

# **Commissioners & County Council**

## **Joint Meeting Minutes**

February 27, 2024

4:00 p.m.

Pineview Government Center  
Commissioner Meeting Room, Suite 104  
2524 Corydon Pike

**Commissioner, Al Knable, called the meeting to order and led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.**

**Present:** Commissioners-Full quorum

County Council- Quorum, Tony Toran –absent

**Also Present:** Attorney, Steve Langdon; Auditor, Diana Topping; Treasurer, Steve Burks; Clerk, Danita Burks and Sheriff, Steve Bush

### ***Approval of 12-28-23 Joint Meeting Minutes***

**Motion to approve 12-28-23 Minutes. Moved by Connie Moon. Seconded by Dale Bagshaw.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **New Business:**

#### **1.) Benefits-Perf, Healthcare**

HR Director, Michelle Portwood, said the Benefits study will be back in March. Once that data is received they will be able to make a decision for 2025.

They would like to meet with the Insurance Brokers sooner to better prepare for 2025 and include the Council with the information.

#### **2.) Building Authority Budget**

Danny Short stated the Budget, in his opinion, has been over paid in the last few years. There is money in accounts he would like to use before the County picks up the rest. He spoke to someone with the Building Authority that stated the extra money is used for unbudgeted expenses. Jim Freiberger stated they have over charged the County for Healthcare for the past few years. Al Knable recommended the Committee meet with Building Authority to get answers and include Michelle Portwood to answer healthcare cost questions.

#### **3.) Animal Shelter Update**

##### **a. Animal Shelter Funding**

Al Knable stated Mr. Draper of New Washington Animal Control reported in the month of January they answered 49 calls with 43 pickups. The Council had budgeted \$75,000.00 but the total cost will be \$176,300.00.

\$101,300.00 will be advertised for the next Council Meeting. The balance will be moved over to the new Animal Control Fund.

#### **4.) Administrative & Judicial Building Updates**

Al Knable stated the asbestos study and structural analysis will be conducted in March with the results in April. The Architect will be meeting with the stake holders to discuss needs of space.

## **5.) Annexation Update**

Al Knable stated there is no update on annexation.

## **6.) EMS Update**

Jason Sharp went over the RFPs for EMS Service. Ameripro provided four options and New Chapel provided one. New Chapel was asked to provide additional options but did not respond. The EMS Advisory Board has been asked to give their final recommendation at the March 12 meeting. A hybrid option with the Fire Districts was suggested but Al Knable stated it may be a possibility in the future but the county is not prepared for a hybrid EMS Fire model at this time. The current EMS contract expires May 31.

## **7.) Community Foundation Board Appointment**

Al Knable stated the Community Foundation has requested the Commissioners and Council to give them 3-4 names to choose from. The Commissioners has the name of Jeffrey Lilly and if anyone has more names to add to submit them to the Commissioner by the end of the week.

## **8.) Financial Advisor**

Danny Short stated he reached out to Baker Tilly in regard to being the County's Financial Advisor.

Al Knable stated it is primarily the Council's decision but asked if they do change from Reedy Group that Reedy will work with the transition to Baker Tilly.

Danny Short said Baker Tilly has a set program they import data into and then start adding in things that are unique to each county. He would like to have a decision on the March agenda. The cost of importing is built in to their quote.

## **9.) Ineligible Homestead Contract – TrueRoll**

Auditor, Diana Topping, presented a contract for TrueRoll. She is asking for the Commissioners to approve going forward with the contract and approval of the Council to fund it. There are two options, one is for approximately \$27,000.00 a year for the next 3 years and the second is to pay 30% of what is collected the first year and approximately \$16,000.00 a year for the second and third year.

Ms. Topping stated her commitment is to repay from monies that are collected to the County for any expenses paid.

**Motion to go with the contract for \$27,826.00 each year for the next 3 years to be budgeted in the Auditor's budget. County Council will appropriate out of County General the first year pending the Commissioners' approval. Moved by Denise Konkle. Seconded by Jim Freiberger. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion for Commissioners to adopt the contract. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by John Schellenberger. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **10.) Sheriff Bush – Unbudgeted Jail Expenses**

Sheriff Bush stated there are three areas of concern. The first one is electrical work done during Jail renovation in the main area of the pod. A red light flashes indicating the doors are open when not open.

The second issue is an IT issue with licensing and other IT related issues, cost is approximately \$250,000.00

The third concern is water pipes over the server. It is approximately \$250,000.00 cost. Sheriff Bush will get bids to present to County Council for the March meeting.

### Closing Comments

Brad Striegel – He would like for EMS Advisory Board to make a determination.

He doesn't see where County Officials need to be entertaining anything with New Chapel. He believes it would be an injustice to the tax payers.

Denise Konkle – She agrees with Mr. Striegel. The stability of New Chapel doesn't lend itself to what they are looking for. She thinks they should be broader at the possibility of a hybrid.

Dale Bagshaw – Questioned how a hybrid would work with dispatch. He has a problem with imposing more on the tax payers.

Jim Freiberger – He stated it will be around one million dollars more on EMS. New Chapel is looking shaky and they need to figure out a way to get the cost down and some other way to absorb the cost without another tax.

Jason Sharp – This is more complex issue than people want you to believe it is. There is value getting it right the first time. The EMS advisory board and the fire department board are two very different boards. If they rush something through it will end up costing more.

Al Knable – stated his number one consideration is public safety. The idea of a hybrid is intriguing but has zero data to go on.

### Public Comment


Dale Mann, Georgetown, asked about the number of animals that had been picked up this year. He asked why New Albany City is not paying rent for the animal shelter since the county owns the building. Al Knable stated the owner of the building is in dispute.

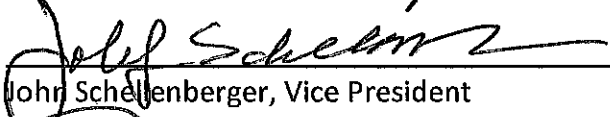
He questioned Shireman not taking responsibility for the electrical problems in the jail.

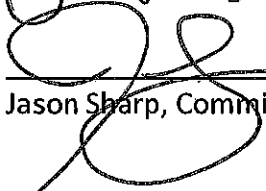
He stated New Chapel has provided good service for his family and community around him.

**Motion to adjourn. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Jason Sharp. Motion passed unanimously.**


### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Al Knable, President

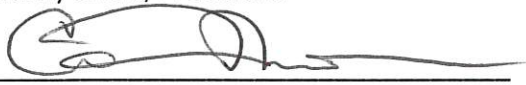
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Schellenberger, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Sharp, Commissioner

**FLOYD COUNTY COUNCIL**



Danny Short, President



Connie Moon, Vice President



Dale Bagshaw, member

Jim Freiburger, member

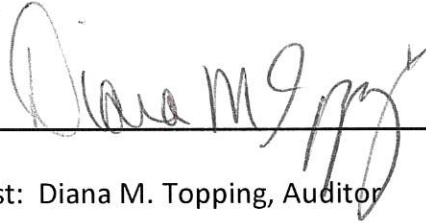


Denise Konkle, member



Brad Striegel, member

Tony Toran, member

  
Attest: Diana M. Topping, Auditor