

## Randolph County Commissioners

January 4, 2021

The Randolph County Commissioners met at their regular meeting at 9:00AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Michael Wickersham, Tom Chalfant and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura J Martin and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

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Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

### Selection of officers

Gary Girton said I would like to nominate Mike Wickersham for president of the Board of Commissioner's. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary nominated Tom Chalfant as vice president of the Board of Commissioner's. Mike seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### Scott Creech – Riverstart Solar Park amended road use agreement

Scott said I am a substitute for Chris Beasley, I have been with EDPR for a month now. He talked with Tom this morning.

Tom said he sent us a new map, he said you would explain that to us.

Scott said to make it easier to do the project, there were several roads that we had wanted to be one way and we will continue to do one way for loaded trucks, but for light vehicle traffic we need an easier access to get back to our lay down yard and we have asked to make some of those roads two way. On 850 S we have asked to take the empty trucks on it over to the next north/south road to get back to highway 36. That would be only empty trucks. The bond would be increased \$50,000.00 per mile to a total of \$950,000.00 and we are also needing to improve a couple of corners, these will be temporary improvements to be able to get the big trucks to make the turns, come in and fill in the ditch in the county right a way and then at the end of the project all that will be returned back to its natural state.

Mike said is the list of roads that we are going to make two way, are these identified with all the darkened roads on this map, they are now going to be two way?

Scott said let me hand some of these out. The addition of the yellow triangles, showing the two directional traffic. The yellow triangles signify the two-way traffic and then at the bottom the big red line with the red triangle signify where we want to run the empty trucks back up to highway 36. We need that for the ease of building the project, if we didn't put those in there,

when a guy needed to come back to the lay down yard, he would have to go all the way back out to the west and then come back down to 36. Also, when building the substation, this map was created by the general contractor that is going to do the solar part of the job but the guys building the substation got to bring in that big equipment and that is about the only acceptable way for those big trucks to go. That transformer truck will probably have 120 tires on it, it needs a way to get in safely and that is where a couple of the corner improvements will be also.

Mike asked where is the substation going on this map you just gave us?

Scott said right where it says upgrade corner and then to the west there that corner is going to have to be upgraded too. We are working with Frontier right now to remove a pole and bury some lines to allow that to happen.

Mike said do you have an amended agreement to add the new maps?

Scott said just the exhibits.

Mike said we just need to agree to add the new maps?

Meeks said yes.

Mike asked Mike Haffner, do you have any thoughts on this?

Mike Haffner said yes. The intersection improvement on 850 S/300 W, again I was supposed to meet out at that intersection but my father passed away so I wasn't able to attend. The stop sign at that intersection, we are going to have to come up with a game plan. I've got to submit that to INDOT because right now the stop sign is already to the extreme edge of legal. If I move it any farther it won't be a legal stop sign. I will need a temporary variance or something or we might have to come up with a game plan is we move that stop sign out anymore. I just wanted to let you guys know that everything is going smooth but I might need to do a little bit of information on what we legally can do, so if there is a problem.

Mike said we need a temporary variance at that corner for a replacement stop sign, I'm sure.

Scott said we will work with you.

Mike Haffner said yes, I didn't have the opportunity to be at that meeting to get that done and I just wanted to inform the Commissioners that we may need to do a little work there, but it will be very minor, an easy fix.

Mike said that is a two way stop, would that me on 850 heading east, is that where it needs changed?

Scott said it is the corner, here on the map.

Mike Haffner said it is 850/300.

Mike said is that a two way stop?

Mike Haffner said the one noted to me is at 850 S and 300 W.

Mike said heading east or heading west?

Mike Haffner said I don't know until they tell me what they are wanting to do. I would say that it would be the one heading west.

Tom made a motion to amend the road use agreements to reflect the additions of the exhibits as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Other Business:**

**Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

Sheriff not here.

**Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Claim \$5076.80**

Mike said this claim is for our 2021 dues, which have been discounted by 50% and these are being paid from EDIT.

Gary made a motion to approve the Eastern Indiana Regional Planning claim as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**The News-Gazette Claim \$664.36**

Mike said the News-Gazette claim is actually two claims for a total of \$664.36 and this is for legals for the Communications project.

