

Meeting Minutes
Board of Commissioners
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 104
New Albany IN 47150
July 6, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Shawn Carruthers called the meeting to order and led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Present: President Shawn Carruthers, Vice President John Schellenberger and Tim Kamer

Also Present: Attorney Rick Fox, Assessor James Sinks, Councilman Brad Striegel, Councilman Dale Bagshaw, Councilwoman Denise Konkle, Councilwoman Connie Moon, Councilman Adam Roberts, Sheriff Frank Loop, Prosecutor Chris Lane and HR Director Michelle Portwood

Shawn Carruthers led a moment of silence for all affected by the Coronavirus.

New Business:

1. Community Corrections Board President-Evan Bardach

Evan Bardach stated on June 21, 2021 the Community Corrections Board voted by majority vote to remove Karen Bell as Director of Community Corrections with cause. As President of the board, Mr. Bardach asked the Commissioners to solidify the recommendation.

Motion to listen to the Boards recommendation to remove Karen Bell as Director of Floyd County Community Corrections. Moved by Tim Kamer. Seconded by John Schellenberger. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Director of Operations and Planning-Don Lopp

a. American Rescue Plan Guidance Plan

Don Lopp stated the American Rescue Plan Implementation Guidance Plan sets up the process and procedures for the use of the funds.

Motion to approve with unanimous consent FCO 2021-12 American Rescue Plan Implementation Guidance Plan. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

b. READI Project Update

Don Lopp stated the READI Project is with Our Southern Indiana. We already had in place the 2018 plan for the Corridor Improvement project for SR 62 and SR 64. The plan included water improvements, sanitary sewer improvements, expansion of Novaparke laboratory space and entrepreneurial space. Also, working with the Town of Georgetown on their Master Plan on the park behind Town Hall.

Motion to call for water projects. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

c. OCRA COVID grant close out documents

Don Lopp stated the close out documents are for OCRA project Food Pantry from April 2020 with HOPE Southern Indiana.

Motion to approve the close out documents for the final settlement and expedition report for the OCRA COVID Grant. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Novaparke Update

Don Lopp stated the Redevelopment Commission received bids for Phase 2, which includes the roadway and flyover of the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The bids have been sent to EDA for review. Once returned the bid will be approved. The low bid was E&B Paving at 6.4 million dollars. Another part of the project is the renovation of the first 2 buildings for entrepreneurial and classroom space. The bid came in at 1.1 million dollars and is being reviewed by Michell Allen Ritz.

e. Community Crossing Paving

Don Lopp stated the low bid was from Libs Paving at \$961,731.83 at which \$853,250.91 is for Community Crossings.

Motion to approve Libs Paving \$961,731.83. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

f. Crack Seal/Fog Seal Bid

Don Lopp stated the bid is from All Star Paving for \$611,960.58

Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

g. Traffic Signal for Highway 62 and Corydon Pike

Don Lopp stated they will be using Strand and Associates for the warrant. The contract is for \$6,000.00.

Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

h. Major Thoroughfare Plan Extension

Don Lopp asked for a time extension from June 30, 2021 to December 31, 2021 for the Major Thoroughfare Plan.

Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

i. Independent Contractor Agreement

Don Lopp stated Justin Tackett left last month but he is working remotely on a couple projects. He asked to pay him \$30.00 an hour on contract.

Motion to approve the contract for Justin Tackett. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

j. Accessible Playground Update

Roger Jeffers gave an update on the Accessible Playground. They have currently raised \$55,496.00. Shawn Carruthers thanked Mr. Jeffers for his time and efforts for the playground.

3. Floyd County Assessor-James Sinks

a. Opening of Bids for Reassessment

Assessor, James Sinks, presented the bids for Reassessment.

