

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, December 23, 2024

6:30 P.M.

Marion County Courthouse, Room 302

Meeting convened at 6:30 P.M. with Steven Whritenour, Marion County Board Chairman, leading Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Invocation presented by Wayne Walker.

Roll Call taken by Lori Linder, Marion County Board Secretary. Present were Tracy Murray, Brock Waggoner, Mike Douglas, Deborah Reed, Timothy McCance, Tyson McHenry, Steven Whritenour, Cody Rose, Christopher Krupp, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent were Sharon Woodward, Jack Riley, Judith Meeks-Hakim, and Adam Smith.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Marion County State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth addressed the Board via telephone. He conveyed that according to the Appellate Court, the previous Secret Ballot Vote for Marion County Board Chairman/Chairwoman and Vice Chairman/Chairwoman was a violation of the Open Meetings Act. He explained the procedure to rectify the matter. The Board Members were asked to publicly state who they voted for at the previous meeting.

Tracy Murray – Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Brock Waggoner – Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Mike Douglas - Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Deborah Reed – Debbie Smith Chairwoman and Debbie Smith Vice Chairwoman
Tim McCance - Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Tyson McHenry - Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Steven Whritenour - Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Cody Rose - Steve Whritenour Chairman and Tyson McHenry Vice Chairman
Christopher Krupp – Debbie Smith Chairwoman and Debbie Smith Vice Chairwoman
Debbie Smith – Debbie Smith Chairwoman and Deborah Reed Vice Chairwoman

No action was taken regarding Board member David Iossi due to him being absent and not voting at the previous meeting.

Board Members Sharon Woodward, Jack Riley, Judith Meeks-Hakim, and Adam Smith will need to publicly disclose who they had previously voted for at the next meeting that they attend.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST

See attached list.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Angie Diss, Mayor of Kinmundy was not able to attend this evening's meeting, but has rescheduled her appearance for the January 28, 2025 meeting.

Josh Dunahee, guest and Service Center Manager of XPO in Salem announced that Brian "Smiley" Riddle has driven 26 ½ years accident free, covering 3-million miles. Mr. Riddle was escorted to the Salem facility by the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Salem Police Department, and 2 large firetrucks from the Salem Fire Department. Mr. Dunahee commended them, including Dennis Rosenberger, Journalist for The Sentinel newspaper for helping with the celebration for this gentleman.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Finance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp conveyed that a Resolution/Ordinance supporting the organization will be presented to the Board at the December 30, 2024 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

David Iossi made a Motion to approve the Full Board Meeting Minutes and was seconded by Christopher Krupp. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. The minutes were not completed and/or included in this packet.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Marion County Clerk Steve Fox was absent; therefore, nothing new was reported.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp began with a brief discussion regarding the consideration of hiring a Forensic Auditor for Marion County. He expressed concerns with the expense involved. Board Chairman Steve Whritenour will be forwarding emails from people that are interested in this position to Mr. Krupp. Further discussions will transpire in a future Finance Committee Meeting in January, 2025.

Next, Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp addressed the FY 2022 Audit. Mike Douglas had previously requested the reason that the audit is taking so long to complete. Mr. Krupp reiterated that WIPFLI has lost 2 of their representatives that were addressing this matter. In addition, he and Marion County Treasurer Gary Purcell verified that WIPFLI has all of the County's information, and they are currently working on this project. Dr. Douglas also had questions regarding the County's Fund accounts and finding an auditor to work with the County due to this financial matter, and if a better software is available. This topic was briefly discussed. In conclusion, Mr. Krupp will do some research and communicate any information obtained.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BROCK WAGGONER

Budget Committee Chairman Brock Waggoner began by conveying that a Committee Meeting with the Marion County Elected Officials was conducted earlier in the day. He stated that the County is in a "better financial situation" than the prior speculation. This was credited to additional revenue being found and the Elected Officials revising their budgets. Mr. Waggoner is anticipating to have the FY 2025 Budget ready for approval by the Monday, December 30, 2024 Special Full Board Meeting. Board Member Debbie Smith recommended "trimming" the Marion County Board's budget while asking the Elected Officials to adjust theirs. Chairman Steven Whritenour stated that this can be addressed at the Full Board Meeting in January, 2025. Mr. Whritenour and Finance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp voiced that the original figures were previously cut to help balance the Budget.

Tyson McHenry made a Motion to approve the Budget Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 10, 2024 and was seconded by Tracy Murray. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Prior to continuing with the Insurance Committee's report, Board Chairman Steve Whritenour commended the Elected Officials for with partnering the Budget Committee.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN DAVID IOSSI

Insurance Committee Chairman David Iossi stated that there is nothing new to report, but a Committee Meeting will be scheduled in January, 2025.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN DEBORAH REED

Building & Historical Committee Chairwoman Deborah Reed conveyed that a Committee Meeting was conducted prior to the Full Board Meeting this evening. She reported updated information regarding the Generator and Emergency UPS Backup project, the Moose Building downspout and guttering repairs, and the Courthouse Boiler issues. She expressed her desire to be proactive with this Committee.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN TYSON MCHENRY

Law Enforcement Committee Chairman Tyson McHenry addressed the letter from Sheriff Kevin Cripps (see attachment) that was distributed to each Board Member prior to the Full Board Meeting this evening. Mr. McHenry and Board Chairman Steven Whritenour conveyed that it contained information regarding the Marion County Budget. Sheriff Cripps discovered that the revenue line item for the DCFS Officer (\$115,000) had inadvertently been omitted.

