

Minutes
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COUNCIL
June 10, 2024
9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Kelly Carlson and seconded by Dale White to approve the minutes of the May 2nd and May 13th, 2024 meetings as presented.

Vote: 7-0

Report of Collections – as submitted

A motion was made by Jim McKee and seconded by Tom Booe to acknowledge the Report of Collections for the Ambulance, Clerk, and Sheriff for May.

Vote: 7-0

Review and Acknowledge Treasurer's Bank Reconciliation & Monthly Comparison Report

A motion was made by Kelly Carlson and seconded by Jeff Fishero to acknowledge the Treasurer's Bank Reconciliation for May 2024 along with the Monthly Fund Comparison Report.

Vote: 7-0

Review & Acknowledge Clerk's Monthly Report for April 2024

A motion was made by Denise Crowder and seconded by Kelly Carlson to acknowledge the Clerk's Monthly Report for April, 2024.

Vote: 7-0

Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Communications Department

The agreement was signed by the Warren County Commissioners and Council. The Fountain County Commissioners signed it at their June 3rd meeting. Kelly Carlson believes this should have been amended and increased to reflect the increase of expenses. Dudley explained that Fountain County had paid 2/3 and Warren County paid 1/3 in the past but have now went to a flat fee of \$325,000.00 for Warren County. For 2023, \$370,000 would have been half. This does not include the new equipment. Dana stated that she had contacted Warren County regarding Caliber and new equipment, but had not heard anything back at this time.

A motion was made by Jim McKee and seconded by Jeff Fishero to put it on the floor and put it to a vote as to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Communications Department with Warren County, which will expire on April 30, 2025.

Vote: 0-7

Additional Appropriation

Hearing Opened at 9:12 a.m.

Public Comment:

The additional for the Plan Commission was discussed. Kelly Carlson wanted to know why there was \$15,000 for Plan Commission. This was for Roger Azar. Colleen will be billing Dolphin Solar this week. When they reimburse Fountain County, it will be put into County General. Roger Azar billed Fountain County for Sweet Pea, but they haven't applied for a permit. They will need to bill Roger Azar directly.

Consulting fees of \$45,000 is for the Financial plan.

Computer Maintenance is for Keller PC yearly contract.

Sarah Duensing wanted to know if detailed listing is given by Paws & Claws.

Denise wanted to know the breakdown on the additional for the Ambulance.

Garth stated the \$15,000 it was for repairs on the trucks. The \$5,600 is for

NSure. They help with billing. He stated he is collecting more using this company.
The Council would also like the permit fees increased.
Kelly Carlson wanted to know if the MVH additional is the increase in salary. Colleen stated that in 2023 the Paws & Claws contract was \$35,000.00. \$33,000.00 was appropriated but an additional was requested for \$2,000.00. The contract for 2024 is roughly \$42,000.00, but it was budgeted for \$35,000.00. Dale White stated at the Community Foundation, he manages a lot of donations that come in and he forwards those on to Paws & Claws. Dale stated they may need the additional due to their income being less due to operating on private donations and contracts.
Kelly wanted to know if the County was required to have a contract with Paws & Claws. Taylor Powell stated he did not think it was required. Denise felt like they need an explanation on the increase.

Hearing Closed at 9:32 a.m.

**Resolution 2024-8
County General
Ambulance**

1000-0301-22000	Office Supplies	\$5,600.00
1000-0301-33650	Equipment Repair	\$15,000.00

Radio Dispatch	Computer Software	\$5,040.00
1000-0303-43100		

A motion was made by Tom Booe and seconded by Dale White to approve the additional in the amount of \$25,640.00.

Vote: 7-0

**Resolution 2024-11
Plan Commission
1000-0079-33250**

Consulting Fees	\$15,000.00
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A motion was made by Denise Crowder and seconded by Jim McKee to put the Plan Commission additional on the floor to approve the additional in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Vote 0-5

Dale White and Kelly Carlson Abstained

Resolution 2024-9

CEDIT – Commissioners	Consulting Fees	\$45,000.00
1112-0068-33250		

Cumulative Capital Development	Computer Maint	\$12,000.00
1138-0068-33100		

A motion was made by Dale White and seconded by Denise Crowder to approve the additional in the amount of \$57,000.

Vote: 7-0

Resolution 2024-12 - TABLED		
1112-0068-33130	Paws & Claws	\$ 9,000.00

A motion was made by Denise Crowder and seconded by Kelly Carlson to table the additional \$9,000 until more information is received.

Vote: 7-0

Resolution 2024-10

MVH Restricted		
1173-0000-44945	Co Match Grant	\$500,000.00
1173-0000-10308	Laborers	\$9,500.00

Cum Bridge		
1135-0000-10306	Bridge Crew	\$3,500.00
1135-0000-10207	Asst Supervisor	\$15,500.00

MVH		
1176-0530-10104	Supervisor	\$9,000.00
1176-0531-10308	Laborers	\$89,030.00
1176-0533-10208	Shop Foreman	\$2,500.00
1176-0533-10309	Mechanics	\$6,000.00

A motion was made by Jeff Fishero and seconded by Tom Booe to approve the additional in the amount of \$635,030.

Vote: 7-0

Transfers
MVH

From: 1176-0533-22041 Other Garage & Motor
To: 1176-0533-23650 Radio Repairs \$61.72

A motion was made by Denise Crowder and seconded by Kelly Carlson to approve the above transfer in the amount of \$61.72.

Vote: 7-0

Discussion

Received requests for the following additional appropriations.

County General Election Board		
1000-0062-33130	Contractual Svsc.	\$22,000

Radio Dispatch		
1000-0303-14000	Overtime	\$10,000

Non-Reverting E-911		
1223-0000-15000	Holiday Pay	\$1,800

Invoices

Invoice #202203 Ritter Strategic Services \$1,950
It was for PSAP Interlocal Agreement and SOP update.

Approval to pay out of appropriation of Council’s preference.

A motion was made by Jim McKee and seconded by Denise Crowder to pay these expenses from the County Council’s budget. Vote: 7-0

Sarah Duensing asked about paper ballots and how much they would cost. Dudley informed her that the State has to approve it and they have not approved paper ballots at this time.

Invoice #1	Envoy	\$143,938.40
Job #239018		

Aaron Fruits said he contacted Envoy and requested information. The Council would like a more itemized bill regarding the charges from Envoy. There was \$80,000 for architectural fees, \$17,500 in facility condition assessment for Annex, \$26,438 in preconstruction and predevelopment services, \$20,000 charge for legal fees. Colleen emailed Justin Nicol from

Envoy and requested a break down on the legal fees and was told it was part of the package. Kelly Carlson said she was concerned due to a remaining contractual dollar amount. The Council had voted not to pay. The Council had told Envoy they are not moving forward. Taylor Powell is going to review the contract with Envoy to see options. Sarah Duensing said that if the bill isn't paid, the County will still have leverage. Dudley recommended not paying this bill. The Council had told the Commissioners and Envoy they needed all bills by May 31. Dale White wanted to know if the Council had expressed their wants regarding the itemized bill.

Jeff Fishero stated that Roger Azar had said he would help with the Highway Building to save the county money. Tom Booe said the Council, the Commissioners, and the Architects are not on the same page. He said the Council was not informed until a bill was received. Dudley thought the 1.6 million dollars stated by the Commissioners was for renovating the entire annex. Kelly Carlson stated this is a problem they keep running into. The Commissioner's sign a contract with no way to pay. She said the level of trust is very little. Denise Crowder said she would like itemization and date of each service. Dudley Cruea said Andrew Hall contacted him with a drawing and figures for the Annex, which were about 1-1½ million. The breakdown from Andrew was done and emailed on November 8, 2021. This was between 350,000 and 450,000. This would be initial repairs \$50,000, 911 Coroner Renovation \$200,000, EMA Renovations \$25,000, Meeting Room Renovation \$50,000, IT \$100,000. Total investment would be 800,000 to 900,000. Prior to that it was \$35,000 for the Community Room. Dudley said the State Board of Accounts stated that if the Commissioner's sign a contract that the Council does not fund, it is null and void. If this work was done prior to the date the Council had stated, they feel as though they should pay. Kelly said she wished the Commissioners would have come to the Council and discussed using all three floors at the Annex. They are requesting an itemized bill with dates also. Dale would like to specify what we would like Envoy to provide.

A motion was made by Tom Booe and seconded by Kelly Carlson to table this invoice payment until an itemized bill has been sent to the council.

Vote 7-0

Soil & Water – Letter of Support – Big Shawnee Watershed

A motion was made by Denise Crowder and seconded by Kelly Carlson to approve the letter of support for the Big Shawnee Watershed.

Vote: 7-0

WEGA – Rod Bannon

Rod Bannon stated that he will be presenting to the Commissioners on 06/17/24. He passed out a draft to the Council. WEGA contract is up in July. He has been working on several different projects. He helped Commissioners with the Comprehensive plan and participated in the regional housing study. They contributed information. They helped coordinate the Read 2 Initiative and Regional collaboration. This was 40% to 50% of what he has done. He will be holding a job fair at the Fountain County Annex on Wednesday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. He will have 29 Employers. He is currently working on housing in Attica. WEGA is working on 3 potential housing projects. These are private deals with private landowners. Sarah Duensing asked if WEGA asked private landowners to sell their land for housing projects. Rod stated this is correct. It is a way to get housing and Economic Development started. Sarah asked if WEGA was part of Ratcliff bringing in new homes or Brad Crain's new development. Rod stated that this was in the works before WEGA was started. Tom Booe asked if he had any communication with Ratcliff. Rod stated that Ratcliff hadn't contacted him regarding working

together. Clint Kilby and Sara Duensing questioned why the County employs Rod Bannon and how he is beneficial to Fountain County. Rod stated that this will help development. He has also been working with Brad Crain on housing in Covington. Childcare in Fountain County is very low. They have worked with River City to turn an old church

