

Minutes

January 11, 2024

Commissioners present: Timothy Bechtol, Michael Pepple and William Bateson.

Also Present: Alec Helms, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Matt Cordonnier, Kaysie Penzinski, Kenzi Tucker, Claire Bateson, Holly Frische and Lou Wilin from the Courier

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The assistant clerk announce that the Tuesday Minutes from the January 9, 2024 meeting were read with Michael Pepple making a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Timothy Bechtol abstained due to being absent from the meeting.

Michael Pepple made a motion to approve the Warrant Journal. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners approved payroll for their office and JFS and travel requests for the Auditor's office and the Engineer. Michael Pepple made a motion for the chair's signature on the request for release of funds and certification for the Village of Rawson Waterline Study. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Michael Pepple made a motion for the chair's signature on the request for release of funds and certification for the Village of McComb Parking Facilities project. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Michael Pepple made a motion for the chair's signature on the Certificate of the Total Amount from all Sources Available for Expenditures and Balances. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. There was a discussion on the carry of for this year.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #27-24 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioner's to appropriate to VOCA #2084. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #28-24 – Transfer of funds from the Housing Trust Fund to the General Fund (4th Quarter Feeds 2023) - \$641.15. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #29-24 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioner's to appropriate to HUD Fund #2062. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #30-24 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioner's to appropriate to Hancock Co Election Commission Fund #8135. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #31-24 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioner's to appropriate to Special Improvement Fund #4005 (Forest Lake). Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #32-24 – In the matter of re-appointment of Kraig Kutschbach to the Blanchard Valley Port Authority (BVPA). Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #33-24 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor’s certification – Commissioner’s to appropriate to Capital Projects Sheriff #4185. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolution:

Resolution #35-24 – Authorization to enter into agreement with DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC, for engineering services related to the Forest Lake Single County Petition Ditch project. Phil Johnson stated this is the next step in the petition process. The Engineer interviewed a few companies and has decided to enter into a contract with DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC for the design, estimated cost and assessment recommendation for this project. The cost of this contract is \$120,857.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolution:

Resolution #34-23 - Authorizing a subgrant of a portion of the Hancock County ARPA Fund to the Village of McComb to provide financial assistance for the costs of implementing technology to provide Integrated Public Safety Software for police and providers multi-jurisdictional support. Cindy Land stated this is for McComb to get the software to be on the Tyler system. After Covid it has been difficult to find officers, especially in the smaller villages. This has created a safety issue. Them having this software will allow them to communicate with other jurisdictions. The City of Findlay and the Sheriff’s office uses the Tyler system as well. This is a \$75,000.00 subgrant of ARPA Funds. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve and William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

There was a discussion on the new procedures for reimbursing the City of Findlay for cases handled by the Public Defender’s office in Municipal Court when the County receives reimbursement form the OPD.

Auditor Rauschenberg stated that tax bills are bring printed. There will be a lot of people who notice assessments this year. There were a lot of changes to the tax lists this year. There were no value changes though. It is still dog tag season as well.

Matt Cordonnier, from Regional Planning, stated that he wanted to introduce Kaysie Penzinski to the Board. Kaysie will be the new grant writer. The transition is going very well. Lizzy is still working part time to help train Kaysie.

Meetings/Reports

William Bateson attended the Public Defender Board meeting this morning. The topic of the billing to the City of Findlay was discussed and from our earlier conversation it seems like we have that taken care of. There has also been a policy change at Marysville Women’s prison.

Council is no longer able to consult with their clients over the phone, they must now go in person. This could increase travel costs and things for the Public Defender's office.

Michael Pepple attended the Employee Benefits Committee meeting yesterday. We were able to go over the transition from 2023 to 2024 and begin planning for 2025.

Tim Bechtol attended the Downtown Design Review Bard meeting last night to present some topics about the new Judicial Center. It was an overall success meeting. The board passed 3 of the 4 design ideas for the building and the last one is very doable with a few changes.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Jay Myers for an insurance updated. Also present was Alec Helms, Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Auditor Charity Raschenberg, Holly Frische, Clair Bateson and Schulte. Jay Myers provided a list of the insurance claims from 2023 and provided the status of them. There were 15 BWC claims and 1 of them was denied. There was a discussion on the MPRMA policy of having to pay anything under \$1,500.00 and not putting in an insurance claim for it. There was also a discussion on the current \$500.00 deductible.

Cindy Land requested an executive session in regards to pending litigation.

At 10:41 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made a motion to enter into Executive Session in regards to pending litigation. William Bateson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Michael Pepple, yes; William Bateson, yes; Timothy Bechtol, yes;

At 10:56 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made a motion to come out of Executive Session having discussed pending litigation with no action taken. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners held the bid opening for the County Road 140 farm land. Also present was Alec Helms, Phil Johnson, Lynn Taylor and Christine Carrigan. See attached sign in sheet for members of the public present at both farm land auctions. The assistant clerk stated that 6 bids had been received and the confirmed Courthouse mailroom had been checked and there are no additional bids. The openings bids were as follows:

- Tim Schulte - \$250.00 per acre
- Boes Family Farms - \$250.00 per acre
- Triple B Grain Farms -\$215.00 per acre
- Dravis Farms - \$230.00 per acre
- Franks Farms and Livestock - \$186.00 per acre
- Newcomers - \$250.00 per acre

Phil Johnson confirmed the bases for all of the bids is per acre and the area for farming is approximately 158.8 aces. Commissioner Bechtol asked if anyone would like to make an additional higher bid. There was a back and fourth of bidding between Tim Schulte and Boes Family Farms with \$5 increases. Tim Schulte won the auction with a final bid of \$355.00 per acre. Phil Johnson stated he will prepare the lease for Mr. Schulte review and prepare the resolution for the Commissioners approval.

At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioners held the bid opening for the Landfill farm land. Also present was Alec Helms, Phil Johnson. The assistant clerk stated that 1 bid had been received and the confirmed Courthouse mailroom had been checked and there are no additional bids. Phil Johnson stated that anyone that would like to bid must have a written bid turned in. No one in attendance wanted to bid on this land. The one bid was from Tim Durbin for \$90.00 per acre. The

considered the bid and agreed to move forward with the bid. Phil Johnson will prepare the lease and resolution for next weeks agenda.

At 2:00 p.m., Commissioner Pepple attended the Solid Waste Management District meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Alec Helms, Assistant Clerk

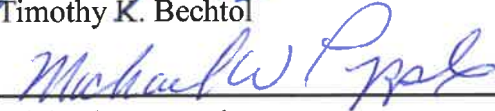
Reviewed and approved by:



William L. Bateson



Timothy K. Bechtol



Michael W. Pepple

SIGN IN

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	DEPARTMENT/ADDRESS
Joseph Franklin	
Joseph Franklin	
Joseph Franklin	
Tim Dubin -	
Tyler Drewes	
Mark Duro	
Tim Schulte -	
Jess Boes	
Cecil Boes	
Tyler Boes	
Matt Boehm	
GARY TUTTLE	
NATHAN NEWCOMER	