

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**2524 Corydon Pike Suite 104**  
**New Albany IN 47150**  
**December 17, 2024**  
**6:00 P.M**

**Al Knable called the meeting to order and led the *Pledge of Allegiance***

**Present:** President, Al Knable; Vice President, John Schellenberger and Jason Sharp

**Also Present:** Attorney, Kristi Fox; Auditor, Diana Topping; Chief Deputy Auditor, Gloria Jones and Councilman, Dale Bagshaw

Al Knable led a moment of silence for prayer, meditation or reflection

**New Business:**

**1. Director of Highway & Public Works & County Engineer-Horacio Urieta**

a. Annual Bid Approval

**Motion to approve the recommendation of Horacio Urieta. Moved by John Schellenberger.**

**Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

b. FCO 2024-31 Brush College Road-Stop Sign - TABLED

Horacio Urieta said there have been complaints from people traveling Brush College Road. When they get to Scenic Valley there is a stop sign for Brush College Road but not Scenic Valley so they have problems getting out to the light. Installing a stop sign on Scenic Valley at the intersection of Brush College would prevent the problem.

**Motion to approve, with unanimous consent, FCO 2024-31 Brush College Road Stop Sign.**

**Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion did not pass, 2-1. Al Knable asked to put on the next agenda for public comment.**

**2. IT Director-Gary Bierman-TABLED**

a. Spectrum Contract

**3. Mainstream Fiber Network-Shawn Gardner**

a. Broadband Update

Mr. Gardner presented an updated map from the last meeting to show unserved, underserved and existing network areas. They are waiting on additional funding but are waiting on NTIA.

**4. Community Correction-Daraius Randelia**

a. FCO 2024-32 Caesar Foundation Grant – FCCC Fund #9158

**Motion to approve, with unanimous consent, FCO 2024-32 Caesar Foundation Grant-FCCC Fund 9158. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by John Schellenberger. Motion passed unanimously.**

**5. Director of Operations and Planning-Don Lopp**

a. ML Reisz Office Quote

Don Lopp said they requested 3 quotes and received 2 back. McRae Enterprises returned a quote for \$24,488.62. Upton Pry quote was for \$23,447.00. Michell Allen Ritz reviewed the quotes and recommended Upton Pry.

**Motion to approve Upton Pry. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

b. Approval of Change Order N. Tucker

Don Lopp said the change order is for \$5,420.00

**Motion to approve change order for North Tucker Road. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

c. TowerPinkster Contract

Don Lopp said the contract is from the IUS portion of the Novaparke Building 5 for Architect Services. Some additional scope for space programming for the classroom and Flex Lab. They went from 2 labs to a larger one. The cost is \$18,100.00 through the redevelopment commission using TIF funds.

**Motion to approve Tower Pinkster Contract. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

Al Knable thanked Don Lopp for his work over the last 20 years. Mr. Lopp said he attended 480 Commissioner Meetings and it has been a pleasure working with the Commissioners and in the County.

## **6. County Attorney-Kristi Fox**

a. Attorney Contract

Kristi Fox said the 2025 contract is for Rick and/or Kristi Fox.

**Motion to approve. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by John Schellenberger. Motion passed unanimously.**

b. Contract Employee-Contract

Kristi Fox said the contract is for Stan Heil. Al Knable said, for the record, that both parties have a 15 day out notice.

**Motion to approve. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by Al Knable. Motion passed 2-1. John Schellenberger opposed.**

Mr. Schellenberger said the rate of \$120.00 an hour is too high and should be \$55.00-\$60.00 per hour.

c. Joint Letter of Understanding for 3317 Grant Line Road

**Motion to approve Attorney, Kristi Fox to draft the joint letter and allow Dr. Knable to sign outside of the meeting. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

- New Albany Township Fire Board Appointment

**Motion to approve retired Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Gipe for the New Albany Township Fire Board. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by Al Knable. Motion passed 2-1. John Schellenberger opposed.**

John Schellenberger said they had two other people more qualified with fire experience. It seems to him that they are going with the good old boy network.

Al Knable said the attorney's interpretation of the statute and she said Mr. Gipes appointment is within the bounds of the statute. He also looked at the custom that the commissioners have taken over the last several years is within of that. Mr. Gipe has fire experience more so than some of the people who sit on our boards with regards to being a fighter pilot.

Jason Sharp said he thinks Mr. Gipe is extremely qualified, not only from his fire suppression knowledge but also his understanding of leadership of running a squadron of Marines.

- Building Authority Appointments

**Motion to reappoint Bill Fender. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by John Schellenberger.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to appoint Nicholas Vaughn, Sr. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by John Schellenberger. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Approval of the Commissioners Meeting Minutes for December 3, 2024

**Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Approval of Payroll and Claims

**Motion to approve. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

### Comments

Dale Bagshaw thanked John Schellenberger for his service to the County. It has been an honor working with him.

Auditor, Diana Topping, said the county processed settlement on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Fall settlement has never been processed that early. She thanked the Commissioners for approving the transition of the new financial and tax systems with Low Associates.

### Board and Committee Reports

#### **John Schellenberger**

- 12/6 - attended the RDA Meeting where over \$2M was announced for the renovation of the Edwardsville School
- 12/13 - attended the JRAC; Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council awarding of grants totaling \$280,000 in opioid settlement funds to six different organizations. Recipients include Brandon's House, The Breakaway, Friends of Open Door Youth Services, Inc., Genesis House, Jacob's Well, Inc. and Kerith Family Recovery.
- 12/12 - attended the celebration of the new Edwardsville Water Company 1M gallon above ground storage facility that is replacing the 125K tank that was installed in 1979. This facility will handle the water needs for the next 40 years.
- 12/16 - met with Clark County Commissioners to discuss the Clark Floyd Landfill and its operation.

#### **Jason Sharp**

- 12/4-5 – attended the Indiana Association of County Commissioners Conference. He attended several meetings and met several Commissioners throughout the state.
- 12/7 – attended Christmas in the County at Novaparke.
- 12/9 – attended Floyd County Planning meeting. He and Commissioner Knable was invited to the Franklin Township Advisory Board meeting and had the opportunity to recognize Harlan Heinz who has been maintaining a cemetery in Franklin Township for 60 years.

#### **Al Knable**

- 12/4 - met with Dale Davis, Buildig Rep from Indianapolis. They were doing some final evaluation of the County Building and Chase Building
- 12/5 – met with Congresswoman Houchin about some issues both regionally and locally.

- 12/7 – attended Christmas at Novaparke
- 12/11 – one on one meeting with Commissioner elect Drew Story from Jackson County to start talking about some potential areas of cooperation between Floyd and Jackson Counties.
- 12/12 – attended the celebration of the Edwardsville Water Tower
- 12/12 – attended ribbon cutting of Two Maids

**Public Comment:**

Dale Mann, Georgetown, thanked John Schellenberger for his service. He said now that there are all the new subdivisions there are more people walking on the road at night in dark clothing.

Al Knable presented John Schellenberger with a service award. He respects Mr. Schellenberger's candor and passion on everything every meeting. He has been honest, passionate and dedicated.

**Next Commissioners Meeting:**

Tuesday, January 7, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

**Closing Comments**


John Schellenberger gave a quote. "All of us light up a room. Some when they enter and others when they leave."

Jason Sharp said he and John have not always agreed but there is no doubt in his mind of how much he loves the community. He thanked him for his service.

**Motion to adjourn. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**

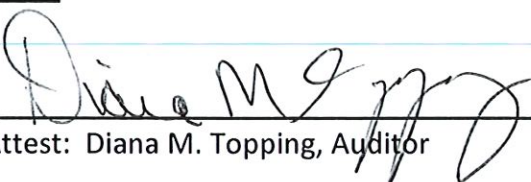
Approved on January 7, 2025

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
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 Al Knable

  
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 Jason Sharp

  
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 Frank Loop

  
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 Attest: Diana M. Topping, Auditor