

**COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023**

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

**INVOCATION**

Mr. West led the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Baird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**A. Court Services**

**1. Approval of Employee Extension of Time**

Tony Povinelli, Community Corrections Director, and Chief Deputy Sheriff Andy Barnhart were present to request an extension for Shannon Chambers, CIT Deputy, to use her vacation time. Mr. Povinelli explained the intensive training and hours involved in the creation of the CIT Deputy Program did not allow Ms. Chambers to use her vacation time that she earned last year.

Chief Deputy Barnhart noted the time constraints with beginning the CIT Deputy Program mid-year last year.

Mr. Povinelli requested an extension for her to use 22.75 hours of vacation.

Mr. Walls moved to give Ms. Chambers until the end of February 2023 to use the remaining vacation time. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

**2. Approval of BI Agreement for Adult Community Corrections**

Mr. Povinelli remained before the Commissioners to request approval of an electronic monitoring service agreement with BI Incorporated for the Adult Community Corrections Department. He noted the company was supportive of continuing business with Adult Community Corrections.

Mr. Walls thanked Mr. Povinelli for his efforts to streamline this process and moved to approve the agreement, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion, pending legal, which carried unanimously.

**B. Court Administrator**

**1. Ratification of State CASA Grant Application**

**2. Ratification of State CASA Capacity Building Grant Application**

Shena Johnson, Court Administrator, was present to request ratification of two yearly CASA grants for her department. She noted future timing of these requests will be improved.

Mr. Walls moved to approve both agenda items B1 and B2. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

**C. Health**

**1. Approval of Contract with JR Promotions**

Betsy Swearingen, Director, was present to request approval of a contract with JR Promotions to utilize one static billboard and one digital billboard for advertisements from the Health Department.

Mr. Baird inquired about the type of advertisements that needed to be made by the Health Department and the delivery method that best suits the advertisements.

Mrs. Swearingen stressed the need for advertising services the Health Department provides as many members of the community may be unaware of the support they can receive. She noted sharps disposal and vaccinations were two major things many people do not know about. She noted the digital billboard allows up to 8 rotating messages at no additional cost.

Mr. Walls asked if the funding source for the advertising was coming from a grant.

Mrs. Swearingen confirmed they will be paying for the advertising costs through grant money; she is requesting permission to rent the billboards.

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

#### **D. Clerk**

##### **1. Approval of Knowink Maintenance Service Agreement**

There was no one present to speak for this request.

Mr. West moved to approve a service agreement with Knowink Maintenance for Knowink Poll Pads. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

#### **E. Museum**

##### **1. Approval of Addendum with Family Research**

Chuck Bailey, Family Search Local Volunteer, was present to request approval to digitize seven more collections in addition to their sixteen current family film history collections from their original request almost a year ago. He stated this would be at no cost to the County.

Mr. Walls requested information about the program.

Mr. Bailey explained they are digitizing marriage records, probate records, and assisting in state archives digitizing request for County Clerks in all 92 counties of Indiana. He also noted this will be a great asset to anyone searching for genealogical records regarding their ancestors.

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

#### **F. Highway**

##### **1. Request Bid Date for 2023 Concrete Street Overlay Project**

Daniel Johnston, Highway Engineer, was present to request a bid date be set for the 2023 Concrete Street Overlay Project in conjunction with the Community Crossings funding that was awarded last fall.

Mr. Walls moved to approve a bid date of February 27, 2023 for the Commissioners regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

## **G. Emergency Management**

### **1. Approval to Apply for IDHS Grants**

- a. 2023 SHSP Grant**
- b. 2023 EMPG Salary Reimbursement**
- c. 2023 EMPG Competitive**
- d. 2023 HMEP Grant**

Stephanie Sighting, Director, was present to request approval to apply for their yearly operational grants for the Emergency Management Agency.

Mr. West moved to approve the four requested grants listed above. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **2. Promulgation of the Johnson County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

Ms. Sighting was also present to request promulgation of the Johnson County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan that is updated yearly.

