

REGULAR SESSION
SCOTT COUNTY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

The Scott County Council met in Regular Session on February 9, 2021 at 9:30 am in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Suite 128, Courthouse, First Floor. Those present were Council members Donnie Richie, Ab Watts, Eric Gillespie, Lyndi Hughbanks, Diane Mullins, Rachael Hardin, and Raymond Jones. Also present were Auditor Tammy Stout Johnson and Chief Deputy Auditor Teresa Vannarsdall.

The meeting was called to order by President Hardin who opened the meeting with roll call and allowance for public comments.

2021 BOARD APPOINTMENTS

President Hardin called for nominations for Board Appointments for 2021. The following motions were made:

MOTION: Jones moved to reappoint Perry Lynn Hayes to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission. Seconded by Watts. Motion carried with four (4) in favor and three (3) opposed (Gillespie, Hughbanks, and Mullins).

MOTION: Jones moved to reappoint Jim Boswell to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Seconded by Richie. Motion carried with six (6) in favor and one (1) opposed (Gillespie).

Members agreed by consensus to retain Donnie Richie as the appointment to the Advisory Plan Commission.

MOTION: Richie moved to reappoint Ab Watts to the Civil Defense Board. Seconded by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to table the appointment of the Council Attorney. Seconded by Mullins. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to appoint Lyndi Hughbanks to the Insurance Committee. Seconded by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Richie moved to appoint Rachael Hardin to the Scott County Economic Development Commission. Seconded by Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Richie moved to reappoint Raymond Jones to the EMS Oversight Committee. Seconded by Watts. Motion carried unanimously.

Hughbanks nominated Kenny Hughbanks to fill the Library Trustee appointment. A letter from the Library Board was read which requested the reappointment of Shelia Williams.

MOTION: Jones moved to honor the Library Board's request to reappoint Shelia Williams as the Council's appointee as a Library Trustee. Seconded by Watts. Motion carried with four (4) in favor and three (3) opposed (Gillespie, Hughbanks, and Mullins).

MOTION: Jones moved to appoint Rachael Hardin and Lyndi Hughbanks to the Personnel Committee. Seconded by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to appoint Yvonne Dowd to the Scott County Redevelopment Board. Seconded by Gillespie. Hughbanks withdrew the motion followed by Gillespie that withdrew his second to the motion.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to appoint Diane Mullins as the member appointment to the Scott County Redevelopment Commission. Seconded by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to appoint Yvonne Dowd to the Scott County Redevelopment Board. Seconded by Mullins. Motion failed with three (3) in favor and four (4) opposed (Hardin, Jones, Richie, and Watts).

MOTION: Watts moved to reappoint Iva Gasaway to the Scott County Redevelopment Board. Seconded by Jones. Motion carried with four (4) in favor and three (3) opposed (Gillespie, Hughbanks, and Mullins).

MOTION: Gillespie moved to appoint Lyndi Hughbanks to River Hills EDC. Seconded by Mullins. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Richie moved to reappoint Rachael Hardin to the Scott County Partnership Board. Seconded by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to appoint Diane Mullins to the Southeastern Indiana Recycling District Board. Seconded by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to appoint Eric Gillespie to the SCEDC ATA Bond Committee. Seconded by Mullins. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL ATTORNEY RESIGNATION

Hardin read a resignation letter from Attorney Mike Carter effective March 1, 2021.

MOTION: Jones moved to accept the resignation of Attorney Mike Carter with appreciation for his service to the Council. Seconded by Hardin. Motion carried unanimously.

In a previous motion, the appointment of the Attorney was tabled until the next meeting.

EXTENSION OF COVID-19 ABSENCE PAY POLICY

Commissioner Mike Jones discussed the lack of a federal policy to guide employers regarding compensation for employees absent due to COVID-19 illness or quarantine for 2021. Auditor Johnson modified the policy adopted in 2020 (effective through December 31, 2020) to extend compensation benefits for employee only COVID-19 related absences for up to 80 hours through from January 1 through June 30, 2021. Jones added that the Board of Commissioners agreed to this at their February 3, 2021 meeting.

MOTION: Richie moved to approve the County’s extension of the up to 80 hours of compensation benefits to employees (only) during COVID-19 related absences retroactive from January 1 through June 30, 2021. Seconded by Hughbanks. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST FROM TIMBER FUND

Commissioner Jones discussed the current situation with the Coroner’s Office and the need to finalize arrangements with Scott Memorial Hospital for the office and morgue/autopsy space. Commissioner Jones explained the renovation costs would be approximately \$28,000 with additional funds needs for engineering and State permitting fees. Councilman Jones questioned whether tax dollars (public funds) could be spent for improvements on a privately owned building or property not owned by the County. Other members questioned if the agreement between the Hospital and the County would be sufficient to satisfy the State Board of Accounts.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to table the additional appropriation request until the SBOA can render an opinion on the matter. Seconded by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF

Melissa Woods of River Hills EDC discussed the grant opportunity through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs. The funding would target small businesses struggling or developing innovations to maintain operation during the pandemic. The COVID-19 Response Planning grant would allow for any business located in Scott County to apply for up to \$10,000 in relief funds. There is no match funds required, but commitment to matching up to 10% looks good to OCRA and for every percent matched, a point is scored for the grant approval rating.

Woods indicated that Redevelopment Funds may be a potential source for the matching funds which will be just under \$28,000. Woods is tentatively looking at March 9, 2021 for the public hearing. Woods requested that members encourage small business owners to compose letters of support to help with the application for the grant.

MOTION: Jones moved to participate in the Small Business COVID Relief grant from OCRA along with support of an up to 10% commitment, provided funds can be found for the match. Seconded by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

VACCINATION CLINIC TEMPORARY PAY POLICY

Health Department Director Michelle Matern requested consideration for a temporary compensation policy for the COVID-19 vaccination clinics. The State has expectations for vaccination clinics to administer the doses, regardless of holidays, overtime hours, etc. Matern presented a temporary amendment to the compensation policy for 2021 which would allow for those county employees, non-exempt or exempt, to be compensated at an overtime rate of pay from January 11, 2021 until April 30, 2021 including worked holidays. Matern said the funding for the overtime would be the ISDH testing cost grant. WIS Consultants reviewed the document and agreed that it would be sufficient to temporarily amend the compensation policy for the applicable Health Department employees. The policy was approved by the Commissioners at their January 20, 2020 meeting.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to approve the temporary amendment for the compensation of Health Department staff (exempt and non-exempt) while working the vaccination clinics. Seconded by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

EMS FUEL COSTS & BUDGET UPDATE

EMS Director Shannon Mount updated members on recent events. Mount discussed repair of electrical issues along with lighting improvements for the station. Mount stated he discontinued the Hulu service as a cost cutting measure. Mount also saved money when he purchased shipping containers to use for storage buildings. The EMS is currently running three (3) trucks 24 hours per day. Trucks will be scheduled for quarterly preventative maintenance.

BUILDING COMMISSION TRANSFER REQUEST

With the addition of a vehicle to the Building Commission, creation of a Fuel (#22700) line item was requested along with a \$1,500 transfer the 2021 budget.

MOTION: Hughbanks moved to create the Fuel (#22700) line item for the Building Commission budget. Seconded by Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Richie moved to transfer \$1,500 from the Vehicle Purchase (#42601) line into the newly created Fuel (#22700) line item for the Building Commission budget. Seconded by Watts. Motion carried unanimously.

****Note-Raymond Jones exited meeting.**

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT LINE TIME CREATION AND TRANSFER REQUEST

Creation of an Equipment (#37002) line item was requested along with a \$3,550 transfer from the Stone (#23100) line item in the 2021 budget.

MOTION: Gillespie moved to create an Equipment (#37002) line item for the Highway budget. Seconded by Mullins. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Watts moved to transfer \$3,550 from the Stone (#37002) line into the newly created Equipment (#37002) line item for the Highway budget. Seconded by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

SURVEYOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST

An additional appropriation in the amount of \$16,800 was requested from the Surveyor Perpetuation Fund to cover expenses associated with Section Corner maintenance.

MOTION: Gillespie moved to approve the \$16,800 additional appropriation in the Surveyor's Perpetuation Fund. Seconded by Hughbanks. Motion carried unanimously.


CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 8, 2020 MEETING


Minutes from the December 8, 2020 Regular meeting were presented for review.


MOTION: Watts moved to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2020 Regular meeting. Second provided by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Watts moved to adjourn the February 9, 2021 Regular meeting of the Council. Second provided by Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

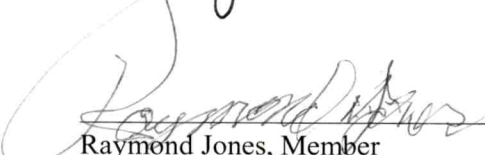

Rachael Hardin, President

X 
Ab Watts, Member



Donnie Richie, Vice President


Lyndi Hughbanks, Member

Diana Mullins, Member


Raymond Jones, Member


Eric Gillespie, Member

ATTEST: 
Tammy Stout Johnson, Scott County Auditor