

Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners

Fairfield Township Poor Relief Appeal

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 22, 2023

10:00 am

Tippecanoe Room, Tippecanoe County Office Building
20 N 3rd Street, Lafayette, Indiana

Commissioners present: President Tracy A. Brown, Vice President Thomas P. Murtaugh and Member David S. Byers.

Also present: Attorney Doug Masson, Auditor Jennifer Weston, and Recording Secretary Samantha Perez.

Absent: Commissioners' Assistant Paula Bennett.

I. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – President Brown called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. **FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP POOR RELIEF HEARING**

Attorney Masson stated that the purpose of this meeting was to hear an appeal of the denial of poor relief and to determine if the township's standards were applied correctly in the case of Alicia Yeakley. Attorney Masson added Alicia Yeakley was not present, but Fairfield Township Trustee Monica Casanova was present along with Case Manager Brandy Dumas.

Attorney Masson stated the statute requires the appellant be present. Trustee Casanova stated she has not had any contact with the appellant. Trustee Casanova stated Ms. Yeakley filed an application online and dropped off personal identifying documents in the township's mailbox. When the township attempted to contact Ms. Yeakley for supporting documentation and to schedule an interview, the Case Manager could not get in contact with her so due to the lack of cooperation the case was closed. Trustee Casanova introduced Case Manager Brandy Dumas and Ms. Dumas stated Ms. Yeakley's application was filed April 12, 2023 and a final denial was issued on April 25, 2023.

Attorney Masson stated the Commissioners are allowed to ask questions, but the statute requires the appellant to be present to take any adverse action against the Trustee's decision. Attorney Masson added his recommendation would be to deny the appeal based on the nonappearance.

Commissioner Murtaugh moved to deny the appeal based on failure to appear, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

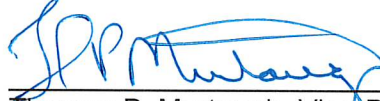
- None

Commissioner Murtaugh moved to adjourn. President Brown adjourned the meeting.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF TIPPECANOE



Tracy A. Brown, President



Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice President



David S. Byers, Member

ATTEST:


Jennifer Weston, Auditor 06/05/2023

Minutes prepared by Samantha Perez, Recording Secretary