

Decatur County Commissioners
September 4th, 2012 8:00 A.M.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening, John Richards

Claims were approved as presented. The minutes of the August 20th Commissioner Meeting were approved as submitted.

Decatur County Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr opened his report by expressing relief that the predicted rainfall totals for Hurricane Isaac didn't happen. Bridge 19 is completely done including the seeding. The grass has a warranty on it and it will be over-seeded later this fall. Bridge 25 (Adams) is a Federal Aid project with a projected finish date in mid-October. They are ready to pour the concrete deck in the next 10 – 14 days and at this point, are on schedule to meet their completion date. The northernmost culvert on the County Road 850 project is in and backfilled and Mr. Mohr explained the plans for the rest of the project. Affected landowners have been very cooperative. He also discussed the new gas line that is going to go through the southern borders of Decatur County. He reported there are 26 temporary driveways and 2 permanent drives in the plans. He said the company (Atex Pipeline Co.) seems to be willing to work together with the county very well. The county highway department is mapping roads for the gas company so they know what limits the roads and bridges have set on them. Commissioner Buening questioned whether some of the trucks associated with the gas line may be overweight and/or over-length and Mr. Mohr stated that the permitting system is still in place for those situations. Commissioners Nobbe and Richards both commented on a proposed amendment to the gas line ordinance. Mr. Mohr mentioned that blacktopping would be taking place in the next week or so. Mr. Richards mentioned that the paving on 700 South just east of Letts has caused him to receive some phone calls. Mr. Mohr assured him that it will be paved.

County Attorney Peg Polanski will check back with the prosecutor's office in regard to the pending sign ordinance. Deputy Prosecutor Brian Clark has been involved in a jury trial and hasn't had time to review the proposal.

Mark Coplon, Economic Development discussed the cooperation and coordination required to tie the Business Appreciation Day and the Tree City Fall Festival celebrations together. The Appreciation Day is scheduled for the 27th and Fall Festival is the 28th and 29th of September. Mr. Coplon showed copies of the proposed proclamation intended to show businesses that we appreciate the contribution they make. There was discussion of the closing of the streets and whether the streets would be closed just Friday and Saturday or on Sunday as well. There are no activities on Sunday so the streets shouldn't have to be closed. The boy scouts will be helping with the cleanup. Mr. Coplon reported that the guest speaker for the 2nd annual appreciation day is Dan Hassler.

The commissioners reviewed the City/County joint proclamation. Commissioner John Richards moved that the proclamation be signed. Commissioner Jerome Buening approved the motion and Commissioner Rick Nobbe concurred.

There was some discussion about how to protect the new planting around the square. The request to use the courthouse lawn for the Fall Festival was signed.

Mike Clark, Commander of V.F.W. in Greensburg appeared before the Commissioners representing all branches of veterans and discussed putting another memorial up in honor of those who fought in Iraqi Freedom. The memorial would have the beginning and ending dates of

the conflict. Mr. Clark discussed where he thought the memorial would best fit and the size of the proposed stone. He has talked with Oakley Monuments. After some discussion, the commissioners indicated their willingness to fund the memorial if Mr. Clark would do the legwork and bring back some estimated costs.

Mr. Nobbe brought up the planters on the corners of the square and wondered whether that work should be completed at the same time the memorial is getting worked on. It turns out there are no veterans names on the bricks used on the planters.

Pat Koors, Decatur County Right to Life talked to the commissioners about a new event called a Life Chain that the local chapter is going to promote. She asked permission for participants to be able to park in the Decatur County Board of Health parking lot from 2 – 3:30 on October 7th which is Respect Life Sunday. Permission was granted.

Clerk Janet Chadwell appeared before the commissioners to see if a decision had been made on her request for a meal stipend ordinance for pollworkers. Mr. Jerome Buening moved that Ordinance 2012-6 be passed to allow for a meal stipend to be paid to precinct election officers on Election Day. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Community Church of Greensburg requested permission to use the courthouse lawn for Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The commissioners agreed to allow the church to use the grounds.

Auditor Tami Wenning reported that the elevator had been repaired and deemed in compliance.

County Attorney Peg Polanski discussed how paying the courthouse off early would save the county money and the Auditor's office time. After some discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Polanski begin the process to pay off the debt.

Mayor Herbert asked about how the Council might continue edit funding and Mr. Nobbe suggested that a conversation should be held soon making the council aware. According to Ms. Polanski, the statute that allows for EDIT requires a plan and someone needs to review what comes in annually. If there isn't a plan for the funds, then the tax shouldn't be collected. The County's support of EDC comes from EDIT money and the small towns all rely on their portions.

There being no further business, Mr. Buening moved to recess the meeting. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next scheduled meeting is for September 17th, 8:00 a.m.

Rick Nobbe, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____