

BE IT REMEMBERED THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in the Henry County Courthouse Circuit Courtroom on Wednesday February 8, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. with the following members present: Steve Dellinger, Joe Wiley, Bobbi Plummer, Debbie Walker, Henry County Auditor and Joel Harvey; County Attorney.

Steve Dellinger called the meeting to order with the pledge followed by a prayer, led by himself.

Bill Upchurch, Henry County Treasurer, recessed the meeting for the annual Board of Finance Meeting for 2023.

Steve Dellinger adjourned the Board of Finance meeting and called the Commissioner's Meeting back to order.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Joe Wiley made a motion to approve the claims. Motion was seconded by Bobbi Plummer and carried 3-0.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve payroll. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve monthly reports for the Henry County Clerk and Henry County Treasurer. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Steve Dellinger reads a notice from IDEM for Duke Energy, stating that the commissioners could potentially be affected by a proposed air permit on Highway 38. IDEM is opening a 30-day period for public comment. No action was taken on the notice, it was just informational.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve a food and beverage claim for project #56 HOPE Initiative's Day Care Program in the amount of \$10,484.45 made out to HOPE Initiative. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Penny York gave a brief update on the EDC's recent activity. The EDC has a Board Meeting on February 9th 2023 at REMC, anyone is welcome to attend. Susan Neal and John Kindred will be the guest speakers for this meeting. Make My Move is fully active and has their first official mover, named Chloe, waiting to close on her new home in Henry County. The EDC has also shown the shell building twice now.

Shonda Kane with the Chamber of Commerce gave an update. Shonda congratulated Scooters on their opening and thanked Joe Wiley for participating in the ceremony. Shonda announced that nominations for the Awards Gala are now open until February 20th 2023 and there are now 9 categories instead of 2. So far this year, the Awards Gala has had a great response. The third Career Day will be held on May 5th 2023 at the Arts Pavilion. Shonda states that the goal for Career Day is to give high school students insight into careers that do not require the normal college courses and to get individuals to return to Henry County if they do choose to go off to college.

Mandy Fleming announced for Brian Clark that at the end of January there were 13 coroner cases and 3 autopsies.

Steve Rust introduced Angie Gibson, the new hire for the GIS position. Angie states that she has been doing GIS since 1998 and she has worked for Delaware County as a planner as well as private consulting, giving her 20 years of experience.

Sheriff Sproles announced that the department has been raising money to purchase 2 new K9s. The Sheriff's department has filled all 9 of the full-time positions at the Jail. Sheriff Sproles stated that part of the federal lawsuit that was filed against them required 32 full-time jail officers and he hopes that the commissioners will help him work towards that next year.

Sheriff Sproles requested to use the remainder of the ARP monies appropriated for the body camera software to pay for a new jail training program. He stated that the first year is roughly \$12,000.00. He adds that so far, the department has spent over \$130,000.00 on bills from 2022. Bobbi Plummer answered that he should wait to see if there will be ARP monies left over and if there is, there will have to be a new resolution adopted that will allow him to use the money for a different need.

Sheriff Sproles states that the department is in serious need of at least three more vehicles. He states that there are vehicles in use by road officers that have over 250,000 miles on them and it is a major liability. Bobbi Plummer states that this will also be a request for the council, not the commissioners.

Gary Wilson will be taking a position as the SRO at Blue River Valley School, they are able to pay his salary if the county can cover his benefits. Bobbi Plummer states that there will have to be a MOU between Blue River Schools and Henry County Commissioners. Bobbi Plummer asks Sheriff Sproles if the county is already paying this officer's salary and Sheriff Sproles confirms that they do. Sheriff Sproles states that if he does send this officer to Blue River, he would need to replace him with a full-time officer and will need additional funding.

Sheriff Sproles asks if a non-reverting fund can be created for the money the Sheriff's Department makes from housing DOC inmates. The commissioners tell him that the council will have to vote on that as well.

Sheriff Sproles states that he gave Joel Harvey, the county attorney, a copy of his contract to review. He thanks the commissioners for their time.

