

**January 3, 2022**

Be it ever remembered on the 2nd day of January, 2022, the day set by the Commissioners for the holding of their regular meeting at the Newton County Courthouse. Comes now Butch Cain, Kyle D. Conrad and Tim Drenth as the duly elected and active Board of Commissioners. Also present were Auditor Tamra M. James, Commissioners' Assistant Ashley Large and Attorney Patrick K. Ryan.

Kyle D. Conrad called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag recited by Tim Myers.

Kyle D. Conrad stated on behalf of the county our sincere condolences to Building Commissioner, Daisy Flagg on the loss of her husband.

**Election of officers**

Tim Drenth made a motion to elect Butch Cain as President of the Board of Commissioners, second by Kyle D. Conrad. *Motion passed.*

Kyle D. Conrad made a motion to elect Tim Drenth as Vice-President, second by Butch Cain. *Motion passed.*

**Human Resource**

M.L. Talent Strategies came before the Commissioners with an outline presentation for a two-year strategy plan regarding human resource officer based on county organization needs and will provide on-site involvement on day to day management. Costs plans were explained and assist in finding a human resource candidate in year two.

**Highway**

TJ Firkins reported that a new stop sign located at 350 E and 1000 S will need to be installed. Attorney Ryan will completed Ordinance for the stop sign at next meeting.

**Recycling**

Diane Gonczy provided a Newton County Recycling Collection 2016-2021 to the Commissioners.

**VSO**

Discussion held on VSO hire Donald Armstrong.

**Floater Position**

Assessor Kristen Hoskins came before the Commissioners to initiate discussion regarding a possible floater position within departments.

Kyle D. Conrad moves to explore the option to hire a full-time floater position and go before the Council for request, second by Tim Drenth. *Motion passed.*

**Sheriff**

Sheriff Tom VanVleet came before the Commissioners with a request to continue with certified equitable sharing within our jurisdiction regarding seizure of monies resulting from criminal activity.

Kyle D. Conrad moves to authorize to exercise the agreement regarding certified equitable sharing as presented to include signature by President Glen "Butch" Cain, second by Tim Drenth. *All in favor, motion passed.*

**Other Matters**

Optional authorization for qualification regarding an opioid lawsuit needs to be filed to execute as a potential party to the lawsuit and any funds received. Tim Drenth made a motion to approve authorization, second by Kyle D. Conrad. *Motion passed.*

**Regional Water and Sewer District**

Revised inter-local agreement discussion held on managing the claims.

**County Attorney**

Attorney Patrick Ryan informed the Commissioners his hourly rate have an increase \$25 more per hour for year 2022.

**Board Appointments**

Commissioners will take board appointments under advisement and address at next meeting.

**Department Heads**

Kyle D. Conrad moves to approve Department Heads for year 2022, second by Tim Drenth.  
2022 Head of Department as follows:

Homeland Security Director-Ray Chambers  
County Planning-Daisy Cicero  
Recycling-Diane Gonczy

Highway Department-TJ Firkins  
Maintenance- Jacob Shufflebarger

***Motion passed.***

**Enos Building**

Discussion held regarding possibilities for the Enos building. Tim Drenth made a motion to move Homeland Security to the government center, and tear down the Enos building. Discussion held.

President Butch Cain ***cited lack of second motion. Motion died.***

Kyle D. Conrad moves to table discussion on the Enos building, second by Tim Drenth. ***Motion passed.***

**Planning Commission**

Kyle D. Conrad made a motion to approve Butch Cain as the Commissioners appointment to the Planning Commission Board, second by Tim Drenth. ***All in favor, motion passed.***

**Adjournment**

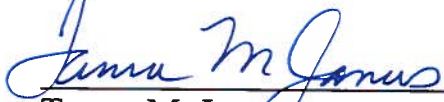
Kyle D. Conrad moves to adjourn meeting, second by Tim Drenth. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

  
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Glenn "Butch" Cain, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kyle D. Conrad

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Drenth

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tamra M. James  
Newton County Auditor

**Newton County Recycling Collection  
2016 – 2021**

**2016**

Republic Collection Sites	\$71,862.26
Tires	<u>\$15,150.00</u>
Total	\$87,012.26

**Other:**

Coordinator to June	\$12,499.98	2016 Totals:
Office/Program Expenses to June	\$ 484.50	<u>\$ 99,996.74</u>

**2017**

Republic Collection Sites	\$38,210.13
Tires	<u>\$24,000.00</u>
Total	\$62,210.13

**Other:**

Coordinator/March –December	\$15,830.00	2017 Totals:
Office/Program Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 80,040.13
NWISWD Reimbursements		<u>\$ 33,000.00</u>
		\$ 47,040.13

**2018**

Republic Collection Site	\$36,525.29
Tires	<u>\$21,750.00</u>
Total	\$58,275.29

**Other:**

2018 Coordinator	\$19,000.00	2018 Totals:
Office/Program Expenses	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 79,775.29
NWISWD Reimbursements 2018		<u>\$ 35,400.00</u>
		\$ 44,375.29

**January 18, 2022**

Be it ever remembered on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022, the day set by the Commissioners for the holding of their regular meeting at the Newton County Government Center. Comes now Butch Cain, Tim Drenth and Kyle D. Conrad, as the duly elected and active Board of Commissioners. Also present were Commissioners' Assistant Ashley Large, Newton County Deputy Auditor, Cheryl Myers, and Attorney Patrick K. Ryan.

Butch Cain called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag recited by Robbie Slavens.

**Payroll/Longevity**

Kyle D. Conrad made a motion to approve payroll/longevity for January 7, 2022, second by Tim Drenth. ***Motion passed.***

**Claims**

Tim Drenth made a motion to approve all claims for January 18, 2022, second by Kyle D. Conrad. ***All in favor, motion passed.***

**County Planning/Building Department**

Daisy Cicero provided a Schneider GIS Packet for the Commissioners to review as it will assist building commissioner, health (septic), assessor (layout building), highway(driveway permits). Discussion held. Kyle D. Conrad directed to have an addendum in place to add to the county contract with Schneider.

**Highway**

TJ Firkins informed the Commissioners that the highway department will using a web based data program to utilize Schneider Corp to store information regarding stop signs, yield signs etc. Firkins provided quotes for the boom tractor and also insurance information that was received regarding pay-out for the stolen tractor. Discussion held on vendors for a new tractor. Accident report needs to be forward to Attorney Ryan.

***Kyle D. Conrad moves to authorize TJ Firkins to go before the council for options for replacement mower and funding using insurance monies and possible additional funding, second by Tim Drenth. Motion passed.***

Discussion initiated by Kyle D. Conrad regarding town streets and which party is taking care of the roadways as the county currently are doing different roads which should be the responsibility of the towns. All towns need to inventory roadways.

Stop Sign Ordinances-Location as Intersection Iroquois Twp. 1000 S 350 E, and Iroquois Twp. Intersection of 1100 South and 550 East. ***Kyle D. Conrad made a motion to approve the amendment to Stop Sign Ordinance Newton County, Indiana Ordinance No. 89-1, second by Tim Drenth. All in favor. Motion passed.***

**Economic Development Commission**

Tim Myers informed the Commissioners that Beiser's Gourmet Kettle Corn Popcorn Factory will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new business in Morocco on Saturday, January 2, 2022.

Discussion held regarding the Council appointment of Don Harris to serve as Economic Development Commission board member. ***Kyle D. Conrad made a motion to reject said appointment on the basis that you cannot have two members of the board from the Town of Kentland, second by Tim Drenth. All in favor, motion passed.*** Attorney Patrick Ryan stated that written notification of appointment to represent of any board appointment to the Commissioners for review. The term for the new member should end 2.1.2024.

**Park Board**

Discussion was held regarding unsigned contract of Sarah DeYoung salary that must be completed for execution and forwarded to Auditor Tami James. Sarah DeYoung and Gus Nyburg came before regarding monies that was received from the Jasper-Newton Foundation for Kayaks and another future purchase of trailers. Discussion on insurance coverage, storage, and license plates for the Kayaks and trailers. County responsibility to liability under an umbrella policy was also discussed. Kyle D. Conrad conveyed that Brownfield Insurance should be contacted.

**Sewer Projects**

***Newton County Fair Sewer Project*** - Kyle D. Conrad provided information regarding the sewer project at the fairgrounds. Conrad stated that he talked with the engineer in which the project will be in three stages and the first stage requires no bid. In order to get the permit for the holding tank and the fair board must show that they have the ability to get the tank pumped out with a provider. ***Kyle D. Conrad made a motion to approve Rensselaer Septic Tanks to be the provider for septic tank pumping at the Newton County Fairgrounds. second by Tim Drenth.***