Gary made a motion to approve the News-Gazette claim as presented. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Group Insurance Claim \$500,000.00**

Mike made a motion to approve the Group Insurance claim as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Low Associated Claim \$38,110.00**

Mike said this is for our property tax/finance software.

Gary made a motion to approve the Low Associates claim as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Covid-19 Clinic Contract Employee Claims \$4,246.75**

Mike said this is for 5 contracts employees at the Covid test clinic.

Tom made a motion to approve this claim as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Salyer-Taylor Claim \$27,989.10**

Mike said this Salyer-Taylor claim is the bill less the retainage of \$31,099.00 for the boiler heat repairs, if you recall we approved that project to assist the boiler during windy days.

Tom made a motion to approve this claim. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Salyer-Taylor Claim \$171,689.20**

Mike said this claim is for the contract retainage, which would mean this contract is complete, fully paid for and we have fully accepted the HVAC system and that is on the recommendation of Jake Donham, I think they went through that several weeks ago.

Gary said we have an issue a week or so ago, where something had to be changed because it was incorrectly done. Has that been completed?

Mike said as far as I know from Jake it has.

Gary said did they come in and change that?

Mike said as I understand it he did and his comment was that we should not pay for that. If you want to discuss that with Jake, we can hold this until our next meeting because we just got these this morning. I am okay with tabling it to next meeting.

### **Minutes of September 21, 2020**

Gary made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Meeks Conflict of interest**

Mike said we received a copy of this via email and it looks to be in order.

Tom made a motion to approve the conflict of interest for Meeks Cockerill as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Cobalt Civil Contract**

Mike said this is for the civil engineering and ground moving for our Communication towers and the broadband towers.

Gary said the contract is but what they have done is just on the excavating for the three safety towers.

Mike said 4.2 alternatives is \$73,944.00 and that is for broadband sites.

Gary said that should not be paid.

Mike said it would bind us to doing that should we sign this contract. We are not certain we are going to build those yet, are we not?

Gary said not the 4 broadband.

Mike said they are included in this contract, so I am not certain we can sign it in this form. Unless someone has a different thought about it, I would propose we separate the Communication towers from the broadband towers and just enter a contract for the communication towers. Should it be an issue, we may have to rebid or renegotiate, I suppose we would have to rebid the broadband towers when that time comes but I don't think we are ready to move forward with the broadband towers. We don't have anybody from Pyramid here and Chris is not here, so we are going to have to reach out to Pyramid and tell them that's what we have decided to do and see where that takes us. Unless I'm reading this contract wrong.

Meeks said you are not. If you just want the site work then that contract needs to be amended.

Gary said the site work for the three safety towers is basically done except for the dressing it up.

Tom said can that be extracted from the contract pretty easily?

Mike said alternatives for the broadband sites is \$19,486.00. These are different, one is for fencing and one is for cellular. The alternate broadband sites are for \$73,000.00. The fencing for those four broadband sites is \$19,000.00. I think we need more explanation on these for one thing. I would recommend we table these until our next meeting and have somebody from Pyramid and somebody from Economic development here, unless you feel comfortable representing the technology committee. I'm okay with that but tell us why we need to sign a contract for the four broadband sites now.

Gary said I think that is appropriate.

Mike said then we will table that to our next meeting.

### **Commissioner Appointments**

Mike said the first appointment that we need to make is to the Airport Board and we have one appointee, Bill Richmond, who's term expired at the end of December and Bill has agreed to serve another four-year term.

Tom made a motion to appoint Bill Richmond to the airport board. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I didn't know if there was a way we could stream line this.

Meeks said you could read them all off.

Mike said and then vote one time?

Meeks said yes.

Mike said the next appointment is the Airport Manager, Eric Livingston. Any comments, questions, are we okay with that one? The next is the Alcoholic Beverage Commission Board and Chris Lay is our current representative and Chris has indicated a desire to continue, so unless there is an objection we will move on. The next is a Commissioner representative on the Area Planning Commission, Gary is serving us in that roll now, does anyone else want to serve in that roll.

Tom said I talked to Gary and mentioned that I would be willing to serve in that roll.

Mike said is that okay with you Gary?

Gary said this is for four years, I would like to see it done for one year and see how things work.

Mike said the Commissioner appointment would be an annual appointment anyway.

