

COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Brian Baird at 10:00 a.m. Kevin Walls and Ron West were present.

INVOCATION

Mr. West gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Baird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2025 BENEFIT PLANS

Michale Piercefield, Partner with LHD Benefit Advisors, was present to discuss and request approval for the 2025 Benefit Plans. Mr. Piercefield stated that after 10 plus years with Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield for health insurance benefits, LHD Benefit Advisors are recommending a transition to UMR (a United Health Care Company). They are recommending the adoption of the Choice Plus medical plan paired with CVS for the prescription pharmacy benefit manager. This is roughly a \$800,000 to \$850,000 total budget savings. The recommendation for stop loss insurance is to stay with Symetra; they are a preferred vendor with UMR. From an employee contribution perspective there would be a slight increase of 4%. They are also recommending implementing an HRA (Health Reimbursement Account) for employees of the county that are not eligible for a health savings account contribution; this is something new for the County. On the ancillary side, the recommendation is to remain with Delta Dental for dental insurance. There will be an increase in premiums of roughly 6.6%. On the life and disability side, there are some changes this year. The short-term disability duration will decrease from 26 weeks to 12 weeks and the long-term disability elimination period will go from 180 days to 90 days. These changes will allow the long-term disability to kick in sooner, saving the county roughly \$30,000.00. Vision insurance will remain with Anthem. There will also be an increase in the health savings contribution for employees.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PROPERTY, CRIME, LIABILITY, AUTO, AND WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE RENEWAL

Jim Wise and Jerry O'Conner, representatives with Epic Insurance, were present to discuss the renewal of the property liability program insurance for the County. Mr. O'Conner advised there will be a 5% increase in the premiums. He stated this is not a bad increase considering the recent weather events.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OPENING OF SEALED BIDS FOR 2024 PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT

Adam Gadberry, County Attorney, opened and read the only bid received for the 2024 Pavement Marking Project:

Indiana Sign & Barricade, Inc

\$189,109.61

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OPENING OF SEALED BIDS FOR JOHNSON COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER CLASSROOM AND COURTROOM RENOVATION PROJECT

Mr. Gadberry opened and read the only bid received for the 2024 Johnson County Juvenile Center Classroom and Courtroom Renovation Project:

DeWees Construction, Inc.	\$158,431.00
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Mr. Walls made a motion to turn the bid over to Mr. Baird and Wes Harrison, Project Manager, for review and to come back to the next meeting with a recommendation. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Baird stated this project will be done in two phases. The Juvenile Detention Center has a very small courtroom and classroom. This project will allow the utilization of unused space in the first phase. The second phase will be extending the classrooms.

OPENING OF SEALED BIDS FOR JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTION BUILDING PROJECT

Mr. Gadberry opened and read the following bids received for the Johnson County Community Correction Building Project:

**note: the Alt bid amounts for Ferguson Construction Company and F.A. Wilhelm Construction were read at the end of the meeting; they were erroneously missed during this section and brought to Mr. Gadberry's attention*

Ferguson Construction Company LLC	Base:	\$28,500,000.00
	Alt #M-1	\$ 511,000.00
	Alt #M-1a	\$ 500,000.00
	Alt #M-1b	\$ 780,000.00

RL Turner Corporation	Base:	\$31,533,000.00
	Alt #M-1	\$ 503,000.00
	Alt #M-1a	\$ 506,000.00
	Alt #M-1b	\$ 780,000.00

F.A. Wilhelm Construction Co., Inc.	Base:	\$31,477,000.00
	Alt #M-1	\$ 503,000.00
	Alt #M-1a	\$ 497,000.00
	Alt #M-1b	\$ 768,000.00

Gilliatte General Contractors, Inc.	Base:	\$30,315,000.00
	Alt #M-1	\$ 520,000.00
	Alt #M-1a	\$ 524,000.00
	Alt #M-1b	\$ 794,000.00

Mr. Walls made a motion to turn the bid over to himself and Mr. Harrison for review and to come back at the next meeting with a recommendation. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. SURVEYOR

1. Approval to apply for Fish America Foundation Grant

2. Approval to apply for LARE Fund- Lake and River Enhancement Program Grant

Gregg Cantwell, Surveyor, was present to request approval to apply for the Fish America Foundation Grant and the LARE Fund-Lake and River Enhancement Program Grant. He stated this is to assist with removal of obstructions/logjams from Sugar Creek.

Mr. Walls moved to approve both of the requests as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. West stated the grant amount is \$25,000.00 (for the Fish America Foundation Grant and up to \$76,000 for the LARE Fund-Lake and River Enhancement Program Grant).

B. WIC

1. Approval to Apply for the Johnson County WIC Fiscal Year 2025 Grant

Tracy Smith, WIC Director, was present to request approval to apply for the Johnson County WIC Fiscal Year 2025 Grant.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ms. Smith also gave an update on the new Greenwood office.

C. VASIA

1. Approval for LightGov, LLC Contract

2. Approval of Proposal with Elevated Marketing Solutions

Lauren Rynerson, VASIA Director, was present to request approval for the LightGov, LLC Contract and approval of a proposal with Elevated Marketing Solutions.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the requests as presented (pending legal). Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

D. SHERIFF

1. Approval of 2024 Johnson County Trick-or-Treating Hours

Duane Burgess, Sheriff, was present to request approval of Johnson County Trick-or-Treating hours. He stated that every year the Sheriff's Department puts extra cars out on the roads during Trick-or-Treating hours.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Baird stated just for notice the Trick-or-Treating hours for Johnson County (unincorporated area), Bargserville, Edinburgh, Franklin, Greenwood, New Whiteland and Whiteland and Trafalgar will be from 6:00pm-8:30pm and Princes Lakes will be from 5:00pm-8:00pm.

E. RECORDER

1. 2024 Operation Green Light, November 4, 2024 through November 11, 2024

Teresa Petro, Recorder, was present to request approval for the 2024 Operation Green Light from November 4, 2024 through November 11, 2024. She stated she is planning on putting a notice in the newspaper to honor Veterans.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

F. CLERK

1. Approval of Contractor Agreement with Greenwood Moving & Storage, Inc

Mr. Gadberry stated this is the same company used before. The Election Board has already approved the contract.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

G. HEALTH

1. Ordinance 2024-O-8: An Ordinance Amending and Superseding Johnson County Code §16-1-1-2 Regarding Board of Health Fees for On-Side Septic – *First Reading*

Elizabeth Swearingen, Director, was present for approval of the first reading of Ordinance 2024-O-8. She also wanted to give kudos to Tiffany Costley, Assistant County Attorney. The State gave Mrs. Costly props for writing some of the best code they had reviewed for a while.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the first reading of this ordinance. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. Ordinance 2024-O-10: An Ordinance Amending Title 16 of the Johnson County Code Ordinances for Tuberculosis Testing Fees – *First Reading*

Mrs. Swearingen was also present to request approval for the first reading of Ordinance 2024-O-10. She explained there is a new quant gold tb test procedure; it is a blood draw instead of a skin test. The fees charged for this test will not exceed what the State charges the Health Department.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the first reading of this ordinance. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

H. HIGHWAY

1. Request Special Meeting for Bid Award for 2024 Pavement Marking Project

This request was pulled because the award went to Indiana Sign & Barricade, Inc, the sole bidder for this project.

2. Ratification of Funding Application to INDOT Safety Call of Projects

Luke Mastin, Highway Supervisor, was present and stated the application was due October 11th. The application is for two projects. The first project is to install new Intersection Conflict Warning Systems at two locations that have accident trends. The second project is to replace all Regulatory and Warning signs on County roads and upgrade to current retro reflectivity standards.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the ratification. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

I. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1. Appointment of Board Member to the Needham Fire Protection District Board.

Mr. Baird stated this is a remaining term that will expire 12/31/2027. This position will fill the open board seat of Terry McLaughlin. He stated there are two applicants: Brandon Roberts and Dale Saucier.

Mr. Walls moved to appoint Mr. Roberts. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. Approval of the Health Department Water Softener Purchase from Petro's Culligan

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Contractor Agreement with Sexson Mechanical Company, LLC for the Health Department Water Softener Installation

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Acceptance of Lowest Quote and Award of Contract Pursuant to IC 36-1-12-5 for Health Department Electrical Service Fence Project

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. West stated the amount is \$2,951.00. Mr. Gadberry stated the award went to Truster Building & Fence.

5. Acceptance of Lowest Quote and Award of Contract Pursuant to IC 36-1-12-5 for Outside Boiler Building Project

Mr. Walls moved to accept the lowest bid from CW Sneed. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Baird stated this project is for the old boiler building south of the Courthouse. The bricks are falling off and structurally, the roof is failing. The restoration will be as close to the original as possible.

Mr. Gadberry stated the amount for this project is \$14,358.00.

