

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Special Meeting –November 13, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Commissioners of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in special session on the above date at 3:00 P.M. with the following present: Commissioners Dale Strong, Dale Munson, and Tracie Bever, and Auditor Jane Downard and First Deputy Auditor Haylee Weston of said County and State.

Commissioner Strong called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The main purpose of today's meeting is to discuss renewal of health insurance for employees.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Strong shared that we have recently been informed by Reid Health that they do not want to recognize our insurance company anymore. They do not want to accept Reference Based Pricing, or RFP, reimbursement beginning January 1, 2025.

Commissioner Bever said it will be a hard decision. It's a shame that Reid has put us in this position, especially when they are building a new facility here. She said she is on the current insurance. She said she knows from having our insurance it is not a bad insurance plan. She has not had any problems with it. She said she believes keeping the option of retiree insurance is essential and it would not be fair to eliminate that benefit.

Commissioner Strong suggested that we keep our policy with Imagine360 and leave the door open to negotiate with Reid for those employees who want to use them. Commissioner Bever agreed from a fiscal standpoint we don't really have a choice in what coverage we choose, and Commissioner Strong agreed we can't afford to go with a different policy. Commissioner Bever said she hoped maybe this would cause Reid to rethink their policy. Commissioner Strong agreed we all want a good relationship with Reid but no one here was prepared for their recent policy changes. He said he would hope that something on their end would change on this. He said he doesn't think we can tell our employees they can only go to Reid and nowhere else unless they want to pay for it themselves. Commissioner Strong said we are providing our employees with the best possible plan that we can afford. Commissioner Bever said being able to offer insurance to our retirees is a benefit that not every employer can offer.

Commissioner Bever moved to renew with Apex Benefits and Imagine360 with the existing RBR plan and follow up with Reid to see if they are willing to negotiate a contract for our employees who want to continue to use them, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Strong reminded commissioners about agreeing to allow an organization to plant a poplar tree, and he said they are wanting to plant the tree now. He asked commissioners to walk with him after the meeting to decide a location for the tree, and they agreed they would.

Commissioner Strong brought up the opioid settlement money and he said he is okay with the point system that Jolissa Bates has recommended. Commissioner Bever moved to adopt the point scoring criteria and begin accepting applications, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Munson said the potential contractor he had to look at the water line said it would be December before he could get to it. Commissioner Strong said he had a potential contractor that was supposed to get back with him tomorrow.

Commissioner Bever reminded commissioners they need to vote on the proposed handbook revisions. Our County Attorney has reviewed and approved the suggested changes. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the revisions as presented, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bever moved to have a Christmas Dinner this year from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on December 18th, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Munson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0.
Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Dale H. Strong
Dale Strong, President

Dale Munson
Dale Munson, Vice-President

Trace Bever
Trace Bever

Jane Downard
Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor