

Randolph County Commissioners

December 30, 2024

The Randolph County Council met at their regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Michael Wickersham, Gary Friend and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mike said council, morning. Do we have anybody from council that would like to make a report this morning? Okay. Thank you.

Jay Long and Joe Copeland – Award Highway bids

Mike said next item is Jay Long and Joe Copeland to award highway bids.

Joe Copeland said I'll pass out the list. Those are the bids and we recommend to accept. That's for everything, and then I do have one for, I don't know if you're interested or not. This is for the pipes that were bid. I put on here pipes, who was low. Okay, item 1, annual bids for 2025, gasoline, one bidder. Ag Best, LLC. Item 2 is premium diesel fuel, one bidder, Ag Best, LLC. Accept the only bid which was from Ag Best.

Mike said do you want to do these one at a time or do you just want to give us your recommendation for all of them.

Joe Copeland said your preference, whatever.

Mike said and we'll just accept your recommendation.

Joe Copeland said okay. I'll go through all of them.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said item 3 is asphalt, paving materials and miscellaneous. FOB plant, we had two bidders, E&B Paving, Irving Materials, and then furnished, delivered and placed, hot mix asphalt, E&B Paving was the only bidder. We would recommend not to accept the bids and wait until 2025 and rebid them to see if we could get a lower price.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said item number 4, crushed stone, 3 bidders, Irving Materials, Barrett Paving and US Aggregates. Would recommend to accept all bids. Item 5, gravel and sand, had 3 bidders, Irving Materials, Barrett Paving and US Aggregates. We recommend to accept all bids. Item 6, pipe and miscellaneous, 2 bidders, E3 Bridge and CivilCon. CivilCon was low on all of it.

Mike said so, you're recommending CivilCon?

Joe Copeland said yes sir. Item 7, calcium chloride, no bidders, no bids at all. Item 8, small equipment, rental and labor, two bidders, Cobalt Civil and ECC, East Central Contractors. Recommend to accept low bid from Cobalt Civil. And bids to carry over through 2025, we had three that said they would hold their price, and it cannot exceed the price they bid. And those were liquid asphalt with Asphalt Materials, large equipment rental and labor with Duncan Robertson and pre-engineered, pre-fabricated bridges with E&H Bridge and Grading.

Mike said any questions of Joe, Jay or Nate regarding the bid recommendations?

Gary Friend said no.

Gary Girton said what's going to be the issue then with the calcium chloride?

Joe Copeland said my understanding is if you don't receive a bid you can, I only know of one manufacturer, or one supplier that we can get it from. And my understanding is you can go to them and get it. You have to just see what price they'll give you for it.

Mike said is that the one out of Warsaw?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Nate Moore said yeah, Great Lakes Quarry.

Joe Copeland said yeah, Great Lakes Quarry.

Mike said there used to be, are we just using a lesser amount?

Joe Copeland said they may not have known about the bid.

Mike said any other questions, Gary?

Gary Girton said no.

Mike said do you have any questions?

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to accept the recommendation of the highway department regarding the annual bids for 2025 as well as the ones that we did not accept to carry, to rebid in 2025.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said anything else for us this morning?

Joe Copeland said I do want to make a comment. Mike and Gary, I appreciate the opportunity you gave me to come here and work. You've been very helpful.

Mike said it was a win for the county in my opinion.

Joe Copeland said and it's been a very positive thing for me, as far as I'm concerned.

Mike said good, it's been positive for the county.

Joe Copeland said thank you again.

Gary Friend said and you're coming back next year?

Joe Copeland said yes sir. I'll be here. God willing, I'll be here.

Gary Girton said I thank you Joe, too, and as Mike said, it's been a real blessing to the county from the standpoint of your knowledge and your working ability and so on. Also, we've got to have you here because all the Purdue people are leaving.

Other Business:

Minutes of November 18, December 2 and December 16

Mike said next item on the agenda is Minutes of our November 18th meeting, December 2nd meeting, and December 16th meeting. We received copies of these minutes via email. Are there any additions, corrections or deletions to these three sets of minutes?

Gary Friend said none for me.

Gary Girton said I have none.

Mike said hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to approve all three as presented.

Gary Friend made a motion to accept. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$516,745.48

Mike said next item, our payroll claims at our place and they're in the amount of \$516,745.48. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes.
Motion carried.

Regular Claims \$1,365,370.27

Mike said next item, our regular claims in the amount of \$1,365,370.27.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes.
Motion carried.

Community Foundation (RC Promise) Claim \$25,000.00

Mike said next item is a community foundation Randolph County Promise claim in the amount of \$25,000.00. This is from our EDIT Plan. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes.
Motion carried.

Lifestream Claim \$22,250.00

Mike said next claim is a Lifestream claim in the amount of \$22,250.00. Again, this is from EDIT as well. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes.
Motion carried.

Argo Consulting claim \$25,825.00

Mike said next item is the Argo claim for professional services rendered since October for work at the jail, and to give us advice and counsel on the improvements that need to be made there.

Gary Girton said do we have any information as to what they are recommending at this time?

Gary Friend said I haven't heard anything.

Laura said Jake might know. I don't know.

Mike said Jake, can you come up for a minute and share what you know about the jail?

Jake Donham said I think it was about a month ago, Tony was on site with the electrical engineer to do another walk through on the electrical side. About two months ago we had a meeting and Gary was there as well. There was a lot of discussion on looking further than the HVAC and the plumbing. If they're going to have multiple portions of the building shut down at a time, let's look at everything in the facility inside the walls. And so, I think the stainless steel on the fixtures is going to be the heavy hitter in this project, which is all your plumbing fixtures inside the cells. The lead time on those to get them in, a year out, and then the cost of them is going to be pretty significant. So, they were really looking at those to see if there's an absolute need to do all those. Tony was going to back up and throw different pricing, different options, kind of like an ala carte menu for you guys to kind of look at to see where this, where we stand as far as the

project. Last I had talked to him, I think he was looking towards the first of the year, having it pretty well put together, present and see what kind of direction from here on out, you guys wanted to go.

Gary Friend said we were looking at the ceiling tile and floors too.

Jake Donham said yeah, so, originally, the project started out HVAC and then jumped into plumbing. Tony said we may as well go ahead and look at the electrical while we were there, and get a price on switching everything out to led, energy efficient, because the ceilings are going to be out anyways for the HVAC stuff. And he said if they're out, you know, let's go ahead and look at doing the lighting package as well throughout the entire facility. So, just do a lot of extras into the project that we really didn't, at the beginning, didn't start out with.

Gary Friend said they don't want any part of the floor either, actually?

Jake Donham said right. The flooring is a whole different animal. That might be something to look at later on after the project, to just do a section at a time, because it's going to be pretty extensive on flooring.

Mike said so, are they still within their not-to-exceed \$109,650?

Jake Donham said absolutely not.

Mike said they're not?

Jake Donham said oh, no. No, stainless steel just kept going. I shouldn't even say, I think he was in the 2 million dollars stage just for the stainless steel.

Mike said no, I meant for his services?

Jake Donham said as far as I know.

Mike said okay. That's what I was.

Jake Donham said Tony's end of it.

Mike said I wish we could do that for \$109,000.

Jake Donham said yeah. Exactly. We'll probably have to when that one dies here in another week. But yeah, I think he's going to, he said he's still comfortable at his number and the extras.

Mike said so this is about three quarters of it if we pay this claim?

Jake Donham said I believe so.

Mike said and it's coming out of ARPA?

Gary Friend said yes.

Mike said any other questions?

Gary Girton said I think you're moving in the right direction and I'm certainly in favor of going through the whole packet as much as we can.

Jake Donham said it's going to be a pretty extensive project.

Gary Girton said we knew that coming in.

Jake Donham said yeah.

Gary Girton said we just need to do it all at once instead of piecemealing it and spending more money because they have to disassemble something to get to something they already had disassembled to start with.

Jake Donham said right.

Mike said so this claim is for \$25,825.00 which takes him through services through 12/16/24.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Jake Donham said one thing I do remember Tony saying is, in his original price, he had put in there for all new prints for the whole project, he was able just to overlay on the prints that existed and use those. So, he said that was a huge savings in itself not having to generate a whole new set of plans for this. So, that was a, that worked out really well too, as a savings on our end and his.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend said just must have got good plans from the start.

Jake Donham said right.

Mike said very good. Okay. Thanks, Jake.

Jake Donham said yep.

BF&S (airport) claim \$10,522.55

Mike said next item is the Butler Fairman and Siefert Claim. This is civil engineers representing the airport for this claim. This is a T-hanger inspection. The total amount of this claim is \$10,522.55, which, presuming it's coming out of EDIT?

Laura said well they've got a grant.

Mike said a grant.

Laura said then we gave them some.

Mike said yeah. Well I do know we granted them out of EDIT to finish this T-hanger project.

Sherrie Timmons said what's the fund number?

Laura said give her the fund number.

Sherrie Timmons said it should be 8092.

Mike said 8092?

Sherrie Timmons said yeah, that's the T-hanger project. We have to pay grants out of the grant fund.

Mike said that's out of the grant fund?

Sherrie Timmons said yes.

Mike said okay. Did our EDIT grant go into the grant fund as well? So, it's one fund. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said that's all the claims we have this morning.

Handbook Ordinance 2024-23

Mike said we received a copy of our new employee handbook and I trust that we had opportunity to review it.

Gary Friend said I have a question on the highway department, where it states employees 7 to 5, Mondays through Thursday with a half hour unpaid lunch which is only a 30 hour workweek. It'll be on section 3.2.2.

Mike said garage employees 7 to 5 with half hour unpaid lunch.

Laura said we can correct that.

Mike said office employees, would that be the same?

Laura said yes. They work the same hours as the drivers.

Mike said so.

Laura said I checked with Jay on that, I obviously, didn't catch that half hour of unpaid lunch, so it should just say Monday through Friday, 7 to 5.

Mike said Monday through Thursday, 7 to 5.

Laura said oh, Monday through Thursday, yeah, 7 to 5.

Mike said is that allowed to not provide a lunchtime for an employee, Meeks? I thought we'd had this discussion in the past.

