

Minutes

February 27, 2024

Commissioners Present: William Bateson, Timothy Bechtol and Michael Pepple.

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Adam Wittenman, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Engineer Doug Cade, Phil Johnson, Tim Stuart, Holly Frische, Steve Wilson, Dave Devore, Jeff Wobser, Gary Wilson and Rachelle Harmon

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the February 22, 2024 were read with Michael Pepple making the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Three JFS travel requests were approved. The ARPA paperwork for the PolyCom request from the Sheriff's Office was signed by the Board.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #110-24 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #111-24 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – General Fund- Prosecutor #1001. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #112-24 – Resolution for the Local Public Agency (LPA) State/Local Project for the Liberty Benton Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Phase I. Doug Cade stated that this is the first step in the application process. The 7th grade class at Liberty Benton began the project. Cindy Land stated that a copy of the original plans is in the Commissioner's Office, the Engineers' Office and the Township has a copy of them also. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #113-24 – Authorization to enter an annual preventative maintenance inspection agreement with Federal Field Services 12592 CR L. Wauseon, Ohio for warning sirens for Hancock County. Cindy stated that this is an annual request and this will cover the inspections for a year at a cost of \$4,950.00. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #114-24 – Authorization for the solicitation of bids for the construction of Phase 3 of the Hancock County Landfill Lateral Expansion Project, under Work Order #H1010069. Phil stated that this will begin a new cell. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Cindy Land inquired if bid express will be used for the solicitation of bids on this project. Phil Johnson was unsure.

Resolution #115-24 – Authorization the rescission of Resolution No. 458-23 related to solicitation of bids for installation and set-up of new information technology hardware and software for use in the Hancock County Computer and Technology System. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil stated that the two resolutions listed on the agenda will not be presented today.

Resolution #116-24 – Authorizing entry into Change Order #1 to a contract with Vaughn Industries, LLC to provide improvements to the public elevator with the Hancock County Courthouse. Phil explained that this change order will make the final contract price \$2,630.00. This change order will allow the work to be done on the elevator at the Courthouse after the work hours. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson requested an executive session in regards to potential real estate acquisition.

Engineer Doug Cade stated that in the near future he will be requesting the Board to pass the LPA resolution for the CR 180 Bridge project. Engineer Cade will be working with ODOT representatives to avoid the SR 568 project and the CR 180 project being done at the same time.

Auditor Charity Rauschenberg stated that she will review the ARPA documents that the Board signed for her approval. In addition, she has received confirmation that the SLRF was submitted by the CPA firm.

Adam Witteman had nothing to report.

Tim Stuart had nothing to report.

Steve Wilson apologized for being late. He was grateful the Board approved the resolution for the solicitation of bids.

Rachelle Harmon discussed the Win Waste Innovation request for a pond along the Seneca/Hancock County line. She also presented the Commissioners a letter from Senator Reineke to Governor DeWine to review. She would like the Commissioners to sign the letter opposing the landfill expansion. The Board will review the letter with Assistant County Prosecutor Cindy Land. A discussion also took place regarding the differences of a pond versus a borrow pit. Rachelle also described the broken tile near the Shaggy Dog business on SR 12. This tile has not been repaired yet and this is also an area that attracts eagles. This is potentially an area where an electrical substation would be placed and no one has fixed the tile. Tim explained that he enjoys learning new facts and topics at each Commissioners meeting. Rachelle also updated the Board on the Supreme Court litigation of the South Branch Project. She indicated that there are 2 Biglick Township Trustees that have signed contracts with a wind/turbine contractor. Hence the reason why they did not participate in the exclusionary zone resolution. She will look into her records to see who has already executed a contract.

Meetings and Reports


Bill Bateson expressed his thanks to Doug Cade and Cindy Land for including a map of the area in the Liberty Benton School district. He attended the local Republican Party Executive Committee meeting.

Mike Pepple stated that he attended the Habit for Humanity Finance Committee meeting. They are planning on more housing opportunities in 2024.


Timothy Bechtol reported that he also attended the local Republican Central and Executive Committee meeting. The Lincoln Day dinner is March 12, 2024.

At 10:08 a.m., Tim Bechtol made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss potential real estate acquisition. Bill Bateson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Tim Bechtol, yes; Bill Bateson, yes; Mike Pepple, yes. At 10:32 a.m., Tim Bechtol made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken, Bill Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 10:34 am., the Commissioners met with Jay Myers. Lynn Taylor, Phil Johnson, Dave Devore, Holly Frische and Gary Wilson were also in attendance. Jay went over the CBIZ appraisal results from the 2023 MPRMA appraisals. Appraisals were completed for the Courthouse, Justice Center, Engineer's Office and the Engineer's Maintenance Garage. Jay will provide a recommendation for the Board to take to the next MPRMA meeting in April to go over with Kevin Fink, the representative from Gallagher Bassett. For example, the replacement values for the Courthouse and the Engineer Maintenance Garage could be reduced. The Courthouse is alarmed and the Engineer's Garage has a fire suppression system.


Lynn Taylor, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:


William L. Bateson
Timothy K. Bechtol
Michael W. Pepple