6. Approval of C.R. Stafford and Associates Proposal for the Juvenile Courtroom and Classroom Renovation Project

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

7. Approval of Moench Engineering, P.C. Proposal for the Johnson County Parks Horse Barns

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Baird stated this is to add two new horse stall barns at the Horse Park, which will allow for more horses to attend the horse shows at the park.

8. Ordinance 2024-O-11: An Ordinance Amending the Johnson County Advance Claims Payment Ordinance

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9. Discussion of Wind Turbines

Mr. Walls stated he would like to give it to the Planning Commission for a moratorium on wind turbines within the county. Mr. West inquired if this is for commercial applications and not for an individual on their own property. Mr. Walls replied yes.

Mr. Walls moved to send a letter to the Planning Commission requesting a moratorium. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. Resolution 2024-R-17: Amendment and Addendum to Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Regarding Road Maintenance with the Town of Bargserville

11. Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Bargserville

Mr. Gadberry stated that items #10 and #11 should be together. Mr. West replied he would like to have a discussion on #11.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, with discussion.

Mr. West stated he is concerned about the language in the Memorandum which could possibly bind the County to some financial responsibility. He would like to have this language stricken from the Memorandum.

Mr. Gadberry stated he doesn't believe the language in the Memorandum would bind the County to any financial responsibility. He explained the language only lays the groundwork for the parties to work together to reach agreements through negotiations. He stated the Memorandum provides protection for the County in language that allows the County, through good faith negotiations, to determine whether the County is in a position to enter into a binding agreement with the Town of Bargserville when they request financial assistance. He doesn't believe that the language needs to be removed from the Memorandum, all it does is state the status quo. Mr. Gadberry also advised that The Town of Bargserville is applying for a grant and is under a time constraint. He advised that the Town of Bargserville has already approved the Memorandum.

Mr. Baird asked if it would hurt to remove the language from the Memorandum if the language really isn't necessary.

Mr. Gadberry replied the Memorandum could be amended and sent back to the Town of Bargersville, but it would set them back further in their process. He also advised that the exhibits have not been received yet.

Mr. Walls stated that he understood Mr. West's concern, but he also understood the process of applying for a grant and if the Memorandum was amended and sent back to the Town of Bargersville the process would be delayed longer. He suggested the Memorandum be tabled until the exhibits are received and after they are reviewed, a special meeting could be had to revise and discuss the Memorandum further.

Mr. Walls then withdrew his prior motion to approve.

Mr. West moved to table the Memorandum until the exhibits are received. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. Ratification of Public Mass Transportation Fund CY 2025 Operating Assistance Program – 5307 Funding

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. West stated this is for Access Johnson County.

13. Ratification of S&L Specialty Contracting Change Order #SC-1 for Courthouse Windows Project

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

14. Ratification of Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement with Discover Downtown Franklin for Christmas Lights Installation and Holiday Lighting Event on December 7, 2024

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

15. Ratification of BI Incorporated Addendum No. 1

Mr. West moved to approve the as request presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

16. Approval of Revised 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Schedule

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

17. Approval of Preliminary Official Statement for Johnson County, Local Income Tax Revenue Bonds, 2024

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

18. Ratification of Settlement Agreement

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

NEW & OLD BUSINESS

Claims

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioners' Minutes:

1. 9/23/24 – Executive Session

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comment – *(limited to 5 minutes per person, please)*

Julie Schilling with V3 Companies was present to request approval to apply for an EPA ground field assessment grant. Ms. Schilling stated that she has been working with the communities of Greenwood, Bartersville, Edinburgh, Trafalgar and Whiteland. They would all like to pursue this grant; however, the County would need to act as the lead applicant in order to apply for this grant. This is a four-year term with no match. It would provide funds for personnel time; essentially it involves developing and accessing sites. All environmental diligence, surveys, and training services are covered by these grants. She explained one caveat is the application is due in one month from today and they would have to submit a support letter request to the State by October 25, 2024, which requires approval by the Commissioners.

Mr. West asked how the grant dollars would be distributed to the government entities. Ms. Schilling explained the grant funding is set up so that draw downs are made when invoices are submitted. The Commissioners, being the lead on the grant, would ultimately decide on how the funds are spent. Mr. West stated unfortunately with the deadline being October 25, 2024, that leaves very little time for the request to be reviewed.

Mr. Gadberry asked if there was any written materials to review in order to determine exactly what the expectation of the County would be. Ms. Schilling replied she would provide some information and the guidelines from the EPA.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. West moved to adjourn. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

REGULAR COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – MONDAY OCTOBER 14, 2024



Brian Baird



Kevin Walls



Ron West

**Attest:
Elizabeth A. Alvey
Auditor**

