

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting
October 21, 2019

Roll Call.

Present: Commissioner Rodney Stratton, Commissioner Mark Horstman, Commissioner Gary Stutler, Attorney John Ertel and Auditor Amy Copeland.

Pledge of Allegiance

Johnny Lohrum - Maintenance

Blower in the courthouse is out, Mr. Lohrum is looking into getting it fixed.

Matt Chastain – EMA

Commissioner Horstman talked about the burn ban and maybe changing the writing in the ban. Mr. Chastain stated that Sunman Fire had an issue with a burn barrel which was not allowed at the time of the burn ban.

David Blazier – Ripley County Residence

Came in to talk about 200 South and the traffic that is on the road. The hidden driveway sign that you put on 200 South is going the wrong way. The sign really needs to be moved. There is both a speed limit sign and a hidden drive way sign. Mr. Blazier thinks that maybe another sign needs to be put up going west.

Mr. Blazier stated that the state of Indiana has been giving fire alarms with 10 year batteries. The Upper Room Café is willing to be the “go to” place and that they would be installing the alarms also.

Auditor Copeland talked about the county insurance policies with the building, land and vehicles. Auditor Copeland told them that it was too late to start a new bid for insurance. The commissioners agreed but did state that we needed to do it for next year.

Kelly Vollet – Technology

Mrs. Vollet brought in her official retirement letter for December 31, 2019. Mrs. Vollet has been with the county for 20 years. She also brought in a copy of all her job duties.

Commissioner Horstman stated that now we need a plan to replace Kelly. The job needs to be advertised.

Mrs. Vollet sent the commissioners bids for the camera recording server through emails. They made a decision on one for \$9,655.60 S Co Corporation, this does include installing.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to accept the quote from the S Co Corporation for the amount of \$9,655.60. **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Horstman talked about contracting the IT position. Mrs. Vollet is willing to help at any point in time after she leaves. Commissioner Horstman stated that his goal is to make sure that the position is filled before December 31, 2019. Commissioner Stratton asked if she thought that it was better to buy or to lease equipment. Mrs. Vollet stated that she thinks that it is better to buy.

Scott Huffman – EMS

Mr. Huffman brought in an application for a new driver. Commissioner Stratton asked if he had heard from Attorney Ertel this week and Mr. Huffman had not heard from him. Commissioner Horstman asked about new trucks with grant money Mr. Huffman has. Mr. Huffman did quote the trucks with Struckman Ford in Osgood.

Jeff Cumberworth – Sheriff

Cintas quote for the fire sprinkler system in the amount of \$1,865.00.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to approve the bid from Cintas for the Fire Sprinkler System in the amount of \$1,865.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler. Motion passed unanimously.

Ruth Riehle – Ripley County Resident

She wanted to thank the commissioners for helping the Town of Sunman with the MGPI building in Sunman. She also wanted to make sure how the commissioners knew that their job was not done due to some other things they are going to try and get done.

Ray Toops – Highway Garage

Mr. Toops has a contract from CivilCon willing to roll our prices for next year 2020, this is where we get all the culverts and pipe for Ripley County. Attorney Ertel state that under certain circumstances, contracts for the purchase of goods can be rolled over without competitive bidding through 2020. At the request of Commissioner Horstman, Mr. Toops will call CivilCon and see if they will drop their price. This issue is tabled until the next commissioners meeting on November 4, 2019.

Commissioner conference is December 2-4, 2019.

Robin sent an email that Sherry with USI is coming on December 31, 2019. She is coming regarding the load rating of bridges for the emergency vehicles.

Mr. Toops has the Gradall quote, wanted to go ahead and get it ordered so it would be in the 1st of the year, around February. The quote only wants to give us a trade in for \$18,500.00.

Commissioner Horstman thinks that the Gradall needs to be purchased after the 1st half of the year.

Auditor Copeland talked with Mr. Toops about the 1176 and 1173 funds. Auditor Copeland stated we are going to have to transfer money from the cash balance of 1176 to 1173 fund before the end of the year.

Commissioner Horstman wants to know when the asphalt will be laid in district 1. Mr. Toops stated not this week.

Patti Boudrot – Apex with Health Insurance

Mrs. Boudrot is here to give a county health insurance update. Please see recording or paperwork given for the information.

Tony Hernandez – Snider Insurance Liberty National

Here to put in a quote for insurance. We have 3 employees with Liberty National. Mr. Hernandez wants to come in and talk with all of our employees. Commissioners stated Mr. Hernandez is more than welcome to meet with any employee in the county.

Dave Osborn – Extension Office

Mr. Osborn was in with a contractual services for Purdue. **Motion:** Commissioner Horstman made the motion to approve the contract services agreement with Purdue for the extension office, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners discussing the Commissioner meeting and times. Commissioner Horstman was questioning the times that we had meetings. Wants to for next year to look into having a meeting in the evening. Auditor Copeland discussing the holiday schedule about the pumpkin show Friday. Commissioners opted on the no time off on pumpkin show Friday.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to leave the holiday schedule the same, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to approve the 2020 holiday, payroll, commissioner and accounts payable schedules, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to approve the October 7, 2019 meeting minutes, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Stutler made the motion to pay all the claims and payroll for the October 21, 2019, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gary Stutler, **Seconded by** Mark Horstman. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners discussed amending the county handbook to include language related to finally paychecks, return of county property, and the payment for lost county property. More info was necessary before action would be taken on this matter.

Commissioners talked about the Riverboat money from Ohio County is not being received. Attorney Ertel will be sending Ohio County a letter. Commissioners are all in agreement to explore this matter further.

Motion: Commissioner Horstman made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Mark Horstman, **Seconded by** Gary Stutler. Motion passed unanimously.

 _____ Rodney Stratton, President

 _____ Gary Stutler

 _____ Mark Horstman

Assts:  _____ Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor