

**Minutes of  
Jackson County Commissioners  
July 18, 2023  
9:00 AM**

Present: Commissioner Drew Markel, Commissioner Matt Reedy & Commissioner Bob Gillaspy

Absent: All present.

Commissioner Drew Markel called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Silent Prayer observed.

Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve the Payroll of June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$525,362.12 along with claims, including electronic checks, in the amount of \$39,792,927.49. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

**Reports from other Committees:** Commissioner Reedy stated that the 2023 Jackson County Fair will be held July 23 – 29<sup>th</sup>.

**End of Reports from other Committees.**

Jerry Hounshel came before Commissioners to commend the Commissioners, Highway Department and AllStar Paving on a job well done for the 2023 paving of the streets in Vallonia.

Lin Montgomery with the Drug Free Council appeared before Commissioners with an amended Grant award list. The previous list, approved at the last meeting, had one entity in the wrong category, so an amendment was needed. Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve as presented. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Brad Ponsler with IN Farm Bureau came before Commissioners to provide information and to introduce himself as Jackson County was added to his territory in last 2022.

Rick Anderson with Veregy, then appeared before Commissioners to discuss solar energy opportunities. Anderson completed an assessment a couple years ago on county buildings and was asking permission to put together a new assessment to present to commissioners. Commissioners agreed to this process.

EMS Director, Nate Bryant, came before Commissioners to request approval to purchase a 2023 Polaris Ranger with a RKO Custom cot med rescue upfit and trailer. The purchase would be made with available GO Bond funds. The Polaris unit cost is \$46,700 and the trailer is \$4,599. Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Janette Chastain came before Commissioners to request an update/upgrade to the current stop sign at Highway 250 and CR 400E. After discussion, Commissioners advised Jerry Ault to look into this further.

Commissioners discussed a Duke Energy Easement that needed to be signed. This is for work done at the Fairgrounds. After discussion, Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

The annual Local Elected Official Agreement, Indiana Economic Growth Region 9 was then presented. This agreement is an annual approval and has been reviewed by the County attorney. Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Markel stated that he is attending a meeting today at HWC regarding the Uniontown project. Markel stated that there has been a lot of great work that has gone into this up to this point, with a lot of work remaining, but the project is moving forward. Conner Barnette stated that numerous meetings have been occurring and will continue to occur due to the fact that the timeline for this project is 'hyper focused' in order to meet ARPA timelines.

Conner Barnette then discussed with Commissioners the emergency contact list at the Sheriff's department. The historic courthouse house had the air handler burn and the contact list was incorrect. Commissioners advised to put the Maintenance (Erik Hackman) as the first contact, with the Commissioners to follow (Pres, VP, Member).

Barnette then stated that when some work around the historic courthouse was being completed, the fiber and water lines were hit, which caused temporary outages. However, these are all now fixed and now have been properly marked.

Barnette then informed Commissioners that the Dog Shelter fund will only have approximately \$1800 remaining after the current repair invoice is paid.

Highway Superintendent, Jerry Ault, then discussed the following with Commissioners:

- Commissioner Reedy made a motion to approve the unofficial detour route for State Road 11. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.
- Stone shoulders will be going in, beginning with last years paved roads.
- work will begin on 100W once the weather and ground are suitable.
- 2023 Contract paving is nearing completion.
- CCMG paving will begin next week.
- The highway department is down to one working mow tractor. The 1997 is currently the only one functioning. After discussion, Commissioner Reedy made a motion to trade in all 3 tractors & decks (1997, 2012, 2012) toward the 4 year lease of \$67,277.62 for 3 tractors and decks with parts and labor warranty included. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Meyer then presented the Commissioners with the Jan 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023 Commissary Report along with the June 2023 Jail/Sheriff report.

Sheriff Meyer then reported that the dog shelter advertises on Facebook and the radio, however, the adoption rate has been lower than expected.

Auditor Staci Eglen informed Commissioners that they were given the June 2023 Treasurer report for review along with the June 2023 Fund report.

Commissioners then recessed until August 1, 2023 at 9 AM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

Signed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023.

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Matt Reedy

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Drew Markel

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Bob Gillaspay

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Staci L Eglen - attest