Gary said okay.

Mike said the next one is the Area Planning Board citizen, that is Don Calhoun and it does not expire. Our Building Maintenance Supervisor, Jake Donham. Our Building Commissioner/Area Planning Director, Randy Abel. It looks like we have an expiring term for our BZA Board citizen member, currently our two citizen members are Myron Cougill, whose term expired last month and John Peacock's term expires the end of this year.

Tom said I would like to make a change, Myron served eight years and we've been very happy, but I would like to put forth the name of Drew Cleveland, he lives on highway 1 south of Farmland. I have known Drew for 20 some years, he is a Farm Bureau field rep and is very well versed in land issues. I think he could do a good job for us.

Mike said I asked them question last meeting, whether we could appoint another member of the Area Plan Commission to the BZA, are there any restrictions there as far as a citizen member?

Meeks said I don't think there are any restrictions as far as a citizen.

Mike said I know the Area Planning Commission will have an appointment to the board of zoning appeals and we have two appointments, I am not sure where the rest of them come from, the City of Winchester?

Tom said the mayor has three, council has one, we have one and APC has two.

Mike said we have two.

Meeks said I will look it up right now.

Mike said let's move on from that one at this point in time. Community Corrections Board, I am serving there now, does anybody else have a desire to serve on that board. Community and Family Service, Ann Marie Browne is serving that roll for us. Computer Committee is the

president of Commissioner's, president of Council, IT personnel, Auditor and Treasurer. County Attorney is Meeks Cockerill. I am currently serving on the Randolph County United, Economic Development Board as a Commissioner, does anyone else want to serve on that board? I am currently serving as the Eastern Engineering Regional Planning Commission appointee and I will continue that position. Emergency management/911 director is Chris Shaneyfelt. Emergency management advisory board is Gary Girton. Emergency Management District 6 Planning Council is Jennifer Hendrickson. Emergency Management District Planning Oversight Committee is Mike Wickersham and I am not sure how I got into that slot, but I would recommend Gary that you fill that roll since you are on the advisory board.

Gary said what is it, I am not familiar with it.

Mike said it's a district meeting that goes beyond our county, its Emergency Management District that is headed up by Delaware County, they have quarterly meetings or semi-annual meetings.

Gary said I would be notified through Chris?

Mike said yes, are you okay to serve in that roll.

Gary said I can.

Mike said Emergency Medical Service Director is Dianna Sutliff. 4-H Inc. and Extension is Tom Chalfant, I assume you want to continue in that role? Grievance complaints is the president of the Commissioners. Health Department director is Kenneth Sowinski. Health Department Board we have, it looks like we have a vacancy and two that have expired, is that correct?

Laura said I see that, the two that are expiring, Shirley would like to stay on, they have contacted both, they have not heard back from Rick.

Mike said we will leave Rick as a reappointment, he hasn't indicated that he doesn't want to serve. This shows you only have six members are you aware of that.

Sherry Thompson said no sir, I am just coming into this position.

Mike said if I read these names off, you wouldn't be able to know the seventh one that is missing?

Sherry said maybe.

Mike said it is Wendy Winningham, Rick Fisher, Shirley Small, Phil Howell, Joe Edmonds and Samantha Morris.

Sherry said there is Kelly Campbell.

Mike said thank you.

Mike said Highway Supervisor, Mike Haffner. Highway Office Administrator, Jessica Cheesman. Insurance committee, Gary Girton. Internal Controls Oversight Committee, Commissioner president, Council president, Auditor, Clerk and treasurer plus one member. Do you know who that one member is?

Laura said I do not.

Mike said the L&M Regional water board, Lorra Dee Jessup, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Gary Girton. Personnel committee, Gary Girton. Here again Randolph County Central Dispatch, which is emergency planning and E911, I'm not sure why I'm in that role and why you wouldn't be Gary. Considering your involvement with the communications project, I would think that it be best that you serve in that role.

Gary said okay.

Mike said Randolph County Redevelopment Commission, Brody Tarter, Greg Cheesman, Dallas Osting and Kate Thornburg.

Laura said Kate is no longer on there, it is Jentry Flesher.

