

**MINUTES**  
**FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 20, 2024**  
**9:00 A.M.**

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting: Brenda Hardy and Tim Shumaker. Andrew Hall resigned effective May 17, 2024.

**Cades Covered Bridge** – Henry Schmitt & Carol Freese Carol Freese would like to apply for a grant for a historic transportation marker for the Cades Covered Bridge. A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to give a letter of support to apply for the grant along with permission to erect the sign on county property.  
Vote: 2-0

Henry Schmitt updated the Commissioners on the repair of the Cades Covered Bridge. The Bids were received back in October. They came in several thousand of dollars over the original estimated cost. They removed the painting and some other things from the initial bid. They managed to raise an additional \$65,000 for the project. They gave the company the go ahead to start the renovations. The work should start sometime in June. Kent will get back with the Auditor on how to properly handle the claims.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the minutes of the Commissioner's meeting of May 6, 2024 and the minutes of the Joint Meeting with the Commissioners and Council on May 13, 2024.  
Vote: 2-0

**CLAIMS 1-194 (\$307,031.79), and Payroll Claims**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve all claims.  
Vote: 2-0

**Report of Collections – as submitted**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to acknowledge the Report of Collections for the Health Dept and Recorder for April 2024.  
Vote: 2-0

**Review and Acknowledge the Clerk's Monthly Report**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to acknowledge the Clerk's Monthly Report for April 2024.  
Vote: 2-0

**County Match on Bridge Inspection Grant**

Cut a check: \$104,000  
From: 1135-0000-44126 Bridge #66  
To: 9126-0000-44945 County Match – Grants

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the request.  
Vote: 2-0

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Health Dept – Jenny Eads**

Jenny stated that the Council has said they would keep the 2025 Health Budget (\$331,453) the same as 2024, if they were to opt in to the Health Indiana First program. With this guarantee the Health Board would like to

opt in at this time. A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to follow the Health Board's recommendation to opt in for 2025. Vote: 2-0

**E-911 – Dana Stonebraker**

Additional licenses are being required by Caliber due to number of users. Dana is requesting an additional in the amount of \$5,040.00 along with a signature on the quote.

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

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the additional request and send it onto the Council for approval and to also sign the quote. Vote: 2-0

**Soil & Water – Lori Jordan**

The Fountain County Soil and Water Conservation District requested permission and to obtain a letter of support to apply for a Watershed Management Planning Grant for the Big Shawnee Water Shed. If awarded the project probably will not start until 2026.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to support the request to apply for the grant. Vote: 2-0

Tim Shumaker did comment that the County is establishing a new Drainage Board. He and Rodney Norman will be two of the three members on the board.

**Recorder – Redaction Services & Support Agreement**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the Redaction Services & Support Agreement between CSI and the County (Recorder). Vote: 2-0

**Covington Alumni Association - Raquel Stultz**

She is requesting permission to erect a sign on Courthouse lawn for the 5K Run to be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to grant permission to place a sign in the courthouse lawns. Vote: 2-0

**Sheriff**

Andrew Krout reported that they had 49 male inmates, 9 female inmates, 13 from Sullivan County and 7 from DOC for a total of 78 inmates.

**WEGA – Rod Bannon**

Rod Bannon is requesting to use the Annex, if a location cannot be found in Veedersburg, for a job fair. It will be held on June 10, 2024 to June 14, 2024. He has approximately 25 employers set up to attend the fair. Tim Shumaker made the motion and was seconded by Brenda Hardy to give him permission to use the annex. Vote: 2-0

**Highway – Jason Lewis**

Jason Lewis handed out the annual report for the highway department for approval by the Commissioners. A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the annual report for LTAP. Vote: 2-0

Also, Jason reported that the bids for the CCMG grant for 2024 will be held on June 17, 2024. He also delayed the resurfacing of Bonebrake Road until June 3<sup>rd</sup>, so that school would not be in session when starting the project.

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**Ambulance – Garth Kagels**

Garth handed out information from UCapIt, a controlled medical supply program. It is similar to a vending machine for medical supplies. It is designed to decrease inventory carrying costs, maintain compliance and 24-hour monitoring and dispensing. Due to the volume, it may not cost the county anything to have this program. The County Attorney will review the contract.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to approve the contract upon review by Kent Minette. Vote: 2-0

The new ambulances are expected to arrive sometime in July.

**Landfill – Roger Azar**

Roger reported that the south ditch will need to be dredged. A tree has fallen into it and has caused some problems. Bell Excavating will be doing the dredging. The North cap has some areas that need to be repaired but nothing major. The South cap looks great.

**Commissioners – Tim Shumaker**

Tim Shumaker wanted to clear up the comments made on social media. Admin has blocked him from responding to the comments. They have not done anything wrong. You can be paid to sit on some boards. He would like to see the hate and bitterness stop. He also stated that Roger Azar has done a lot for the County. He is not an elected official and is a contractor for the county. Kent Minnette, County attorney, addressed the statute about holding two or more lucrative offices. There are statutes that set out the board makeup for the Advisory Plan Commission and the Solid Waste Management District Board. He also gave examples. Brad Crain explained the Solid Waste Board makeup and he said that the Drainage Board was paid in years past. They are currently not getting paid. Tim asked that they go to the in.gov site and look under the Richard Lugar Q & A section and read it. It is informative. He also stated that he is willing to have a decent conversation with anyone.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clint Kilby

He read Article 6 Section 4. He said Roger is the County Surveyor and cannot hold 2 lucrative offices. Kent said that he is a contractor. Clint said he is not a resident of Fountain County and should not be serving as the zoning administrator. Clint asked if Roger was writing ordinances and he replied that he was not. Brenda Hardy said that Randolph County and another county share the same county engineer. He is contracted by 2 counties. You can't live in 2 counties.

Dane Maltsberger

He asked if they have heard from our Indianapolis attorney in regards to HB 1348.

Kent said he felt like they were talking about 2 different things. HB 1348 does not affect how the assessor codes the land.

Carol Owens

She asked about Roger Azar's past employers. Roger stated that he did work in Denver and Colorado. He also worked to help clean up military bases for our soldiers. He has had military clearance and is very trust worthy. He went to Dubai and worked for a time. He then moved back to Crawfordsville as that is where his wife and two children were. He chose Crawfordsville to raise his children and bought 50% of Deckard Surveying

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and Engineering. He does not work for the solar company. He works for the county and he does not write the Ordinances.

David Jinkins

He asked who writes the County Ordinances. He said he also learned at the APC meeting the difference between an Area Plan Commission and an Advisory Plan Commission. He wants to know why we use other county ordinances. He doesn't understand our county and feels they are steam rolling them. He said to get rid of zoning.

It was said that without zoning it would be like the "wild west". It is the only thing that kept the landfill out of the county.

Dane Maltsberger

He said the old comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance focused only on the toxic landfill. That is how it started. He would like to see the new comprehensive plan focus only on solar.

Kelly Carlson

She wanted to know the difference between Area and Advisory Plan Commission. Kent said the Advisory is mainly just for one entity only. Area is more for multi-jurisdictions. Kelly said she feels like the Advisory Plan Commission has no "teeth" in it. Kent Minnette said if this is what entities want, they can look into making it an advisory plan commission.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY,**

**June 3, 2024**

**AT 9:00 A.M.**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Brenda Hardy to close the meeting.  
Vote: 2-0

*Colleen Chambers*

ATTEST

*Brenda Hardy*  
*Tim Shumaker*