

February 29, 2024

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 29<sup>th</sup> MEETING

Commissioner Crowe was absent. No Commissioner meeting was held on Tuesday, February 27 due to a family emergency. Staff and Commissioner Candidate Joe Sherman recited the pledge at 9:00. Purchase orders and bills were reviewed and signed. Pending issues were discussed with the following resolutions approved and signed:

V111-141	Minutes of February 22, 2024:
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-ABSENT, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V111-142	IV-D Contract CSEA & Clerk of Courts \$59,210.64 from County General
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes
V111-143	Additional Appropriation Allen County Real Estate
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes
V111-144	Bills
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V111-145	Authority for Engineers to Advertise and Receive Bids Force Account
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V111-146	Attorney Fees for Indigent February
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes
V111-147	Fireworks Donation \$100
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes
Signed:	Agreement with JFS and Compassion Care Group 02/26/24-06/30/25,
\$200,000	
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes

Katey Henson, Prosecutors Office, came in to discuss revisions made to the **Kimmel mat** contract. Due to changes in the language of the contract there will be a slight price increase. Commissioner Striker moved to accept the contract with Kimmel with the language corrections with a 6% increase, thirty-six months. Commissioner Rush second. Roll call; Striker-yes, Rush-yes.

Luke Underwood, **County Engineer**. General discussion on widening Kohler Street west of Ida St. Luke discussed the complaints of the mud on the roads around the solar project. He addressed the issue with the companies and will update the commissioners. Engineers to help with the utilities with the fairground project. They want to help as much as possible. Move utilities, new storm drain, possibly a small retention pond. Relocate a water line. Might have a donation of concrete.

The bid opening for the **Reed Waste Water Treatment Plant** was held with the following bids received with funds to come from the **America Rescue Fund**:

1. Daman Industrial Services Option 1- \$337,500 and option 2- \$275,000, CC
2. Norwalk Concrete Industries \$267,783.00, BB

Commissioner Striker moved to accept the bids as presented and take under the advisement of the County Engineer to be awarded later. Commissioner Rush second. Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes. **V111-148** Estimate \$300,000. When awarded Luke Underwood will submit additional cost from the America Rescue Funds to complete the project.

**Judge Maria Santo** came for clarification and explanation only. To discuss the newspaper article regarding Hardin Northern's Superintendent Cano comments in the paper saying they will be asking county commissioners for money. Maria is not asking the commissioners for another dollar at this time. They could do an MOU 20 hrs. a week for 1 year at a time. In case the probation officers are needed again with the courts. It will not cost the court anything. They will work with the school resource officer. Trying to lead off the truancy issues before they end up at the courts. The courts will be reimbursed for the 20 hours a week that they are employed at the schools. Roughly \$31,500 per officer. Each school \$6300. This is just rough

estimate of wages at this time. Want to start this in the 24-25 school year. Not sure if the MOU is between each individual school board. Commissioner Rush asked if it would be reimbursed from each individual school. Judge not sure how the schools will pay it will be between the schools and how they need to do it. They will hold interviews. Creating our own pilot program to help control truancy and help the school resource officers. Rush wants to know how this will affect the court. Hoping this will head off the situation before they are on probation and in the court system. Right now, we are wasting a lot of resources based on the legislation and what they are allowed to do. If it works that is wonderful, if not maybe the school can come up with something different. The prosecutor will have to draft the MOU and approve. They will still be court and county employees not school employees. Held to county policies and schedules. They will be here in the courts when there is no school and it's a regular workday.

Roll call resulted as follows:

ROGER E. CROWE- ABSENT  
 President of the Board-Roger E. Crowe

\_\_\_\_\_, YES/NO  
 Fred M. Rush

\_\_\_\_\_, YES/NO  
 Timothy L. Striker

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clerk of the Board

ARF  
 BID

V111  
 149