Next, Marion County Coroner Claude Howell presented his monthly report. He began by commending Josh Dunahee for providing the information regarding the XPO driver, Brian Riddle. He relayed that his office is operating with a secretary available Monday – Friday from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Additionally, Marion County has had 31 deaths to date for the month of December. He conveyed that in his opinion that "today has been the most productive day in 18 months."

Sub-Committee 911/ESDA

Marion County Board Chairman Steven Whritenour conveyed that the Emergency Siren Maintenance and Repair Policy will be available at the January 28, 2025 Full Board Meeting.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN TRACY MURRAY

County & Community Chairman Tracy Murray made a Motion to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 26, 2024 and was seconded by Brock Waggoner. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

County & Community Chairman Tracy Murray made a Motion to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 9, 2024 and was seconded by Mike Douglas. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Marion County Animal Control Administrator Ken Ferguson was absent; therefore, no new report was given.

Committee Chairman Tracy Murray conveyed that he and Board Chairman Mr. Whritenour had met with the Centralia City Manager on December 13, 2024 in regards to Marion County Animal Control. An addition meeting is being considered due to the fact that this City Manager is resigning from his position. Next, Mr. Murray relayed that a discussion with the Salem City Manager and the City's Mayor is to be scheduled in the near future to explore opportunities with them.

Following, Mr. Murray allowed Guest Richard Ross to address the Board with information regarding a proposed new subdivision East of Central City off of Green Street Road. Mr. Ross stated that this will be the fourth subdivision that his uncle Roy Ross (who is in attendance) has built. A brief discussion transpired regarding its location. Chairman Tracy Murray requested a Motion to approve the Jolinda Ross Subdivision at a part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 5, Township 1 North, Range 1 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Marion County. Motion was made by Debbie Smith and was seconded by Christopher Krupp. Prior to Voice Vote, Board Member Tim McCance had questions regarding the road in the subdivision and Marion County maintaining it. Mr. Richard Ross responded. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Copy given to Marion County Board Secretary Lori Linder.

In conclusion, Tracy Murray made a Motion to approve the Monthly Marion County Board Meetings for 2025 (to be conducted on the 4th Tuesday of each month) and was seconded by David Iossi. Prior to Voice Vote, Deborah Reed questioned the impact that it would have on the accounts payable. A thorough discussion transpired. The scheduling of the Committee Meetings was discussed also. Voice Vote: 11 ayes – 3 nays (Deborah Reed, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi). Motion passed.

Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Sub-Committee Codification Chairman Brock Waggoner stated that there is nothing new to report due to working on the Budget.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CO-CHAIRMEN: ADAM SMITH AND TIM MCCANCE

Road & Bridge Committee Co-Chairman Tim McCance stated that he and Co-Chairman Adam Smith visited the Marion County Highway Department Facility. Mr. McCance commended Interim Engineer Marilea Snow and her Foreman for making adequate Budget cuts for the County. He conveyed that during the tour, he had concerns with the current building and improvements that need to be made. A thorough discussion regarding the old and new facility occurred.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee Chairman Adam Smith was absent; therefore, there was nothing new to report.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN: DEBORAH REED

Broadband Chairman Deborah Reed stated that there was nothing new to report. This Committee will become a County & Community Sub-Committee.

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE:

Full Board Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour stated that there was nothing new to report.

LIQUOR COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR:

Chairman Steven Whritenour stated that there were not any renewals of liquor license during the month.

Prior to the adjournment of the meeting, Chairman Steven Whritenour wished everyone a "very Merry Christmas."

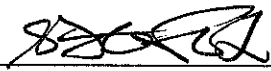
Nothing further to come before the Board, David Iossi made a motion to adjourn with mileage and per diem and seconded by Tyson McHenry. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Next Special Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 30, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

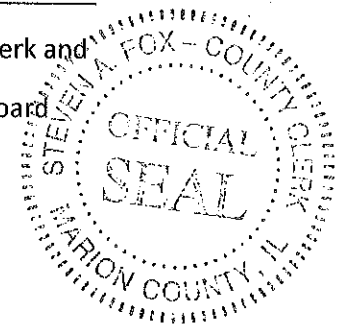
Time: 7:35 P.M.

Approved: _____ ✓

Date: 1/20/25

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Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and
Clerk of Marion County Board



12-23-24

Full Board Meeting

Trustees

~~John Perry~~
Richard Ross
Joy Ross

~~John~~
Lynn M
Frank Wrenshaw

~~Jeffery~~
~~John~~
Debbie Smith

Beif
Amy
Sue
Wynne
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