

**WARRICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Special Public Meeting Addressing Radon Exposure

COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM

107 W. Locust Street, Suite 303

Boonville, Indiana

November 9, 2023

2:00 P.M.

The Warrick County Commissioners met in special public session with Terry Phillippe, President; Robert Johnson, Vice President; and Dan Saylor, Member.

Attorney Andrew Skinner and Administrator Heather Soberg were in attendance.

Commissioner Meetings can be viewed via YouTube: Warrick County Meetings

President Terry Phillippe called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

**INTRODUCTION**

President Phillippe started the special meeting by introducing himself. He said they would be speaking about the radon exposure in the Warrick County Courthouse. They have already conducted a meeting with employees stressing their number one priority was their safety. They also understand that this is an important matter and has been the subject of a lot of conversations. Today, they hope to provide information to better inform everyone about what is being done, what will continue to happen, and what it means to everyone. They will take questions at the end of the discussion. He then invited Matt Bono, the Vice President of EnviroForensics in Indianapolis to address the public.

**MATTHEW BONO, ENVIROFORENSICS**

Mr. Matthew Bono, with EnviroForensics, started by going over his credentials and working history. He also pointed out the fact sheet that was available for the public to view on the side table of the meeting room. He then went over what Radon is and where it is found. He said it is more prevalent in basements and crawl spaces due to the close proximity to the earth, but that it is really found everywhere. He then went over what levels are safe. Mr. Bono stated that there really is no true safe level, so it becomes how much risk is acceptable. With that, he then went over how they evaluate the risk for radon exposure. The risk is determined by your lifetime exposure to radon, not a couple of hours, days, weeks, or months.

Radon is measured in picocuries and can be measured with different types of equipment. He reviewed several different pieces. He said they also use the average amounts when testing radon levels since levels can vary at different times, so the average is what is measured.

Next, Mr. Bono went over radon guidelines, which entities set those guidelines, and where those guidelines can come into play. For business, OSHA sets the guideline limits over a forty-hour work week at 100 picocuries per liter as the average concentration. He stressed that this is an average and that meant it could go higher or lower than that number, but it would average out to the 100 picocuries per liter for the concentration. He also stressed the difference between exposures in the home verses the workplace. More of our lifetime will be spent at home than in the workplace.

Mr. Bono also went over who can measure radon and the protocols that need to be followed as well as certifications for testing. He then discussed what Warrick County had done to address to this point any radon issues. First, the air exchange units in the building have been reprogrammed to continuously circulate fresh air into the building twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. This is separate from the heating and air conditioner units. Next, he went over the testing that had been done and continues to be done in the building. They started with a baseline, then he spoke to how the numbers dropped since changes have been implemented. All numbers were listed on the fact sheet. Mr. Bono also stated that the County has actually gone above the guideline requirements. Both occupied and non-occupied areas have been tested. The County has also purchased permanent continuous monitors for more real time monitoring. The results will be posted regularly online. Mr. Bono also stated that there was an area in a basement storage area that is bare ground that will be concreted with additional barriers to keep vapors from coming up from the ground. Mr. Bono also stated that the Commissioners have been very proactive and asking a lot of questions.

**ANDREW SKINNER – COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Skinner then addressed the public. He said that there would be a question-and-answer session for the public. They are limiting this to just questions. Anyone that wishes to come before them, with a question, needs to state their name for the record.

**CONCLUSION**

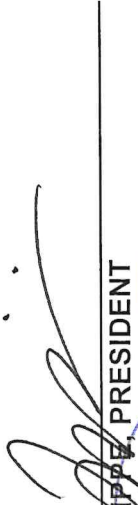
President Phillippe asked for any questions. There were no questions from the public.

**ADJOURNMENT**

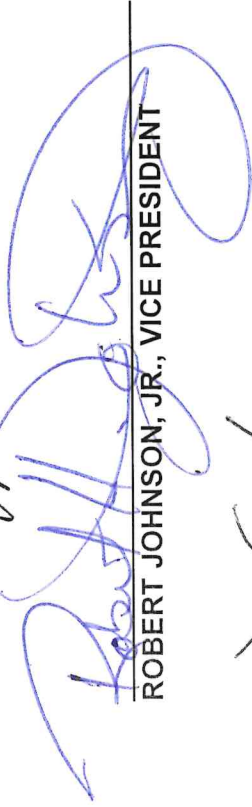
Commissioner Bob Johnson made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Dan Saylor seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:17 P.M.

**WARRICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

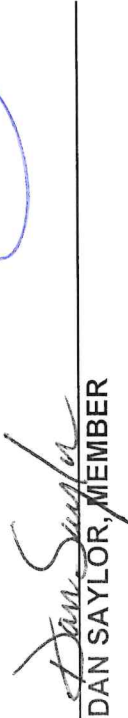
TERRY PHILLIPS, PRESIDENT



ROBERT JOHNSON, JR., VICE PRESIDENT



DAN SAYLOR, MEMBER



ATTEST:

MICHAEL J. DIETSCH, AUDITOR  
WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA



Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Kristine Georges, Official Recording Secretary