

Warren County Commissioners Public Meeting
October 25, 2023, 12:00 p.m.
Main Courtroom

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin called the Public Hearing to order with Commissioner Jeff Eggleston present.

Staff Present: Pamela Matve, Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director, Mike Walters, Chief Probation Officer, and Jessica Arnold, Court Administrator

Citizens Present: Josh Cotton (WTO), and Andy Close (YourDailyLocal)

Announcements: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin announced that this meeting is being recorded.

Executive meetings held since the last meeting: there was one informational meeting to discuss the budget and two executive sessions to discuss personnel and legal matters

Correspondence: None

Presentation: None

Public Comment:

Mike Walters, Chief Adult Probation Officer, spoke to the board regarding the MOU that was presented for wages in his department and was tabled at the last meeting.

He went on to state that he has received another resignation. Over the past year, he has lost twenty years of experience from those officers resigning from their positions.

He went on to speak of the programs that have been put in place to save the county money, as these people are not incarcerated in our jail.

He stated that he is not asking for his officer to become rich, but he is asking for an affordable living. He is increasing the caseload to 100 per officer, but cannot go higher than that.

He asked that the MOU presented, be considered.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from the October 11, 2023, Public Meeting: No corrections or additions to be made.

Finance Report: Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director stated in all accounts there is a total of 5.8 million dollars. We are starting to pay back monies borrowed from other accounts.

The budget is on track to have a preliminary budget by October 16th. We are currently in phase 2 of the budget process now going line by line for review.

Proclamation(s): Grief Awareness Month

A motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

MOU for probation wage changes: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin appreciates the pretrial program and the savings it brings. The proposal is a good one that he can get behind.

The board wishes to see the starting wages increased. These positions are under a collective bargaining agreement. During the negotiations at no time were wages discussed. We are bound by this bargaining agreement.

After consulting with our Labor Attorney, we have been advised that we cannot honor this MOU because the agreement was ratified in arbitration. The council has asked that we table this indefinitely.

Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director stated that the attorneys on both sides are talking along with the Union's business representative.

A motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to postpone the MOU presented for Adult Probation wages indefinitely.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that he never agreed to have the Labor Attorney negotiate the contract; we, the Commissioners, should have been at the table. He went on to state that he does not believe in MOUs in the middle of a contract.

Jessica Arnold, Court Administrator, requested that this stay in the forefront, and not be forgotten.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston then stated that during the negotiations in 2018, the Probation Officers were given a larger increase than other departments.

After nothing further, the above motion was called, and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Agreement with Mission Critical Partners (MCP): Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin explained that this agreement is for MCP to evaluate and consult on any location that we may be looking at to make sure that it will be an efficient space for our 911/Public Safety offices.

A motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve the facilities study agreement with MCP in the amount of 35,644.00 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TAWC 2023/2024 Transportation Services Agreement: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that this item will need to be postponed, as Commissioner Jeff Eggleston sits on the TAWC board and a vote cannot be made today with Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin being absent.

Appointments to the Warren Library Board: A motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve the appointments of Denise Pearson and Cindy Price to the Library Board effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Award of the Jail Roof Restoration/Repairs: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin explained that one bid was received for this project and today we would like to award this project to Industrial Welding & Fabricating for a total cost not to exceed \$131,592.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston, to approve the notice to award to Industrial Welding & Fabricating as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston took a moment to say that he does appreciate all the efforts of the Adult Probation Officers, and thank them for putting various programs together to keep people out of our jail system which in turn saves the county money.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Matve

Pamela J. Matve
Chief Clerk



Approved:

Jeff Eggleston

Jeff Eggleston
Warren County Commissioner

