

Commissioners & County Council

Joint Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 17, 2025

10:00 a.m.

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

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

Present: Commissioners –Al Knable and Jason Sharp **Absent** – Frank Loop

Present – Council -Danny Sharp, Denise Konkle, Jim Freiburger, Matt Millies and Sam Sarkisian

Absent – Tony Toran and Dale Bagshaw

Also Present: Auditor, Diana Topping; Chief Deputy Auditor, Gloria Jones and Sheriff, Steve Bush

Approval of 11-15-2024 Joint Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by Danny Short. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Health Department Building

Al Knable said they signed a letter of intent to purchase at the end of the year. Danny Short said the price is \$2.2 million for the building. The renovation cost is 98% on the first floor for approximately \$300,000.00. But they will have a full understanding of cost of renovation after closing and having people to evaluate. Al Knable will be signing an agreement with Crowe to explore financing options. Council had set aside approximately \$1.1 million of CARES Act money in Rainy Day Fund to help with the Health Department move.

2. Bridge 51 Financial Engagement

Al Knable commended the Road crews and Officers in their quick responses to the pot holes on the bridge. He said there have been delays with the federal funding. His fear is that that the overall cost might be significantly more when it comes to the letting of the project in September. The County is on the hook for 20% match. They have \$1 million set aside. He met with a Barnes and Thornburg representative to research borrowing capacities so when the project is let, if they need an additional ¼-1/2 million dollars, the paperwork will be in place so not to delay the bridge project.

3. Animal Control – Contract Extension vs. other options

Al Knable heard the City voted to move forward with their own Animal Shelter. The County has made multiple attempts to get the City back to the table to have a new Interlocal agreement but there has been no success with that to date. The next step is to find out ownership of the building. The County has the deed to the property. He thinks the fairest offer is to get two appraisals and pay them half of the average of those for the building as it exists now and let everyone move on from it.

The County has a contract for Animal Control runs through this year, but as time goes by, they will have to decide if they will extend the contract through 2027 and beyond or take steps to create their own shelter.

Jason Sharp spoke to Mr. Draper at New Washington Animal Control concerning his service to Floyd County. He is interested in bringing his operations into Floyd County out of where its current location.

Al Knable thinks the ideal situation is to join with the City to do something. His second idea is if the Contractor can bring something to Floyd County.

4. EMS/Fire update

Jason Sharp said he spent time with Auditor Topping going through some numbers trying to get an idea of what an annual operating cost would look like. He is still working on a few numbers. He said there is a proposed fire territory between Georgetown and New Albany Township Fire Departments. There will be three public meetings.

Denise Konkle asked if there has been a sit-down meeting with the Commissioners and the Fire Chiefs so all will be on the same page.

Jason Sharp said there have been public meetings. He said Highlander Fire cannot statutorily be in the Fire Territory because they have exceeded the debt limit.

5. Community Foundation Appointment

Al Knable recommended Ed Reutebuch. Tony Toran was given the recommendation of Bill Kaiser.

Next Joint Meeting: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 4:00pm

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Tony Toran. Seconded by Danny Short. Motion passed unanimously.

Approved the 25th day of February, 2025

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Al Knable, President



Jason Sharp, Vice President



Frank Loop, Commissioner

FLOYD COUNTY COUNCIL



Danny Short, President



Dale Bagshaw, Vice President



Denise Konkle, member



Jim Freiberger, member

Tony Toran, member



Matt Millies, member



Sam Sarkisian, member



Attest: Diana M. Topping, Auditor