

May 28, 2024

Council Chambers  
Vigo County Government Center  
Terre Haute, Indiana

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Chris Switzer, Mike Morris and Mark Clinkenbeard

**Others Present:** County Attorney Terry Modesitt, Cheryl Loudermilk, Ricky Hammond, Vickie Albright, Diana Winstead-Smith, Chris Eldridge, Larry Robbins, Kevin Gardner, Amanda Bales-Puller, Adam Grossman, Bill Watson, Josie Thompson, Tona Bean, Kara Wright, Jordynne Shelton, Scott Swan, and several members of the public.

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

Chris Switzer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and Parks Superintendent Adam Grossman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Review of Minutes/Claims.** Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk presented the Board with minutes for the regular meeting for May 21, 2024 for approval. Mike Morris made a motion to approve May 21, 2024 minutes as presented. Mark Clinkenbeard 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 May 18, 2024 through May 24, 2024 in the amount of \$607,330.44. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the May 18, 2024 through May 24, 2024 claims in the amount of \$607,330.44. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Loudermilk then presented the Board with payroll for May 24, 2024 in the amount of \$1,430,593.93 for approval. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the May 24, 2024 payroll. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**FSG Painters – Courthouse Dome - Commissioners.** Mark Clinkenbeard explained that the County Council had previously approved ARPA funding for repair and painting of the Courthouse dome and this is the contract for that work. Work should start in the next couple of weeks. County Attorney Terry Modesitt had reviewed the contract and it is in order. The cost is \$128,000. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the contract with FSG Painters. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**RQAW Contract – Community Corrections Preliminary Design - Commissioners.** Bill Watson, Director of Community Corrections, explained that this is a follow up to the initiation 6-8 weeks ago for construction companies to look at possibly doing something with expansion of the Community Corrections facility. The local JRAC Board had also discussed having a second group do a conceptual drawing and that was discussed with the Commissioners, who had agreed. RQAW will be doing a drawing so that Commissioners will have a comparison with the submission from the JRAC Board. Mr. Watson has the money in his budget for this expense. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the RQAW contract. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Cintas – AED – Ricky Hammond.** Chris Switzer explained that this contract was with Cintas for them to take care of the AED systems throughout the County. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the contract

and stated that this will take care of six new AED's for the Annex and the Courthouse. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**State & Municipal Lease/Purchase Sheriff's vehicles.** There was no one present from the Sheriff's Department to speak about the State and Municipal Lease-Purchase Agreement. Chris Switzer asked if action should be taken today or wait until a time when someone from the Sheriff's Department was present. Mike Morris and County Attorney Terry Modesitt said they had reviewed the document and it was in order. Mike Morris made a motion to approve. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Public Comments.** Greg Scamihorn of Prairie Creek wanted to discuss the chicken ordinance for the County and had a petition from individuals who are affected by this problem. A homeowner is keeping 100 chickens and 5 or 6 roosters in a 3,000 square foot area in her back yard. She does not dispose of the manure. The other homeowners have talked to her, the Sheriff, and Animal Control and have been told there is nothing they can do and that the Commissioners would be the ones to talk to. The individual owns an acre of land and the Ordinance says she can have chickens but does not specify how many. They are not trying to keep her from having chickens but the number is out of control, along with the stench. There was a lengthy discussion. There is also the problem of the wood chips that are used for bedding. She burns them, although it actually does not burn but smolders, at least once a week. The Fire Department had to be called recently because the smoke and heat were so intense they set off smoke detectors in Mr. Scamihorn's home. There was discussion about current ongoing litigation regarding a similar problem with goats. The resolution could affect this matter. Julie Fagg, another resident, also commented about the situation and said she was unable to be outside at all due to the smell. The residents have been advised that she does plan to put up some fencing and after she does so, she plans to expand with at least another 100 chickens. It was noted that the residents all have well water. The Health Department was present at the meeting and said they would look into the matter also. The question arose as to whether or not Prairie Creek had a Town Board and they do not. Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk stated that establishing a Town Board would mean establishing another taxing unit. Justin Bagley, another resident, also voiced his concerns. It was noted that the number of foxes in that area have increased. The chickens roam everywhere and it is not uncommon to find a dead chicken in your yard. The individual does nothing with the chicken carcasses, although she initially buried them, but currently just piles them in an area. Discussion continued. The Commissioners will investigate further and keep in contact as the other litigation progresses. The residents were also advised to follow up with the Health Department.


**Comments from the Commissioners or Other Elected Officials.** Chris Switzer reminded everyone that the Air Show is happening this weekend and the Larry Bird Museum is opening later this week.

The meeting recessed at 9:18 a.m.

Attest:

  
James Bramble, Auditor

  
Chris Switzer

  
Mike Morris

  
Mark Clinkenbeard