

Warren County Commissioners Public Meeting
March 19, 2025, 12:00 p.m.
Commissioners Conference Room

Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp called the public meeting to order with Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin present, and Commissioner Daniel Glotz present by phone.

Staff Present: Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk, Bret Baillie, Director of Finance, Josh Cotton, Grant Writer, Kenneth McCorrison, Director of Public Safety, Brian Bull, Chief Assessor, Phil Gilbert, ShaShawn Maze, Michelle Pritzl, Emily Woods, Lisa Barr, Treasurer, Alexis Colvin, and Solicitor Nathaniel Schmidt.

Citizens Present: Nathaniel Weaver, Rob Dickson, Penn State Extension, Hialeah Stanton, Nokomis Stanton, Addison Wentworth, Lillian Yoder, Cary Wentworth, Amanda Mesel, Augusta Durlin, Megan Lent, Tim Hagberg, Robert Sensor Jr., and Linda Sensor.

Announcements: Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp announced that this meeting is being recorded.

Executive meetings held since the last meeting: None

Correspondence: None

Public Comment:

Nathaniel Weaver: Nathaniel Weaver stated that he owns property in Warren County and has an issue with the item on the agenda pertaining to Tidioute.

There has been a sunshine act violation, and he is asking that the award of the engineer for the Sheridan Street project be delay. This was not on the agenda for Tidioute's public meeting. The agenda is to be posed 24 hours in advance and was not. It was discussed as old business.

Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp asked the solicitor to review the law.

Consent Agenda

Minutes from the February 19, 2025, public: No corrections or additions to be made.

Finance Report: Nothing new to report

HR Report: In your packet for review

Monthly Department Reports: In your packet for review

Brian Bull, Chief Assessor gave a brief on the Assessment Dept. The data collection is complete for the reassessment, with some cleanup site visits to be done. There were 4 public meetings held and all went well. The preliminary value of property will be mailed out later this month. His office will participate in the informal reviews.

We switched to self-sealer tax bills this year and it saved \$5,200 overall. Maygan Stoddard will be moving to the open Field Assessor I position; therefore, we will be looking for an Office Manager position.

Proclamation(s):

Bleeding Disorder Awareness Month
Honoring 4H Volunteers and Members
Safe Digging Month
National Library Week

National Telecommunicator Week: Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp commended the staff for the outstanding job they do. The Dispatchers are the lifeline in an incident.

Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin stated that as a citizen of the county she is very appreciative of the service they provide, thank you.

Student Government Day
Sexual Assault Awareness Month
National Crime Victims' Rights Week

A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Resolution #3301 Authorizing TAWC to procure funds from Federal Transit Authority: Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp stated that this authorizes the Transit Authority to apply for funds from the Federal Transit Authority.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz to approve Resolution 3301 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Agreement with Palmetto Posting: Phil Gilbert, Director of Tax Claim stated that this company does the posting of properties that are going on the list for the Tax Sale. We have used them since 2013 and they do a good job.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz to approve the renewal of the agreement with Palmetto Posting for 2025-2027 at a rate of \$30.00 per posting in 2025, \$32.50 per posting in 2026, and \$35.00 per posting in 2027. The motion carried unanimously.

Award the CDBG Sheridan St., Tidioute Engineering: Solicitor Nathaniel Schmidt stated that he did some research and had a conversation with Josh Cotton, Grant Writer. On the agenda for Tidioute's CDBG project was on the agenda under old business for discussion. No action was taken, secondly the agreement is with the County and the selected Engineering firm, therefore, there was no violation of the Sunshine Law.

Josh Cotton, Grant Writer stated that there were six bids received and reviewed by a group of three. He therefore is asking the board to approve the agreement with EADS Group for the Engineering Services on the Sheridan St. project in Tidioute at a rate of \$74,000.00. Should there be additional charges we will bring forth an amendment to this agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz to approve the agreement with EADS Group as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Act 13 Request – Youngsville Downtown Plaza Project: A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz, to approve the request of \$20,000.00 of Act 13 funds from Youngsville for their revitalization project of downtown. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve Alyce Busch as Backup CYS Solicitor: Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp stated that Children and Youth are asking to approve an agreement with Alyce Bush at a rate of \$100.00 per hour with a ceiling of \$6,000.00 as back up for Solicitor Rene Johnson.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz to approve the agreement with Alyce Busch as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments : Mr. Tim Hagberg apologized for being late and missing the public comment and asked if he could speak at this time.

Tim Hagberg stated that he as a business owner has a set time frame for payments to be made. By the county changing the timing of the tax bills; he used to have 12 months to save for his taxes, now he only has 9 months. His concern is that future boards will change this again, and that is not fair to the residents of the county.

Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin stated that the tax period has not changed, just the due date for the county and municipality.

Tim asked, how does this save the county money?

Commissioner Kenneth Klakamp stated that last year the county put out an RFP for a Tax Anticipation Note of \$4,000,000.00, There was only one bid and we were required to withdraw the full amount and start paying interest. This interest cost the tax payers approx. \$200,000.00.

In 2025 we had six bids, and we went with M&T Bank with a lower interest rate, and we can drawdown just what we need saving on interest charges. With tax payments coming in sooner we do not have to pull as much from the TAN.

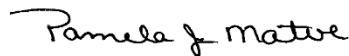
Solicitor Nathaniel Schmidt stated that in the last five years, 2023 and prior the interest rates were so low, that we did not have to make a change in the way the tax bills were sent out. In 2024 the interest rates were much higher and a change had to be made.

Tim then stated that with the reassessment, if people's taxes go up, is this because of the economy? Maybe assessment should be done on the sale price of a home when sold.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Commissioner Tricia D. Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Glotz to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. Matve
Chief Clerk



Approved:



Daniel Glotz
Warren County Commissioner