Meeks said we did.

Laura said I think in the current handbook it reads that they have a rolling lunch. So, basically, they eat while they're working.

Mike said I guess I would feel a lot more comfortable before we modify, it needs to be modified, but we need to have Wagner give us an opinion on how we modify this.

Meeks said yep.

Mike said the office employees that are working 40 hours a week.

Meeks said we'll talk to them. We'll ask them how to do it.

Laura said is that going to push our meeting back?

Meeks said no, it shouldn't. We've still going to meet.

Laura said because they're not going to approve this today then?

Meeks said well, they can approve it with the modification of the work hours. I mean, we can change that any time. We're still having our meeting.

Laura said okay.

Meeks said and we can change this at any time. And I think you just pass it today and have the hours remain the same as they are currently, and then we'll give them the answer to you guys.

Mike said does that work for you, Gary?

Gary Friend said it does.

Mike said does that work for you, Gary? So, we're going to pass this new handbook except for the highway work hours. They will remain the same as they are in the current handbook.

Meeks said and then we'll get a modification.

Laura said okay.

Mike said well with that proviso, then we have Ordinance number 2024-23, and ordinance adopting the Randolph County personnel policies handbook, and I would entertain a motion to approve an ordinance adopting the Randolph County personnel policies handbook Ordinance number 2024-23 after the first reading by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-23

RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE RANDOLPH COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICIES HANDBOOK

WHEREAS the County of Randolph, Indiana is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and

WHEREAS it is the intent of Randolph County, Indiana to comply with applicable federal and state of Indiana employment laws and regulations, and

WHEREAS the County of Randolph, Indiana provides Randolph County employees with information about established terms and conditions of employment and employee benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY OF RANDOLPH, INDIANA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT:

The attached Randolph County Personnel Policies Handbook is hereby adopted this ___day of December, 2024; and shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and shall supersede and repeal existing oral or written personnel policies and procedures.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said if we want to pass this ordinance, then we need to move to suspend the rules.

Gary Girton said I move we suspend the rules and have the second and third reading by title only approved today.

Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to adopt Ordinance number 2024-23, an ordinance adopting the Randolph County personnel policies handbook.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks said when is our meeting scheduled for?

Laura said January 15th at 9:00 a.m. It's going to be with office heads only.

Meeks said so, January 15th at 9:00 a.m. and you'll send out a memo?

Laura said yeah, I was waiting to make sure this got adopted before I sent the memo out.

Meeks said so, we'll have Erwin here at that time for any questions to the department heads.

Mike said and you'll talk to them beforehand about this?

Meeks said yeah, we'll email them today or tomorrow, yeah. They'll get an email.

Mike said anything else on the handbook?

APC and BZA 4th quarter attendance

Mike said Area Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals 4th quarter attendance. We were sent those via email, and we've reviewed them. Any questions or comments regarding those? Gary has none. Gary, do you have any?

Gary Girton said no, I have none.

Mike said that brings us to the end of our agenda. Laura, do you have anything for us this morning?

Laura Martin – Letter of resignation from Keith Pugh (contract building commission inspector)

Laura said just one thing. I received a letter of resignation from Keith Pugh.

Gary Friend said from who?

Laura said Keith Pugh. He's going the, temporarily doing the inspections.

Gary Friend said is Randy back?

Laura said no. He's going to work until the end of January.

Mike said the letter of resignation is he's going to complete his employment on January 31, 2025. Will Randy be back by then? Do we know?

Laura said I don't know.

Gary Friend said we'll have to find out, won't we?

Mike said okay. Meeks, do you have anything for us?

Meeks said I do not.

Mike said Gary Friend, do you have anything for us?

Gary Friend said I do. I think it's all encompassing I think to say thank you to you two is kind of understated what you've done for Randolph County. I appreciate it. I'll miss you both and thank you both.

Mike said well I had an opportunity to tell your wife at the grocery store, that I enjoyed working with you Gary, it's been a pleasure. And I feel comfortable leaving the county in good hands. So, that's a good thing. Not all county commissioners can say that when they retire. I feel good about that. So, Gary Girton, do you have anything for us this morning?

Gary Girton said no. It's been a privilege for me to have served for 12 years. I tried to do what I could. I've made mistakes, but tried to work through them and move forward.

Mike said thank you. Well, I gave my farewell speech at the meeting on the 16th. So, I'm over that. I don't have anything else.

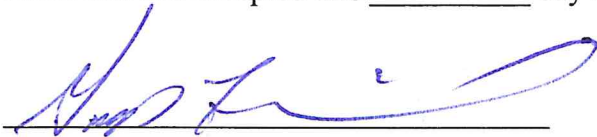
Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Mike said do we have any citizens here that have a comment to make this morning? Hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment

Gary Friend made a motion to adjourn. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned.

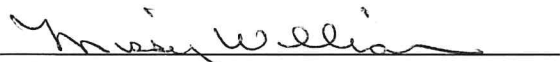
Reviewed and accepted this 6 day of January, 2025



Gary Friend



Thomas Kerns


Missy Williams

ATTESTED: 
Laura J Martin, Auditor