Be It Remembered that the Greene County

 Board of Commissioners met in Regular

 Session on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at

 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Room on

 the third floor of the Courthouse.

The meeting was called to order by Nathan Abrams.

The Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting.

Those present were Nathan Abrams, Ed Michael, Rick Graves, and County Attorney Marvin Abshire.

**Re: Minutes**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 21, 2023. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Claims**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the accounts payable claims submitted for payment on March 7, 2023. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Payroll**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the payroll claims submitted for payment on March 7, 2023. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Karen Holz- Bloomfield- Eastern Library**

Karen Holz came before the county to update and share the progress of the Bloomfield-Eastern Public Library. According to Holz, the children’s circulation has doubled compared to 2018. The library has had over 3,000 more people visit the libraries in 2022 than in 2021. Holz also shared with the commissioners new programs in the works for this year. This summer they plan to have a summer reading program and a community garden. Along with this, they also have a new streaming service where members can view documentaries and older movies. Holz also said they have started a “Library of Things” for teachers, elementary students and students that are home schooled. Holz also invited everyone to the upcoming open house scheduled April 5th, 2023 from 4-6 pm. The open house is open to the public. The commissioners were pleased with the library’s progress and thanked Holz for the update.

**Re: Right of Way Easement (N. That Lane)**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve a right of way easement with Eastern Heights Utilities, Inc. to construct a waterline from E. Calvertsville Road at an existing water line on and along the right-of-way of North That Lane, to better serve the residents there. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: WTH Property Splits Agreement**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the 2023-2024 WTH property split agreement. The agreement states that the pricing for this year would stay the same as previous years at $500.00 a month for property splits. Starting next year the pricing will increase to $750.00 a month. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Signature Ratification**

Ed Michael moved, Rick Graves seconded, to approve the ratification of Nathan’s execution of contracts for the jail fence gate project and the counter top replacement at the Greene County Jail. The projects were approved at previous commissioners’ meetings, but the approval was not specific regarding the president’s authority to negotiate, approve, and execute the agreements. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Economic Development**

Brianne Jerrels came to the Commissioners just to give an update on development in the county. Economic Development will be going through with an audit this year. There are currently two board members searching for the right company to get this done. Jerrels also commented on the fact that there is a lot going on at Westgate behind the scenes currently. There are more housing units being built currently. Although there isn’t anything set in stone yet, they are hopeful to see some commercial and retail businesses move into the area soon.

**County Attorney**

Marvin Abshire presented the Commissioners with three new items. The first is a request of release for a road bond given by Duke Energy in 2017. The bond can only be released once the road has been inspected to make sure there wasn’t any damage done once Duke Energy has completed their construction. Highway Superintendent Roger Hamilton was asked to verify that the road was still in the same condition as it was before Duke Energy completed their work, and he confirmed that it was the same. Rick Graves moved, Ed Michael seconded, the motion to release the road bond. Motion passed 3-0.

The second matter presented to the commissioners was proposed contracts for engineering services, first for lintel repair in the courthouse attic, and second, to assess the need for general repairs to the courthouse. Both contracts were offered with Arsee Engineering. This was brought up in a previous meeting. Rick Graves moved, Ed Michael seconded, the motion to approve and execute both contracts, to authorize the president to sign on behalf of the Board, and to use the cumulative capital development funds to pay for the projects. Motion passed 3-0.

The final matter presented to the commissioners is a Jasonville/Shakamak wastewater update. The reason it is being presented to the commissioners is because the lines are slated to run under the pavement within the right of way. Abshire asked the commissioners to review the materials and to send him any questions they have about the project because the attorney for the project will be here on the 21st. They would like to have the questions ahead of time so they can be better prepared to answer everything. Rick Graves acknowledged that it was in his district, and he was aware that it was happening. The commissioners thanked Marvin Abshire for the update.

**Re: Shawn Huss- New Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator**

Shawn Huss came before the commissioners to introduce himself as the new Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator. He is coming to Greene County from Owen County. He will be located at the Greene County Extension Office and his main job will consist of networking at our county events. The Commissioners congratulated him on his new job and wished him well. They also asked to be updated quarterly with new events and what is happening around the county.

**Re: Note from Commissioner Ed Michael**

Commissioner Ed Michael noted that has been receiving a lot of phone calls related to people speeding on the county roads. He is just asking everyone to be aware that they are county roads. They are narrower than highways and there are no line markings. There have been calls about accidents due to speed and people being run off the road. He wants everyone to be careful and to drive a little slower.

There being no further business to come before the board, Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, the motion to adjourn. Motion passed 3-0.

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Nathan L. Abrams Edward L. Michael Rick Graves

Heather Perry, Auditor