Mike said Jentry Flesher replaced Kate Thornburg, Regional 6 Executive Council that's the Work One local elected officials board, if it is okay with you guys I will continue to serve there. Solid Waste, that is the three of us, which we meet at 1:00 pm today. That brings us to Tourism Board, we have two members terms expired last month, Marla Threewits and Ruth Zicht and we have heard from Scotty Harvey the Tourism Director that both would like to continue to serve. Veteran's Officer, right now we have an interim officer Cathy Shull.

Tom said there was a question as to when to change her pay.

Mike said I think we decided to change it while she was working on getting certified, I would say if it hasn't changed, I would change it today.

Laura said okay.

Mike said libraries, Washington and Winchester should be updated on here. Ilona Cockerill for Winchester and is it Marci Nicholson for Washington?

Laura said yes.

Gary said did we approve those earlier?

Laura said you did, I just didn't change it on this list.

Mike said we are down to our liaisons. Airport is myself, Jail and 911 is me again, would you like to take that on Gary?



Gary said no, you can do it.

Mike said I'm the Health Department, Tom is the Highway Department, I am the Courthouse and Community Corrections buildings, Gary you are the RCFFO building, Tom your Soil and Water, I am Winchester, Gary is Union City, I am Farmland, Gary is Lynn, Gary is Saratoga, Tom is Parker, Modoc and Losantville, I am Ridgeville and Tom is Albany. Which brings us to the question of the BZA, what did you find out?

Meeks said how many are on the BZA right now?

Mike said 7.

Meeks said it says the board consist of seven members as follows, two citizen members appointed by the Area Planning Commission, from its membership, one who must be a municipal representative, three citizens who may not be members of any planning commission appointed by the executive of the largest municipality in the county, however if there are more than two municipalities, it does other stuff, which leads us to number three, two citizen members who may not be members of any planning commission appointed by the county legislative body. So, when you go under the three citizen members appointed by the largest municipality, the executive of the largest municipality shall appoint two citizen members and the second largest one citizen member. It doesn't show me anywhere for the BZA.

Mike said that answer's the question if two citizen members on the BZA come from the Area Plan Commission, if we have an appointment, I don't think it would be appropriate for us to appoint another one from the Area Planning Commission. Which leads us to presuming we have a right to appoint a citizen board member, which we have been doing for at least 8 years, I am going to trust that we have not been doing the wrong thing for eight years, we have one appointment up now and Tom has recommended changing from Myron Cougill, who I think Randy has indicated that Myron was a good member, which you indicated and I think he said he wanted to serve another 4-years. We also have a new opportunity with Drew Cleveland. I have known Drew in the past and he seems to be a pretty good guy. I am always interested in bringing more people into more public service and if Drew is willing to serve, I don't have a problem following Tom's recommendation and putting Drew on there.

Meeks said is this for the APC Board?

Mike said this is for the BZA Board. Are Area Planning citizen appointment being Don Calhoun, which his doesn't expire until 2023. What is your thoughts Gary?

Gary said we have that authority according to what Meeks said.

Meeks said I am going to have to do more research and let you know.

Gary said I think we leave that blank and find out.

Mike said the only problem with that is, if they meet this month then that blank could create many problems.

Gary said I agree.

Mike said I think they meet the third Tuesday. Which we would meet again before that Tuesday.

Tom said we meet that morning.

Mike said is Monday a holiday?

Gary said we meet on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Meeks said further if there are no Cities that have more than 20,000 people, then the three members appointed under this subsection shall be appointed as follows. One member from the County Executive, one member from the County Council and one member appointed by the legislative bodies of those towns participating in the commission.

Mike said you are under the gun here, why don't we give you a couple weeks to figure that out for us. We have made all the appointments and we have a recommendation to table the BZA appointment until our next meeting so, I would entertain a motion to approve the appointments made this morning except for the BZA Board/citizen member.

Tom made a motion to approve the appointments made except for the BZA Board/citizen member. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Alcohol Beverage Board letter**

Mike said part of our appointment process with appointing Chris Lay to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission Board, Chris has indicated that he needs a letter indicating that appointment for the State Alcohol Beverage Board. We have that.

**APC appointment**

Mike said we appointed Tom Chalfant to the Area Planning Commission.

**BZA appointment**

Mike said we tabled this appointment.

**Additional Appropriations:**

**General**

New phones – Taylored Systems	\$103,685.11
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Gary made a motion to approve the additional appropriation for the new phone system as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**EDIT**

Lifestream	\$650.00
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Covid-19 Expenses	\$210,000.00
Economic Development	-\$48,000.00
YMCA – Camp Slingshot	\$30,000.00
Achieva	\$5,000.00
RC Expenses	\$66,506.00
Eastern Indiana Planning	-\$2,577.20

Gary made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the EDIT fund as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**E-911**

Telecommunicator	\$32,076.00
Group Insurance	\$13,950.00

Gary made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the E-911 as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Co Sales Disclosure**

Training/Schooling	\$5,000.00
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Tom made a motion to approve the additional appropriation for the Co. Sales Disclosure fund as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Pub Safety – LIT**

Sheriff Retirement	\$143,500.00
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Gary made a motion to approve the additional appropriation to the Public Safety LIT fund as presented. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**1176 – Highway**

New Emulsion Tank	\$25,000.00
New Emulsion Tank	\$25,000.00

Tom made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the Highway as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Supplemental Adult Probation**

Adult/Juv Prob Officer	\$1336.00
Secretary	\$667.00
Chief Juv/Prob Officer	\$1436.00
Adult Prob Officer	\$1336.00
Social Security	\$296.00
Perf	\$535.00
Medicare	\$69.00

Tom made a motion to approve the additional appropriation for the probation department as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Windfarm**

Winchester Housing Project	\$150,000.00
Hand Holds for conduit	\$21,000.00

Gary made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the windfarm fund as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Tom Chalfant - Enterprise Leasing**

Tom asked do we want to do anything regarding the Enterprise Leasing?

Mike said the impression I got, unless we transferred a whole bunch of vehicles we wouldn't save much money. I also got the impression that the Highway Department wasn't in favor of really leasing vehicles. Is that correct Mike?

Mike Haffner said that is correct.

Mike said the Sheriff wasn't interested in it either, so I don't have a real desire to do that.

**Gary Girton – Airport monthly report**

Gary said why do we not receive an airport report monthly like we used to?

Mike said I raised that issue at our last airport board meeting with the president and the treasurer and those should be forth coming starting this month again, along with the minutes. Why we stopped getting them, I can't answer that question.

**Mike Wickersham – EMS Medicare report**

Mike said I've got one other item; did you get an email from our EMS Medicare representative? I got an email and she's asking me to sign a letter and I didn't know if you received that as well.

Laura said I don't remember seeing that email, no.

Mike said it is the acceptance of their proposal and I am not sure how soon I need to sign that. I will talk to Duane about that and see where it takes us.

**Randolph County Sheriff, Art Moystner**

Art said the only think I need to bring up is I sent an email this morning that included the commissary report for the year ending 2020, I am required to provide to you guys and the Council. The other thing I would tell you is January 6<sup>th</sup>, which is Wednesday, I am supposed to go to Indianapolis to test the door control system for the new security system and that is supposed to be installed later this month if everything goes smooth.

Mike said do we need to approve the Commissary report.

Art said you just need to accept it.

Mike said we will put that on the agenda for our next meeting.

Gary said where are you at with the scanner, are you training?

Art said the body scanner is up and running, they were trained December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Mike Wickersham**

Mike said this is an agreement between Randolph County EMS and the State of Indiana for its 2018 governmental ambulance payment adjustment and they are asking for my signature on behalf of the county indicate that we had charges of \$73.77 and payments of \$1982.00, Medicaid ambulance costs \$11,250.00, payments of \$9268.00. Ambulance payment, the state's share is \$2592.41. If Duane recommends that I sign this, I would ask for authorization to sign this and send it back to Social Services of Indiana Administration.

Tom made a motion to give Mike Wickersham authority to sign this. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Citizen Comments**

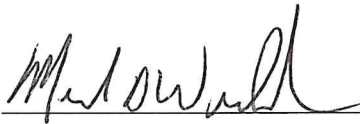
None

**Adjournment**

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Mike seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Reviewed and signed this 1 day of March, 2021.

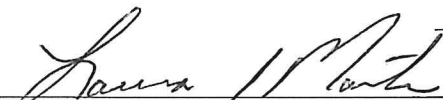
RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
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ATTEST:

  
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Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County