Tyler Technologies - \$725,796.00

Lexur Appraisal Services - \$681,000.00 with an optional bid at \$620,700.00

Motion to take under advisement. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Floyd County Commissioner-Tim Kamer

a. Fire District Committee Findings

Tim Kamer spoke on key topics of forming a fire district. The topics are the history of the formation of the fire subcommittee, the specific goals outlined by the subcommittee for a fire district, current service levels, reviewing potentially what a model could look like and lastly, the findings and recommendations.

He stated they collected 24 months of CAD data that comes through the Sheriff's office with response times of EMS and Fire against national standards. The Fire Departments' average response times for the County are below national standards.

He stated the consolidation of districts would not equate to a net negative head count.

John Schellenberger asked what it would cost the County in salaries. Tim Kamer stated that salaries have not been looked at yet.

Mr. Kamer stated, at the end of the day, there is an opportunity for Floyd County to have a unified Fire District. He thinks there is, but not right now. He thinks what we should have is the Fire Chiefs working together and then they come to the board to say they merged the best they can and think it is now time to form a Fire District.

Mike Moody stated that Franklin Township has a tax base that is 1/10 of Georgetown Township. It is not feasible to say that Franklin will have the same level of service as Georgetown. They do not have the revenue.

5. Floyd County Commissioner-Tim Kamer

a. Stormwater Presentation

Tim Kamer gave a presentation on fee restructuring as it relates to stormwater in Floyd County. He discussed options to cover lost revenue. He originally recommended to raise Stormwater fees to \$41.00 - \$42.00 but now that American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds can be used for lost revenue and Stormwater is allowable he changed his recommendation to keeping Stormwater rate at \$39.00.

John Schellenberger stated he feels using ARP funds is not appropriate since they would be creating a revenue loss to use the funds. He stated the funds should be used for projects. Shawn Carruthers stated there may not be a shortfall with the new houses being built. He is not in favor of raising the rates at this time.

Tim Kamer asked Rick Fox to put an ordinance together for the next meeting to vote. If approved, the next step would be to go to Council for approval and finalization.

6. Floyd County Merit Officer-Officer Cody Brewer

a. Floyd County Merit Officer's Contract

Cody Brewer, President of Floyd County Merit Officer Bargaining Committee, stated the Bargaining Committee worked with the County's appointed negotiating panel to reach terms for a 3-year contract for 2022-2025. They bargained for a pay increase of \$4,000.00 spread over the 3 years, an increase to the matched deferred compensation from the County in the

form of the current match is \$17.50 per pay to 50% at a maximum of \$50.00, and a pay compensation for Field Training Officers of approximately \$20.00 per day while they have a recruit in the car with them.

John Schellenberger and Shawn Carruthers stated they had not seen the contract and would like to review it. Shawn Carruthers asked Officer Brewer to come back to the next meeting after they had reviewed the contract.

7. Floyd County Dispatchers-Victoria Sanchez, Krystal Craig, Lisa Thompson

a. E911 Dispatcher Bargaining Unit Ratification

The Dispatchers asked to solidify the contract that was approved by the County Council. They are not asking for any changes from what they already have.

Motion to approve the E-911 Dispatch Bargaining Agreement. Moved by Tim Kamer. Seconded by John Schellenberger providing the contract stays the same. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Floyd County Engineer-Horacio Urieta

a. Highwater Road Culvert Replacement

Don Lopp stated the low bid was IDS for \$43,970.00

Motion to approve the IDS contract. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

9. County Attorney-Rick Fox

a. FCR 2021-07 Sheriff Surplus

Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Bridge 51

Rick Fox stated the Inter-Local Agreement with Board of Commissioners of Floyd County and the Town of Clarksville concerns Bridge 51, Blackiston Mill Bridge. There are 24 properties with issue for the project. Ten of the properties are in the Town of Clarksville and fourteen properties are either in New Albany, Floyd County or Clark County. There is a Resolution that approves the Inter-local Agreement and also have an Inter-local Cooperation agreement which is incorporated into the Resolution. The Resolution states Floyd County will manage the project and the Town of Clarksville will take care of the acquisition of the properties with regards to what needs to be done as a statutory standpoint. This is the test to make sure that everyone has agreed before they tackle Clark County and the City of New Albany to make the same agreement.

Motion to approve the Resolution approving the Inter-local Cooperation Agreement for Bridge 51. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Building Authority Lease

Rick Fox stated this is the First Amended Lease Contract by and between New Albany-Floyd County Building Authority and the Commissioners. The changes to the contract were to make it recordable.

Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Lafayette Township Fire Protection District Appointment - TABLED

Shawn Carruthers stated he just received another name and would like to review before voting.

- **Board & Committee Reports**

John Schellenberger attended the Building Authority Meeting reviewing their budget.

John Schellenberger attended the EMS Advisory meeting.

John Schellenberger and Charlotte Bass attended the Southeast Indiana Association of Counties.

John Schellenberger will be attending the IACC meeting.

John Schellenberger and Shawn Carruthers will be attending the RDA meeting.

- **Approval of the June 15, 2021 Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve. Moved by Tim Kamer. Seconded by John Schellenberger. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of Payroll and Claims**

Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

Elected Officials:

Connie Moon, County Council at Large and Franklin Township resident, stated all the recommendations she heard describes a county wide Fire department. She stated cross training from fire to EMS will increase the pay scale. She feels it is fiscally and service responsible and sounds like a combined Fire and EMS Protection District would be most responsible. She stated all departments do not use the same equipment so the comment about buying power is a moot point. She appreciates the mutual aid with Georgetown and Lanesville to help the area. She stated she has been involved with the Fire discussions since December but no one has reached out to her to discuss. She is a long-time resident and has many friends and relatives in Franklin Township and knows their mindset.

Sheriff, Frank Loop stated that in the first 5 months of holding everyone else's inmates the Sheriff's Department has brought in over \$250,000.00 to the General Fund.

Public:

Steven Byrd, resident of Franklin Township, stated what he keeps hearing is a Fire District which he is not in favor of a district. He feels the districts will argue among themselves. He is in favor of a County wide Fire Department.

Dan Voyles, Greenville Township, agrees with Mr. Byrd. He stated Franklin Township is getting the best of both worlds. They are getting service from other areas but are not paying increased taxes. He stated he was a member of the sub-committee but had no input on the information presented tonight. He recommends taking a serious look at it.

Charlie Moon, Franklin Township, stated the County has not done their due diligence. They road with City of Jeffersonville Fire Department but did not ride with any of Floyd County's Fire Departments.

Melissa Fry of Georgetown asked if they compared EMS times to just national figures or did they also compare to metro areas. She asked what the relationship between stormwater tax revenue and water treatment and the impact on the Ohio River.

John Schellenberger stated there is no connection.

She believes the County needs to support the farms including supporting lowering their impact on the water supply. She expressed her concern on new development and the strain it puts on stormwater.

Shawn Carruthers stated the new developments are a lot more prepared with water systems and ways. John Schellenberger stated that before new developments are built, they do runoff studies. The developers have to put in measures to handle the current runoff. The older subdivisions are the ones they are going back on to put in better grating.

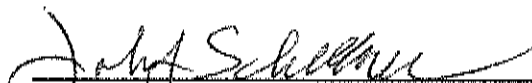
Dale Mann, Georgetown, stated the farms do not put off toxic runoff like a house does. He wished the Storm water Fee would have passed tonight and thanked Tim Kamer. He is happy with the Georgetown Fire District.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

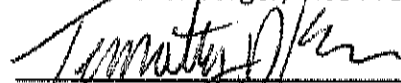
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



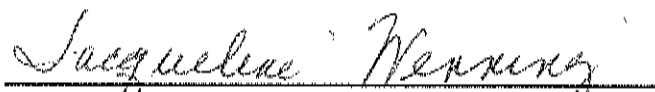
Shawn Carruthers, President



John Schellenberger, Vice President



Tim Kamer, Commissioner


Attest: Jacqueline Wenning, Auditor