

**MINUTES**  
**FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**December 6, 2021**  
**9:00 A.M.**

**The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting: Brenda Hardy, Andrew Hall and Tim Shumaker.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT – Cade’s Hollow Covered Bridge - Henry Schmid -**  
He was inquiring about the bid process on the repair of the bridge. Roger Azar stated that he is still waiting to hear from the engineering firm, USI.

**Christian Bever** – Candidate for State Senate. He gave a short presentation as to why he is a candidate for the Indiana State Senate

**Paula Copenhaver** – Candidate for State Senate. She also gave a short presentation as to why she is a candidate for the Indiana State Senate

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Andrew Hall and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2021 meeting as presented.

Vote: 3-0

**CLAIMS 1-138 (\$516,092.97), Unpublished Claims & Payroll Claims**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to approve the Claims.

Vote: 3-0

**November Report of Collections - as submitted:  
Sheriff’s Dept**

A motion was made by Andrew Hall and seconded by Tim Shumaker to acknowledge the Report of Collections for the Sheriff.

Vote: 3-0

**PAWS N CLAWS – Contract for 2022**

An increase for 2022 was requested in the amount of \$4,000 bringing the annual contract to \$32,000. A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to approve the contract with Paw n Claws for 2022 in the amount of \$32,000.

Vote: 3-0

**KELLER PC - Service Agreement for 2022**

Agreement is to be paid in installments of \$4,515.00 per month for 12 months. This is approximately an increase of \$4,180 over last year. A motion was made by Andrew Hall and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the service agreement for Keller PC in the amount of \$54,180 for 2022.

Vote: 3-0

**Annual Christmas Party**

Permission is being requested to close the Courthouse from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. on December 22, 2021 for the Annual Christmas Party hosted by the Auditor’s Office. **A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to close the Courthouse on December 22, 2021 between 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

Vote: 3-0

**CLERK – Redistricting (Must be published by December 25)**

The Congressional redistricting has been completed. It split our Troy 1 precinct on the northern edge, which will now be Troy 4. It also split the Cain Precinct on the southeast boundary. The new block in Cain will be Cain 2. The Commissioner and Council precincts cannot have more than a 10%

deviation. We currently have a 11.4% deviation. She told the Commissioners that this needed to be completed and advertised by December 25, 2021. The last day to get it to the paper for advertisement would be December 17, 2021. The Commissioners will meet with her after the meeting today.

The Acceptance testing went well for the new voting machines. Paula invited everyone to come to the Clerk's office to familiarize themselves with the new machines and procedures.

### DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

**Sheriff** – He currently has 68 inmates and 3 parole holds. He also presented the Body Camera Agreement to the Commissioners. Colleen will be sending the Commissioners, Council and the ARPA committee a copy of the agreement after the meeting. He is hoping to purchase these with ARPA funds, if allowable. **Andrew Hall made a motion was seconded by Tim Shumaker to accept the proposal upon the approval of the Council and ARPA committee in the amount of \$176,358. Vote: 3-0**

#### **Health Dept. – Erich Haley**

They are continuing to monitor open cases. The 234 W case seems to be moving vehicles around in an attempt to clean up the property.

**Highway** – Rusty had questions regarding the COVID policy. He currently has two out due to COVID and two more were being tested today. The Commissioner reiterated that the COVID pay ceased on December 31, 2020. They would have to use their sick, personal and vacation pay. Rusty said some employees were afraid of losing their health benefits. The Commissioners reassured them that this would not happen, if they were sick. The County attorney advised the Commissioners to contact counsel on the handbook policy to make sure no federal laws were being broken.

Rusty gave the Commissioners a quote for a 2019 Superior Broom DT74J in the amount of \$68,000. They would require a deposit of \$5,000. It can be leased or purchased. The quote is good until July 1, 2022. **Andrew Hall made a motion to go ahead with the purchase of the broom contingent of available funding approved by the Council. Tim Shumaker seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0**

If road graders are ordered now, they would not be delivered until December 2022. Roger Azar wants to make it clear that when the roads are being worked on and the ditches are being recreated, there needs to be stabilization of the sides of the road.

#### **UMR – Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapy Services**

The Department of Labor has recently raised concerns that exclusions for coverage of ABA therapy services violates the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. They could possibly be reaching out to us as plan sponsor of a self-funded plan. Our plan currently excludes covered for the ABA therapy but allows for other Autism services. Since we do not cover ABA therapy, UMR is not aware of a manner in which to quantify claim impact. They suggest that we allow for ABA coverage beginning on 1/1/22. **A motion was made by Tim Shumaker to approve the coverage of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapy Services effective 1/1/22. Andrew Hall seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0**

#### **COUNTY FARM**

The Commissioners have received one appraisal for the County Farm. They are still waiting on another one that should be submitted by December 31.

**CORONER**

The Tippecanoe County coroner submitted a bill in the approximate amount of \$7,500 for autopsies that were done on Fountain County residents who were admitted to one of the Lafayette hospitals. He relayed his concern to the Commissioners about this matter. He is concerned about his budget.

**ROGER AZAR – Maple Corner**

Roger needs access to the Maple Corner building to do an environmental study on the property.

**A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Andrew Hall to close the meeting. Vote: 3-0**

*W* **NEXT MEETING WILL BE**  
**January 4, 2022 9:00 A.M.**  
*December 20, 2021*

*Brenda Hardy*  
**BRENDA HARDY**

*Tim Shumaker*  
**TIM SHUMAKER**

*Andrew Hall*  
**ANDREW HALL**

**ATTEST:**

*Cecilia Chambers*