Mandy Fleming, EMS Director, requests permission to purchase radios for her employees. She stated that if Henry County EMS is going to work with the city, they need to be able to communicate with each other and dispatch effectively. As of now they are communicating through Brian Clark, HC Coroner.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to allow Henry County EMA to move forward with purchasing 5 Kenmore radios for \$11,093.95. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Tim Welch, EMA Director, spoke about the county travel advisory process. He stated that it is easy to go from yellow to orange, but it takes a county commissioner to sign an order to go into the red. He stated that he recently found out that it also takes a signed order to rescind the red travel advisory status. Bobbi Plummer asks Tim to get a copy of the paperwork he has on the matter to Joel Harvey to look over and the commissioners will vote on it once Joel is finished.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to cancel the maintenance contract the county has with BIS Digital due to the device that recorded meetings, that the contract was created for, is no longer in use. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve the MALCON Ambulance Reimbursement contract to gather information about Medicaid ambulance runs and then reimburse the department for them. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Tom Green, Zoning Administrator, states that he received a call from the Indianapolis Post Office regarding the address at the Smith Building. Apparently, the address was changed in 2021 to an address that does not actually exist. Tom Green states that he does believe that the Smith Building should have its own address. Bobbi Plummer made a motion to have GIS begin the process of updating and or creating the address 260 W 100 N New Castle, IN 47362 for the Smith Building. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Joe Wiley made a motion to approve the Public Official Bonds for Debra Barnes in the amount of \$30,000.00, Brian Clark in the amount of \$15,000.00, and Michael Mahoney in the amount of \$15,000.00. Motion was seconded by Bobbi Plummer and carried 3-0.

Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve the 2023 Annual Budget Assistance and Other Accounting Support Services Agreement with Baker Tilly. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

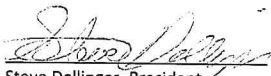
Bobbi Plummer made a motion to approve the Adjacent Properties List submitted by the Auditors Office, and send out letters to adjacent property owners to see if they are interested in purchasing any of the properties that will be in the Commissioners Certificate Sale. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Jeff Ray and Helen Steussy discuss the "Meadow Project". Helen elaborated the need for visitors to see beautiful, unique, places as they drive through Henry County and the need for residents of the county to have a nice place to relax. She states that that is what Healthy Communities of Henry County has been working on since the group was created. They have come tonight to again, ask the commissioners to give them an acre on the southeast corner of Memorial Park to put in a wildflower meadow. The last time they came to ask for this, the commissioners came to the conclusion that there was a massive gas line that ran directly under the property that they wanted, and there is an easement on it. Jeff Ray has reshaped the property line so that the commissioners might reconsider giving them a piece of this land. Steve Dellinger stated that not every citizen of Henry County agrees that what Dr. Steussy does is necessarily "good". Steve Dellinger also added that Center Point is about to begin a project that is going to move the natural gas line and he doesn't want to make a decision on this matter until it is done. Center Point gas line pro is supposed to begin in Shelbyville and make its way all the way to Henry County so it is a massive job. Steve Dellinger said that Center Point wanted to begin this at the beginning of 2023 and they do not plan for it to be complete before the end of the year. Steve Rust came forward to explain that there are many easements in this area and some of them haven't even been recorded. He added that his department is working on locating paperwork for all of the easements. Helen Steussy asked the commissioners how they felt about the "Meadow Project". Steve Dellinger answered that he didn't have a problem with anything that they were trying to do but other citizens of the county do and he has to represent everyone. Bobbi Plummer suggested that next time Healthy Communities wants to do anything like this, they obtain permission from the commissioners before applying for any grants or making any plans. Bobbi Plummer made a motion to table the "Meadow Project" until more information about the easements is obtained and Center Point completes the gas line project. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.

Pat Cronk came forward to voice her support for Healthy Communities of Henry County. She added that what they do does make a difference and thanked the commissioners for their consideration of the matter.

Corey Murphy requested to attend the next commissioners work session to discuss the RDC Plan Amendments for 2023. The Commissioners had no issue with this.

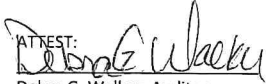
Bobbi Plummer made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Joe Wiley and carried 3-0.


Steve Dellinger, President


Joe Wiley, Vice President



Bobbi Plummer, Member

ATTEST:


Debra G. Walker, Auditor