into 112 childcare seats. Rod said he was not a part of Read 1. He said this was 6 different counties. Dale White said it was a 3-year grant, \$23,000 per year. This was more for a needs assessment. He has also been talking with the Town of Veedersburg regarding the Hub and Sterling Church. The WEGA building has had the interior demolished. They have obtained exterior grants to finance the refurbishment. He stated they are partially funded for the Farmstore. The additional funds will come from Read 2. WEGA was able to facilitate 4.8 million in grant funding from outside of the community supporting 20 million in public/private investments within the County. WEGA is currently working on Grants to work on Veedersburg and Hillsboro downtown, Hillsboro's downtown sidewalk, and funding for the startup market in Attica. Dale White said that Rod's work has been able to secure quite a bit of money for Fountain County. Rod has worked with the WEGA board to decide how to break up the grant money received.

Sarah Duensing stated that she would like everyone to leave her and her land alone. Dale White stated that if everyone is left alone there will be no growth. He said the goal of Rod and the Council is to help move in a similar direction. Dale said our population is 10% less than it was 10 years ago. Sarah said she moved her business here on her own dime. Dale also said churches are closing. Kelly Carlson said why not give some tax money back to the County through the grant money. Dudley Cruea wanted to know what revenue the County is receiving from WEGA. Tina Holmes said she has had no problem with her business.

Jeff Fishero – Roof Report

Rick Beck, Aaron Fruits, Jeff Fishero, and Kelly Carlson were able to meet with Sentry and look at the roof. They looked at the leaks between the Clerk and the Court Room also. This is affecting the murals. There is currently a 7-year Warranty that will expire in 2031. There are patches on the roof, but not near as many as they had originally thought. All the seams also are intact. The rainwater is currently going through drains and running through the building. Rick thinks the chimney needs to come down. The Council agrees and thinks it should come down this summer. Reynolds will be coming on Wednesday to look around. They will also be putting cameras in the pipes to see if there are any obstructions or leaks. There is also a drainage issue in the basement. In the past, buckets have been used to catch the water. Rick said he catches the heat for the issues at the Courthouse. Dudley said the Commissioners need to say they want the chimney to come down and the Council will find the funding. Rick will keep everyone informed.

The Elevator and Handicapped lift are also currently broken. They are searching for a magnet for the elevator door.

Tom Booe – Cyber Security

Tom went to a Cyber Security Assessment program. He said it was very informative. They discussed why counties are being attacked and how they can protect themselves. Tom gave the Council a handout. Tom discussed with Brad Keller, and Brad assured him the County was protected.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Ambulance – Garth Kagels

UCapIt – medical supply vending machine
Garth stated that he and Josh Whittington have been looking into the UCapIt vending machines. They will allow the employees to enter a code for medicine and medical supplies. This will help with keeping track of supplies and overstocking. This would be a 5-year lease. Garth would like one for Veedersburg and one for Attica. He would like to move forward with this project. He also discussed the Asset Management Program. This is a 10-year lease program for supplies with no price increase. There is a flat fee. This would include monitors, cots, stair chair, etc. Most of these supplies have an 8-year life span and need replaced periodically. This would save the County money. Joshua Whittington stated that this would save quite a bit of money also. They would like to move forward with this as soon as possible. Garth stated the new trucks were decaled last week. He was hoping they would be ready the 1st of July, but was told July 15 at the latest. They will do the remount in August, which will take roughly 60-90 days. He currently has 2 spots on the 12 hours shifts. He has a lot of part time staff. He is trying to use part time employees to fill in when possible to keep overtime down. Jeff usually does the scheduling. The 4th truck has helped quite a bit. They are not going to Williamsport as much as they had in the past. The building in Attica is falling apart and they have outgrown it. He said a couple years ago they looked at the Attica Cleaners, but it has already been purchased. Garth said the City of Attica will not put money into the building to repair. He has been looking into and talking with Little Beverage. Their building would basically be move in ready. Kelly said that they could possibly lease it.

911- Dana Stonebraker

Dana stated that the new Caliber system was up and running. There is a lot to learn, but it is more thorough. She wanted to thank the Council for allowing the new system to be purchased

Set Budget Hearings

The Budget Hearings were set for August 12, 2024 following the 9:00 a.m. meeting, August 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., September 9, 2024 after the 9:00 a.m. meeting, and September 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. They would like to vote on the new budget on October 15, 2024 at the 9:00 a.m. meeting.

**A JOINT COMMISSIONER/COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE
MONDAY, June 17, 2024
AT 6:00 P.M.**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE
MONDAY, July 8, 2024
AT 9:00 A.M.**

*******Reminder*******

State Board of Accounts called Council Conference will be Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. (Breakfast at 7:30) at the Renaissance Indianapolis North, 11925 N Meridian Street, Carmel.

A motion was made by Kelly Carlson and seconded by Dale White to close the meeting.

Vote: 7-0

Cecilia Chambers
ATTEST

Kelly Carlson
Dale D. White
Kelly L. Carlson
Denise Crowder
Jeff Larkins