

Kayci Heil

White County Clerk & Recorder

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WHITE COUNTY BOARD MEETING ON:

May 29, 2024

The White County Board convened at the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi, State of Illinois, on Wednesday the 29th day of May, at 7:00 p.m. and was called to order by Chairman Pigg

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call, the following Board members responded as being present, which represented a quorum: Clint Spencer, Amanda Cannon, Kenny Usery, David South, and Cassie Pigg were present.

MOTION was made by Mr. Usery, seconded by Mr. South, to approve the minutes of the White County Board meeting. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

COUNTY OFFICER REPORTS

County Clerk: Clerk Heil told the Board that she has sent her bid out for recording software and the bid is due June 7, 2024. She also informed the Board that she had sent out voter cards to get the voter rolls cleaned up. She also told the Board that they are finished with their portion of the new CIC financial software.

County Treasurer: Treasurer Baxley gave his report to the Board. The monthly report can be found in the County Clerk's Office. He stated that his Office is still in the transition process with the new financial software and the Auditors will be giving their report on the audit next month.

Circuit Clerk: Clerk Fulkerson did not have anything to report.

Ambulance: Not in attendance

State's Attorney: Mr. Neal informed that Board that everything was going well and that they will start training soon on their new software. Mrs. Cannon asked about the landfill being done. Mr. Neal stated that one of the attorneys was going to refile something but could not find the paperwork. He said the document was dismissed but it needed to be dismissed with prejudice.

Sheriff: Sheriff Weiss talked to the Board about the Community Service Building being flooded and the wood rotting. He also told the Board about a company that came that does flush valve system. He told the Board that the flush valve system would help cut down on water usage. They are going to put one in for free to see how it works and if the jail likes it. He also stated

that the sewer line behind the States Attorneys Office was fixed. He also stated that their air conditioner froze up last week and it flooded the hallway. He talked about other minor issues that they are having in the buildings. He mentioned that the old alarm system cannot be reprogramed. If the County Clerk's Office was to push the alert button, then it would direct them to the old office. Sheriff Weiss said that Judge Webb would like to have a new alarm system. Sheriff Weiss informed the Board that there was no security in the former Carmi Times Building.

Supervisor of Assessments: Mr. Baxley stated that they are in Board of Review, and they have been working on the abstract. Mr. Baxley said that June 19th is the last day to submit to the Board of Review.

Highway: Mr. Brian Ray did not have anything to report.

EMA: Not in attendance

TB Officer: Not in attendance

Coroner: Not in attendance

911: Not in attendance

Administrative Services: Mr. Harmon stated that we are at the end of the second quarter and they are going to do a 6 month report and see what lines are off and will get a report to the Board. He also stated that the third quarter is when they start on the new budget. Mr. Harmon stated that item 8 on the consent agenda is a budget amendment. He said item B in the new business is going to be amended from 100 % to 50%. He stated that paid leave for all act, there has been discussion about part time people. He stated that we are going to have to add accrual language to the handbook for that and options for a payout.

Chairman Pigg opened the floor for public comment:

Sheriff Weiss asked if Greater Wabash Planning Commission would attend the meeting to talk to the Board about grants coming up. Taegan introduced herself to the Board. She told them about the first grant was a retention agreement grant. She said this grant offers the possibility of giving a sign on bonus. She said that this grant will be available in October as well as a body cam reimbursement grant. She said that there is also a cop hiring program grant open now. She stated that this grant will pay 75% of an officer's salary for 3 years up to \$125,000.00. The 4th year the County would have to pay the full salary. She also mentioned that there is a taser grant that the County is eligible for. Sheriff Weiss told the Board which grants that he would like to apply. Sheriff Weiss stated that he has hired a new guy, but he can not do anything until he is out of the academy. Mr. South asked if we were going to do the cops grant. They would have to have an additional deputy.

Next the Board introduced Mike Nelson and Don Puckett with Frontier. They gave the Board a 20-minute presentation on the new fiber that they are trying to put and get out to unserved customers. The presentation can be requested through the County Clerk's Office.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was read by Cassie Pigg, Chairman.

- A. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of parcel 12-09-309-004 for \$1001.74 to John and Joyce Julian for reconveyance of property.
- B. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of 12-09-309-005 for \$1001.74 to John and Joyce Julian for reconveyance of property.
- C. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of 13-13-160-010 for \$1364.21 to Kristal Vaughan for Margaret Pruett for \$1364.21.
- D. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of 17-14-300-009 for \$3,384.95 to Jessica Fountain for Corrin Nicole Russell.
- E. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of 17-28-135-001 for \$4,809.33 to Amber Griffith for reconveyance of property.
- F. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of 17-28-208-008 for \$883.75 to Jena Davis.
- G. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution for White County Trustee on the sale of 17-28-208-009 for \$867.69.
- H. Discussion and possible approval of the EMA Multi Hazard Grant Fund Budget Amendment Ordinance.

Chairman Pigg asked the Board if the items need to be removed or discussed further.

MOTION was made by Mr. South, seconded by Mr. Usery to approve the consent agenda. Vote by roll call. Spencer, Cannon, South, Pigg and Usery all voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and possible approval of liquor control ordinance.**

Mr. Harmon told the Board that there was a lot of moving parts with the liquor ordinance. He stated that they started with the Illinois State Board of Elections on a required referendum. The process is for a County that has been voted dry to be overturned to wet. As of currently we cannot find anything that moved or voted to make the County dry. As of 1971 there were liquor licenses being issued by the County. The original ordinance is either inactive or just needs to be updated. If we update the license, then the County would just have to put their spin on it of what they want. The Board would still have time to vote on this issue next month, but there is still research being done in the County Clerk's Office.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution establishing elected officials' compensation.

Mr. Harmon told the Board that salaries need to be established 180 days before their term. Chairman Pigg asked if they can do a percentage increase for cost of living each year. Circuit Clerk Fulkerson told the Board that she has done a lot of research on what elected officials get throughout the State of Illinois. She told the Board that there are Counties that have a fewer population than us, but make a higher salary. Clerk Fulkerson told the Board that with the increases over the year that the Board has given is considerably lower than what inflation has gone up. Mrs. Cannon asked what the stipend was, and it was explained to her. Sheriff Weiss told the Board that Clerk Fulkerson was very dedicated to her job and did her job very well. Chairman Pigg asked if they could tailor each pay raise to the office. Mrs. Cannon asked how we rated with other Counties our size and Mr. Harmon stated that we were significantly lower. Mr. Harmon suggested between \$55000 to \$65000 and the County should be in that area. The Board agreed to a 15% the first year and then a 3 % increase each year after until their next election.

MOTION was made by Mr. South, seconded by Mr. Usery, to approve the resolution. Motion carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

B. Discussion and possible approval of Sheriffs' department memorandum of understanding for lateral transfers.

They are amending the MOU from 100% to 50% for experience. This allows the Sheriff to approach the Union for this agreement.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Cannon to approve the MOU, seconded by Mr. Usery. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay.

CLAIMS

Chairman Pigg asked for a motion to pay the county bills.

MOTION was made by Mr. Usery, seconded by Mr. Spencer, to approve all bills. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Executive Session

No executive session

County Board Member Non-Action Items and Comments

Next meeting will be June 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the White County Courthouse.

MOTION was made by Mr. Usery, seconded by Mr. Spencer, to adjourn. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.