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

### **3. Johnson County Continuity of Government – Operations Plan**

Ms. Sighting was present to request approval of the updated Johnson County Continuity of Government – Operations Plan. She noted the Elected Officials have been updated in the plan after the elections that took place in 2022.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the Johnson County Continuity of Government – Operations Plan as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **4. Appointment of Emergency Management Advisory Council Members for 2023**

Mrs. Sighting was also present to request appointments to the Emergency Management Advisory Council Board for 2023. She requested a re-appointment for all members that term's expired on 12/31/2022 with a change to the Town of Edinburgh Council representative. The requested appointees are:

Luke Mastin, County Highway Supervisor or designee  
Jessie Biggerman, Solid Waste Director or designee  
Duane Burgess, Law Enforcement  
Heath Brant, E-911 Executive Director  
Eric Funkhouser, Chairman of Fire Chiefs Association

Mr. Walls confirmed some of these positions are statutory and moved to approve the appointments as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

### **5. Approval of Memorandums of Understanding for Emergency Transportation and Shelters with Local Entities**

### **6. Approval of Memorandums of Understanding for Emergency Provisions with Local Businesses**

Ms. Sighting was also present to request approval of Memorandums of Understanding for Emergency Transportation and Shelters (Schools and Churches) with Local Entities and Emergency Provisions with Local Businesses (Grocery and Hardware Stores) in event of a disaster.

Mr. Walls approved both requested memorandums, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **H. Sheriff**

### **1. Approval of Towing Service Contracts**

- a. 31-Auto Group**
- b. Franklin Wrecker Services, LLC**
- c. Greenwood Wrecker Services, LLC**
- d. Hanna's Wrecker Service Inc. dba A Towing Service**
- e. Hanna's Wrecker Service Inc. dba Graham's Towing Wrecker Service, Inc.**
- f. Hix Wrecker Service, Inc.**
- g. Roy D. Carver Towing dba RDC Towing**
- h. White Glove Towing**

Chief Deputy Sheriff Barnhart was present to request approval of the above towing service contracts.

Mr. Walls noted there only used to be three contracts for towing services and it will be very helpful to have more resources moving forward.

Mr. Walls moved to approve all of the towing contracts, with 1B, 1C, and 1F pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **I. Board of Commissioners**

### **1. Approval of Lease Agreement with Tara Treatment Center, Inc.**

Mr. Walls requested clarification for the purpose of the agreement.

Mr. Baird explained the agreement allows Tara Treatment Center, Inc. to use the requested County owned parking lot rather than parking county fleet vehicles there. He noted Tara Treatment Center, Inc. owns Ann's Restaurant next to the location of the parking lot.

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

### **2. Appointment of Council Member to the ARPA Committee**

Mr. West nominated John Mallers and stated he has experience through the State and previously being on Council.

Mr. Walls acknowledged John Mallers' capability for the position, and also nominated John Ditmars.

Mr. West expressed his concern with Mr. Ditmars just coming on to the Council.

Mr. Walls stated he believed Mr. Ditmars would be a good asset as he is soon retiring and will have time to be actively involved with the ARPA Committee whereas Mr. Mallers has a full time job.

Mr. Baird stated he had talked with Mr. Mallers and he expressed having time to set aside for the Committee. He noted both candidates were very capable for the position. He asked if it would be possible to expand the Committee to put both candidates on.

Adam Gadberry, County Attorney, noted if both nominees were added to the Committee, this would give the County Council more power on the Committee.

Mr. Baird stated the Committee is simply an Advisory Board and he believed both of their opinions would be valuable.

Barb Davis, County Coordinator, noted there would be more Council Members than Commissioners rather than having a balance of representation like there is currently.

Mr. West agreed the more input and different viewpoints would be beneficial. He expressed concern for the creation of an even number of voting members on the board.

Mr. Baird suggested appointing one member and then at the ARPA Committee meeting discuss adding another member.

Mr. West moved to appoint John Mallers to the ARPA Committee. Mr. Baird seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

### **3. Board Appointments:**

#### **a. Buffer Zone (Town of Edinburgh) – (1)**

Mr. West nominated Justin Lollar for appointment to the Buffer Zone (Town of Edinburgh) Board. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **b. Community Corrections Advisory Board**

##### **1. Lay Person Board Positions (3)**

Mr. West nominated Kevin Walls, Andrew Barnhart, and Cassie Vandagriff for appointment to the Community Corrections Advisory Board in the Lay Person Positions. Mr. Baird seconded the motion, which carried 2-0; Mr. Walls abstained from the vote.

##### **2. Probation Officer Board Position (1)**

Mr. Walls nominated Steve Kermode for appointment to the Community Corrections Advisory Board in the Probation Officer Position. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimous carried.

### **3. Mental Health Administrator Board Position (1)**

Mr. Walls nominated Luran Canady for re-appointment to the Community Corrections Advisory Board in the Mental Health Administrator Position. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **4. Victim Board Position (1)**

Mr. West nominated Robert McGee for re-appointment to the Community Corrections Advisory Board in the Victim Position. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **5. Ex-Offender Board Position (1)**

Mr. Walls nominated Todd Cook for re-appointment to the Community Corrections Advisory Board in the Ex-Offender Position. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

### **c. Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board – (1)**

Mr. Walls emphasized the many applicants for this board position and clarified there was only one opening at this time. He suggested nominating Kevin Leonard for appointment with his knowledge and experience as Director of the Johnson County Park. He asked if this would be seen as a conflict of interest with his position and being on the board.

Mr. Gadberry confirmed serving on the board would be a conflict of interest for Mr. Leonard as he applies for a yearly grant from the Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board for the Johnson County Park. He advised choosing another applicant for the position to avoid the conflict of interest.

Mr. Walls opened conversation for Brian Alvey and Justin Griggs to appoint to the board. He stated they would both be good assets to the board.

Mr. Baird showed support for Brian Alvey and emphasized the support he has provided for the County and his previous representation on the board. He stated Mr. Alvey would be a great advocate on the board.

Mr. Walls nominated Brian Alvey for appointment to the Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **d. Drainage Board – (1)**

Mr. Walls stated he sits on the board and is not aware of a current vacancy on the board and would like to research it further.

Mr. Walls moved to table this appointment for further research. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**e. Johnson County Impact Fee Review Board**

**1. CPA Board Position (1)**

Mr. West nominated Phillip V. Kryder for appointment to the Johnson County Impact Fee Review Board in the CPA Position. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

**2. Engineer Board Position (1)**

Mr. West nominated Trent E. Newport for re-appointment to the Johnson County Impact Fee Review Board in the Engineer Position. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**3. Real Estate Agent Board Position (1)**

Mr. West nominated Tanya Smythe for re-appointment to the Johnson County Impact Fee Review Board in the Real Estate Agent Position. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

**f. Plan Commission – (2)**

Mr. Walls nominated Charles Canary and Steven Hickman for appointment to the Plan Commission Board. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**g. Bargersville Fire Protection District Board (White River Twsp) – (1)**

Mr. Walls nominated Angela Morris for appointment to the Bargersville Fire Protection District Board. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**h. Needham Fire Protection District (At-Large) – (1)**

Mr. West stated he did not personally know any of the applicants for this position.

Mr. Walls advised Stephen Copeland would be a good asset to the board.

Mr. West nominated Stephen Copeland for appointment to the Needham Fire Protection District Board in the At-Large Position. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

**i. Nineveh Fire Protection District (Town of Prince's Lakes) – (1)**

Mr. Walls nominated Kevin Hendrixson for re-appointment to the Nineveh Fire Protection District Board representing the Town of Prince's Lakes. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

**j. White River Fire Protection District (City of Greenwood) – (1)**

Mr. West nominated Mary Lou Mayer for appointment to the White River Fire Protection District Board representing the City of Greenwood. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**k. White River Fire Protection District (White River Twsp) – (1)**

Mr. Baird noted this position is to fulfill the remainder of Mr. Mallers' term through 12/31/2024 due to his election to the County Council.

