
Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
December 5, 2023

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on December 5, 2023, at 4:45 p.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Prayer was led by President Montgomery followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present: President Kenneth Montgomery, Vice-President, Nick Burns (absent) and Commissioner Warren Fleetwood

MINUTES: The minutes from the November 21, 2023, meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. With no further discussion, the motion carried 2-0.

CLAIMS: Total claims presented on 12/05/23 were \$1,466,156.56. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to approve claims, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. With no further discussion, the motion carried 2-0.

Treasurer's Report was acknowledged by Commissioners.

Department Reports

Abby Heidenreich presented the annual contractual agreement for the Extension Office. This agreement allows Purdue to provide extension services to the County. There is a 4% increase for 2024. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. The vote was 2-0.

She also provided an update on things happening in their office. 4-h Enrollment is in full swing; HHS has a lot of programs going on and right now is a busy time for the agricultural side as they are hosting winter workshops now through the end of February. These workshops are hosted at GSHS.

Sheriff Vanoven presented reports to Commissioners; the average daily incarcerated population of the jail is 90. They have a field officer position open in work release; a facility officer position open; two open deputy positions; and four open dispatch positions. He reported that they are hoping to have the new jail project under roof by the end of December; the project is taking shape.

Health Department Administrator Shade gave the department reports to Commissions. The department is working with other departments to distribute and educate about Narcan. There is an uptick in RSV and COVID-19 in this area. They do have a few nurse applicants and some interest in the new position.

Animal Servies – Sharon Werne told Commissioners they will offer a low-income clinic this weekend to provide vaccinations for a low cost of \$20. The last fundraiser of the year will be held on Monday at Bobe's Pizza. They will be serving spaghetti for lunch and dinner to support the shelter; 100% of proceeds will go to the animal services.

COMMISSIONERS OLD BUSINESS

Public Hearing Date for Solar Ordinance Review Hearing – Attorney Spindler will reschedule this to a “to be determined” date.

Gibson County Solar Project Code Variance Request – Rick Reed, Representative from Tenaska and other Tenaska Representatives attended the meeting via zoom. They are going to discuss the Gibson Solar Project variance. They shared an image via zoom of an overlay of the project. They have found they do not need variances, as they are using codes from IDHS for the design. The variances will ensure they can get started on the design and keep the project on task. The variance does not apply since there are no buildings in this project; and there is nothing permanent. Attorney Spindler recommended this item be tabled until the December 19th meeting. Commissioner Fleetwood told Tenaska the stormwater plans should be submitted to Judy Adams, and she will then expedite the package to Three i Engineering. The stormwater ordinance and fees are available on the website. Tenaska told Commissioners there are approximately 1600 acres under lease option for this project. Tenaska is planning to host an open house in January, and they will bring more information on this soon.

COMMISSIONERS NEW BUSINESS

Brownfield Program Site Access Agreement on CR W 350 S – Attorney Spindler presented this agreement on the old refinery land. A new vendor is taking over this agreement and was selected by the Indiana Brownfield Agency. The agreement is very similar to the old agreement and allows them access to the property to conduct monitoring tests. Chris Parks represented the new vendor and explained via zoom that this project is going into the monitoring phase. Commissioner Fleetwood motioned to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. With no further discussion, the motion carried 2-0.

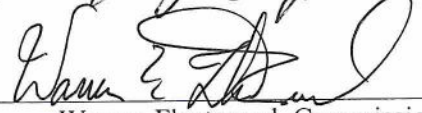
With no further discussions, Commissioner Montgomery motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. The vote to adjourn is 2-0.

Minutes from the December 5, 2023 Meeting.



Kenneth Montgomery, President

Nick Burns, Vice President



Warren Fleetwood, Commissioner



ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor

