
Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
July 02, 2024

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on July 02, 2024, at 4:45 p.m. at the Southwest Annex Meeting Room.

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

Members Present: President Warren Fleetwood, Vice-President, Kenneth Montgomery, and Commissioner Nick Burns.

MINUTES: The minutes from the June 18, 2024, meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS: Total claims in the amount of \$42,226,538.77 were presented by President Fleetwood. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve claims, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Department Reports

Sheriff Vanoven reported that the average jail population is 85. Sheriff Vanoven also gave the monthly staffing report. They have 3 openings in the jail; four openings in dispatch; and two open deputy positions. The jail project is over 80% complete. The DOC has constructed a complimentary conference table for the new jail. They are still painting the offices; they hope to be in the offices by September and the jail by November.

COMMISSIONERS OLD BUSINESS

Amendment to Storm Water Ordinance Fee Schedule for Commercial and Industrial Projects – Commissioner Fleetwood explained the ordinance set up. There are no fees for residents, but commercial and industrial projects do have fees that need to be modified. Attorney Spindler says Commissioners will have the first reading of this amendment tonight; a second reading will be conducted at the next meeting and Commissioners may act after the second reading. The proposal would amend fees on commercial and industrial projects containing less than two acres of property to \$3,000 (up from \$2,000); projects containing two - seven acres will be assessed \$3,400; projects with eight acres, but less than twenty acres will be assessed at \$3,800; projects containing twenty plus acres will be assessed at \$4,400; and additional acreage will be increased to \$100 per acre, up from \$70 per acre. These fees are used to pay the engineers who review the storm water plans and not impact the residents of Gibson County. Commissioner Fleetwood asked for a motion to approve these recommendations. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the recommended fee changes, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Chair of Memory – Kathy Hayes / George Pickersgill was present to discuss this item with Commissioners. Mrs. Hayes represents Rolling Thunder and requests a Chair of Memory be placed in the Courthouse. The chair will be customized and donated to the county; they request permission for the placement in August. Commissioner Burns motioned to approve placement of this chair, seconded by Commissioner Fleetwood. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS NEW BUSINESS

Weaver Landfill Proposal 2024-2025 – Attorney Spindler presented this landfill proposal to Commissioners. Weaver Consultants has been providing this service to the County, the proposal is \$54,273. Commissioner Burns motioned to approve this proposal, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Covered Bridge Certification – Attorney Spindler asked Commissioners to approve the (2) covered bridge certifications from the State. Once the State receives the certification, they will reimburse the county. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the state covered bridge certification, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Moore's Bridge Federal Aid Project – Commissioner Fleetwood asked Commissioners to approve this federal aid project. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve this project, seconded by Commissioner Burns. The vote was 3-0.

CEO Gibson County Contribution - Todd McConnell, CEO Representative was present and told Commissioners there were 43 students that applied for this county-wide program. They have 16 students on a waiting list. Juniors and Seniors in high school learn about entrepreneurship and launching their own business. Two current year students kept a local businesses going after graduation. It is a very big challenge for students and most go on to college or the armed forces. The CEO program request Gibson County keep supporting this mission, which is \$1000 each year for three years. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve this contribution, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Community Crossing Paving Bids – Attorney Spindler explained that there were two bids submitted on this request for bids. E & B Paving, Inc. bid \$3,003,243.42 and JH Rudolph bid \$2,791,767.31. Attorney Spindler and SJCA Representative, Michael Stevenson, have reviewed the bid packets and feel all paperwork is intact to allow Commissioners to award the low bid. This paving should begin in the next few days. The highway department will monitor the process to ensure the paving is done to specification. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to accept the low bid from JH Rudolph, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.

Mainstream Fiber – Troy Johnson, COO was present to represent Mainstream. They are headquartered in Nashville, Indiana and will provide Gibson County rural broadband via a grant; they will be serving 200 addresses in the county, plus a few others. They intend to attach the fiber aerially to WIN Energy poles and some to their own poles, which will be installed on the right of way easements. Some fiber will be put underground. They have all their state and county permits. They will notify all future subscribers via first class USPS. Mr. Johnson would like to meet with Commissioners and the County Attorney to show how they are improving their communications. Commissioner Fleetwood is willing to stay tonight to speak with him one-on-one; if more than one Commissioner is involved, it is considered a public meeting. The Commissioners would like to set some ground rules before they continue and ensure everyone is on the same page. The poles, previously installed by Mainstream, have been removed from the sides of the road, as requested. Commissioner Fleetwood says they have made an agreement with some of the other fiber companies, so more boring is done in the county, as the county does not really want more poles installed. Dennis Simpson, farmer in the county; says he has seen the poles this company has installed, and he wonders why they are putting broadband on poles; he requests that all fiber be put into the ground. He feels these companies need supervision, so guidelines are followed. The chief concern of the county is that more boring is utilized versus poles installed to avoid farming interference.

Medical Leave 4 – All paperwork has been received. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve all medical leaves, seconded by Commissioner Burns. With no further discussion, the motion carried 3-0.


Citizen Comments – Commissioner Fleetwood reminded everyone of the 2-minute time limit to voice concerns and a clock that will keep track of this time limit. All commentators must approach the podium, state their name and address.

Patty Vanoven, Gibson County Chamber of Commerce invited all to a ribbon cutting at the Senior Center Food Pantry on July 8th. Also, the fair is coming up, and she invited everyone to stop by the Chamber booth to look at the GO Gibson promotion.

Fuel Bid Opening - Attorney Spindler has received one fuel bid from Wabash Valley. The bid was as follows: 87 Octane \$2.898; 89 Octane \$3.198; Diesel On-Road \$3.555; Diesel Off-road \$2.96
Commissioner Montgomery motioned to accept the fuel bid, seconded by Commissioner Burns. The vote was 3-0.

With no further discussions, Commissioner Burns motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote to adjourn was 3-0.

Minutes from the July 02, 2024 Meeting.



Warren Fleetwood, President



Kenneth Montgomery, Vice President



Nick Burns, Commissioner



ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor