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**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent; Rod Jackson, Coroner; Phil Zahm, Chief Deputy Coroner; Doug Wiley, Deputy Coroner; Eric Sands, Deputy Coroner; Rick Uecker, Deputy Coroner; Ilene Haluska, Herald Press; Terry Miller, County Council; Tina Disch, Executive Director Huntington Visitor Bureau; Jerry Meehan, Surveyor; Patti Smith, Beam Longest and Neff; Bob Jeffers, EMA Director; Thomas Fuller, EMA Deputy Director; Tim Allen, Director Huntington Public Safety Dispatch; Dr. John Regan; Brenda Hamilton, Treasurer; Jill Landrum, Auditor; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager

*The following people attended virtually through Zoom: No one attended virtually.*

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)**

**1/16/2024**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 16, 2024 Commissioner Meeting. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)**

**1/31/2024**

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the Claim Docket for January 31, 2024. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)**

**1/26/2024**

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket for January 31, 2024. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION)**

**Medicolegal Professionals**

The Commissioners made a proclamation declaring January 21-27, 2024 as Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week. All of the Huntington County Coroners' Staff was in attendance for the proclamation.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Regulated Drain**

Surveyor Jerry Meehan spoke with the Commissioners regarding the relocation of the Edwin Scheerer regulated drain. Terry Stoffel made a motion to proceed with the relocation as suggested. The Commissioners will assist with the cost - not to exceed \$15,000.00. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Huntington County Visitor Bureau**

Tina Disch, Executive Director of the Huntington County Visitor Bureau presented their approved budget for 2024 for the Commissioners' review. She also provided an economic impact report pertaining to tourism.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Vending machines**

Recorder Vicki Pearson updated the Commissioners on the vending machines at the courthouse. She stated that there is no contract and that the vending company offered to sell the current machines to the county for \$250.00 per machine.

Further discussion revolved around how any funds generated by the vending machines would be dealt with. Currently there is a separate account for the funds earned by the vending machines. These funds are used to pay for flowers or memorial donations for County employees/families in the event of a death. Mr. Garrett reviewed the State Board of Accounts stance on these types of funds.

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**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Emergency Notification System (E.N.S.)**

Tim Allen, Director of Huntington Public Safety Dispatch, Bob Jeffers, EMA Director, and Thomas Fuller, EMA Deputy Director spoke with the Commissioners regarding Emergency Notification Systems (E.N.S.). They are seeking approval to send a link for the RAVE Emergency Notification System to County Employees to see if they are interested in subscribing to the E.N.S. This would allow Commissioners to send mass notifications to County employees via text. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve an email being sent to all County employees. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

Tim Allen also discussed iPause, which is another E.N.S. that is used nation-wide. This service automatically translates messages into Spanish.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Warming Shelters**

The Commissioners expressed their gratitude for the amazing effort put forth by EMA to ensure that warming shelters were set up for the recent cold weather event. The discussion included the need for cots and supplies to be used in future weather events. The Commissioners asked for EMA to compile a list and get it back to them.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Bridge Façade proposal**

Dr. John Regan spoke with the Commissioners regarding his proposal to change the façade of the bridge at US Highway 24 and State Road 9 North. He stated that he needs support in order to get that done. Commissioner Miller shared that INDOT has funds available for gateway signage. He will get that information to Dr. Regan. Terry Stoffel made a motion to support Dr. Regan's proposal. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)**

**2085 East 300 North**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit by Duke Energy in the location of 2085 East 300 North. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)**

**3400 County Road 200 North**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit by Duke Energy in the location of 3400 County Road 200 North. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)**

**2149 County Road 200 East**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit by Duke Energy in the location of 2149 County Road 200 East. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF MEETING)**

**Board of Finance Annual Meeting**

The Board of Finance Annual Meeting opened at 10:02 a.m. with Commissioner Terry Stoffel, Commissioner Rob Miller, Commissioner Tom Wall, Bob Garrett, County Attorney, and Brenda Hamilton, County Treasurer present.

The first order of business was to elect the officers for the Board of Finance for 2024. Rob Miller made a motion to appoint Tom Wall as the President of the Board of Finance and Brenda Hamilton as Treasurer of the Board of Finance. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 4-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Brenda Hamilton voting yea.

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Brenda Hamilton, Treasurer submitted a report of the funds invested and interest paid. Terry Stoffel made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

Brenda also presented the Commissioners with a list of outstanding warrants and requested that these two-year-old warrants be cancelled. Rob Miller made a motion to cancel these outstanding checks and receipt the money back into the funds from which they came. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

The Board of Finance Annual Meeting was closed at 10:12 a.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT)**

**PTABOA**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to re-appoint Dominick Posillipo to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA). Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT)**

**PTABOA**

Rob Miller made a motion to re-appoint Les Hoch to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA). Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT)**

**Drainage Board**

Rob Miller made a motion to re-appoint Robert Gressley to the Drainage Board. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Mileage Rate**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to increase the mileage rate to \$0.67/mile based on the IRS rate. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea. The increase will take effect as of January 29, 2024.

**IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)**

**Clerk of the Circuit Court Report**

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager presented the Clerk of the Circuit Court Report for the month ending December 31, 2023 as prepared by Shelley Septer, Clerk of Huntington Circuit/Superior Courts.

**IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)**

**County Treasurer's Report**

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager presented the County Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2023 as prepared by Brenda Hamilton, County Treasurer.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**2024 Wellness Plan**

Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director presented the 2024 Wellness Plan for the County. Rob Miller made a motion to approve the plan. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Take home vehicles**

Auditor Jill Landrum spoke with the Commissioners regarding the IRS requirement of taxing employees who have a take-home vehicle. Employees with take-home vehicles are to be taxed on \$3.00/day for that benefit.

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**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Railroad property**

Auditor Jill Landrum discussed the long-standing issue with the rights of a railroad property with Bob Garrett, County Attorney. There was no resolution at this time.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Highway Department Update**

Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent, gave an update on the project at 300 West and Division Road – that project is slated to being in the spring.

Continuing discussion was had regarding replacing the underground fuel tanks at the Highway. Troy stated that he was going to talk with County Council in regards to funding options.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Hewlett-Packard Lease Purchase Agreement**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Master Lease Purchase Agreement with Hewlett-Packard Financial Services Company. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT)**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to adjourn at 10:46 a.m. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

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Rob Miller

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Tom Wall

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Terry Stoffel

ATTEST:

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Jill M. Landrum, Auditor

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA**

*\*\*A signed copy of these approved minutes is available by request in the Commissioners' Office at the County Courthouse, 201 N. Jefferson St., Huntington, IN 46750.\*\**