Mr. Baird nominated Daniel Ray Berg for appointment to the White River Fire Protection District Board representing White River Township. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

## **NEW & OLD BUSINESS**

### **Claims & Credit Card**

Mr. West questioned the purchase made in a claim from the Coroner made payable to Simple Arts in the amount of \$1,209.10.

Mr. West also questioned a claim from the Health Department in the amount of \$36.20 that was made payable to the Johnson County Health Department. He wanted to know why funds were being paid back to the department from itself.

Shortly after Mr. West's inquiry, Betsy Swearingen, Health Department Director, appeared before the Commissioners to explain the claim made payable to their own department. She stated the claim was for bank deposit slips.

Mr. West thanked Mrs. Swearingen for the clarification.

Mr. West inquired about a claim from Fleet in the amount of \$1,023.83 to purchase cages for Animal Control vehicles. He questioned why this was not coming from the Animal Shelter's budget.

Mr. Baird explained these specific cages are mounted into County Animal Control vehicles; therefore, it is the responsibility of Fleet to purchase and install them into the vehicles.

Mr. West requested reasoning for a claim from Juvenile Detention in the amount of \$78.46 maybe payable to Greek's Pizza for a committee meeting.

Mr. West noted the large amount of claims being paid to Amazon for supplies throughout County departments. He expressed his frustration with this because there are multiple local businesses that he believes the County should be supporting rather than Amazon. He further explained there is no benefit to the County from using Amazon and taxpayer dollars would be better spent supporting local businesses in his opinion.

Mr. West made a motion to approve the submitted county claims with clarification on the above requested claims. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **Commissioners' Minutes**

#### **1/9/2023 – Regular Meeting**

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the Commissioners' minutes as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

US Army Lt. Col. John Beardsley, MSG Roger D. Plummer, and Sgt. J.W. Brewer, members of the Franklin American Legion Post 205 Honor Guard, approached the Commissioners to request written authorization to mount a plaque on the East side of the Civil War Monument on the North side of the Courthouse.



Lt Col Beardsley showed an image of the 24 foot by 36 foot plaque in honor of Clinton Armstrong who was the only Johnson County resident to earn the Medal of Honor in the Civil War. Mr. Armstrong was awarded the Medal of Honor 30 years after his service in July 1863 in Vicksburg for his voluntary service during what is believed to be a suicide mission, where most were killed or injured to deceive the enemy. Mr. Armstrong was shot multiple times and made it back to Union lines after dark to avoid being shot again. Lt. Col. Beardsley explained Mr. Armstrong was born and raised in Franklin, Indiana and later went on to become a Doctor following his services in the military.

Lt Col Beardsley requested the mounting be done during the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 11 A.M.

Mr. Walls expressed his support of using the monument to display the honor to Mr. Armstrong.

Lt. Col. Beardsley stated there would be no costs to the County for this request. He explained all the costs will be covered by the Honor Guard and donations would fully fund the plaque and mounting fees. He is solely requesting written authorization to mount the plaque on the monument and hold a ceremony during the mounting.

Mr. West expressed his admiration for the request. He asked if there should be a process to create parameters for applicants to make additions to the Civil War Monument.

Mr. Walls advised no parameters needed to be made as the extensive research done on the Civil War and there is only one Medal of Honor recipient for the County since the War's conclusion 160 years ago.

Mr. Baird thanked the men for their service and program. He informed them there are major updates that are set to be made to the monument beginning in March 2023 so the monument will not be completed by the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2023. He supported the mounting of the plaque once the monument's updates are completed.

Mr. Walls advised the Honor Guard request to be added to the agenda for the February 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 Public Commissioners Meeting to formally request the mounting of the plaque on the Civil War Monument.

The Honor Guard thanked the Commissioners for their time and stated they would happily come back to the next meeting to formally request their approval for this matter.

The Commissioners again thanked the men for their service and their presentation.

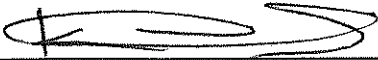
### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

REGULAR COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023



Brian Baird



Kevin Walls



Ron West

Attest:

Elizabeth A. Alvey  
Auditor

