairieton/Prairie Creek Fire District Protection Board for Vigo County on the 7th day of February, 2023, expiring on December 31, 2026. Mike Morris made a motion to approve this appointment. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Letter of Understanding - Engineer. Larry Robbins, County Engineer, explained that he had a Letter of Understanding from INDOT. There had been an unofficial local detour for All Street when a portion of SR 159 was shut down but has since reopened. There are no issues with the roadway. We need to check the box that the County had no eligible expenses to submit for reimbursement, sign it and send it back to INDOT. Chris Switzer made a motion to have the Commissioner President sign the Letter of Understanding for INDOT. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Darwin Road at US 40 Intersection Improvement – Engineering. County Engineer Larry Robbins presented two agreements with USI Consultants for intersection improvements, one at National and Darwin Road, and one at National and Thorpe Place. One agreement is to realign the intersection of National and Darwin Road. The road has some issues that contribute to causing accidents. This was formerly an INDOT road but has been relinquished to the County and Mr. Robbins would like to look at making some improvements on that area. The one for Darwin Road has an engineering assessment report of \$14,500 and that will evaluate the entire intersection. With the school corporation intending to remain out there, along with West Vigo High

School and Consolidated School being there, he wants to look at the signal and possibly widen it out and make it safer, as well as be more efficient during peak traffic times. The cost for this, since it is more extensive, is \$34,800. County Attorney Terry Modesitt has reviewed both contracts and is comfortable with them from a legal standpoint. Mike Morris made a motion to approve these Agreements. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Chris Switzer commented that this was really important for the town of West Terre Haute. Mark Clinkenbeard asked Mr. Robbins for an update on the bridge on 13th Street. Mr. Robbins said that Bridge 322 was reopened last week. It is open to traffic now, although the road is a little rough, but it will be closed again in the Spring to make the final surface and asphalt touches and stripe it.

The Mill Demolition – Commissioners. Chris Switzer talked about The Mill concert venue and the positive things it has done for this community and the tourism it brings to the County. This should not be confused with the Mill Dam property. This is the old Weston Paper property that is being leased to The Mill. The former loading and shipping dock on the southwest corner is severely dilapidated and is in terrible shape. Tim Drake, The Mill operator, has obtained quotes to repair/fix up the building but things are too far gone to justify that expense. It has become a place for homeless gatherings and there are constant fires and issues within the building. The Commissioners are looking for requests for quotes from bidders to demolish the building. Demolition has not been decided upon but they are looking into the cost if that is what is ultimately decided. Mr. Switzer read the following into record: Demolition bid requests should include the following: remove all structure and debris from the site, remove all concrete slabs, remove any trees that interfere with demolition, fill in and grade to ground level, grass seed and straw. All debris must be trucked to Republic Services on Cumminsville Street. Vigo County Building Inspection Department will pay for landfill costs. Proof of insurance will be required. Water may be required if there is dust and it becomes a problem. You should submit a price with the estimated tonnage. Vigo County Building Inspection will take care of any abatements, if necessary. If anything is seen, you will have to notify the Vigo County Inspection Department. They will also have to contact IDEM before starting. The Commissioners would like to have bids turned in by no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 17. They must be submitted to Karen McCammon of the Vigo County Auditor's Office either by mail or hand delivery. There will be a bid opening at the following Tuesday, February 21, Commissioners' meeting and bids will be taken under advisement. Mike Morris made a motion to approve this request. Mark Clinkenbeard stated that he wanted to be sure everyone knew that this is County property and that is why the County is dealing with this. Chris Switzer also said that the sliver of land where this is located was not included in the original contract with Mr. Drake and the building is actually owned by the County. Mike Morris reiterated his motion to approve this request. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Hamilton Center Update. Emily Owens, Deputy Chief of Clinical Services at Hamilton Center said that Hamilton Center sends a fiscal report to the Commissioner each year. She reviewed the report and statistics. There was a short discussion.

Public Comments. Chris Switzer asked Myra Wilkey, Chief Executive Officer of Mental Health America of West Central Indiana, if she would like to give an update on the shelter project. Ms. Wilkey said they had been awarded \$3 million from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction for a 52-bed low barrier shelter. Low barrier means that there isn't a lot of requirements for entry. They may not need an ID to prove who they are, they may not be sober, there won't be any requirements for entry into a program or they cannot stay. They are trying to provide shelter and housing navigation services to people who are chronically unsheltered. It's an evidence based shelter. They are hoping to get the grant in the next couple of weeks. There have been a few issues which she briefly discussed. They are trying to identify an appropriate site that is large enough and that is centrally located so they can get to places of employment, mental health services, and those types of things. A lengthy discussion took place about their needs and how the funding will work.

Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Elected Officials. Chris Switzer said that the consensus of last night's public meeting for input on what happens to the old jail seemed to be that it should be demolished. The Commissioners will take all comments into consideration and start to think about what to do in the upcoming weeks. With regard to the public meeting scheduled for Mill Dam, they are going to change the venue to someplace larger because they feel more people will show up than what the Council Chambers can hold. They will get that information out as soon as something has been firmed up. The date and time will remain the same. Mr. Switzer also thanked Joey Lehman of the IT Department for his work in getting the DLZ study for the old jail posted on the website giving details of their findings. Mark Clinkenbeard reminded everyone that the Commissioners are presenting their ARPA Plan at tonight's Council meeting.

The next meeting will be February 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting recessed at 9:40 a.m.



Chris Switzer



Mike Morris



Mark Clinkenbeard

Attest:


James Bramble, Auditor