

Commissioner Meeting

March 18th, 2013 8:00 A.M.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening, John Richards

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved as submitted.

Mark Mohr, Decatur County Highway Department Superintendent stated that he and his crew had worked on bathroom fixtures over the years, but the problems probably require new fixtures at this point. He was given permission to proceed with getting three new toilets installed.

Mr. Mohr also gave an update on his intention to work on stone roads and potholes. His good intentions were somewhat thwarted by the weather but the effort will continue. Trees have been removed from the Bridge 18 worksite.

United's proposed amount for the bridge inspection project is comparable to Rush County's four year plan price. The total for the four year plan is \$277,300. The county's 20% share is \$54,460. INDOT has added additional requirements in order to comply with federal regulations and that has boosted the amount of work needed to be done. Mr. Mohr commented that although the original RFP assumed in the neighborhood of \$245,000 this proposal does fall in line with the bids other counties are awarding. **Dave Richter and Chris Pope, representing United** were on hand to answer any questions. They reported that their staff had sat down with Mr. Mohr and his staff to discuss details of what the required changes are. Mr. Pope is the Bridge Manager for United. Indiana has adopted an official Bridge Inspection Manual and all of the previous contracts were negotiated prior to the manual. The 4 inch thick manual details the process. United broke the pricing out separately to show some of the costs associated with different steps in the process. Hopefully some of the "scour critical" inspections may be able to be removed from the list if INDOT will allow and that would save some money. INDOT now wants a bridge rating for all bridges including concrete with a full structural calculation done. The extra data has to be captured and forwarded to the federal government now, too. Mr. Mohr has been working with multiple people to pull together data that may help bring down costs. He reported that a lot of pre-cast box beams have been used in the county and those are of particular concern to the state and federal highway administrations. While the contract is still in draft form, it will be reviewed by INDOT prior to getting signed. Upon their approval, a contract will be created between state and county, and the consultant and county then our county will review and sign. The process takes a few months. INDOT does review the proposal to make sure there aren't any inconsistencies. There are 186 bridges with a 20' span or wider. Commissioners had a few questions and then wondered what would be delivered at the conclusion of the project. Mr. Pope replied that the report could be tailored to whatever the Commissioners would like. It can be provided in paper or digital format, or both. Mr. Mohr commented that the Commissioners normally receive a summary report with a full scale version of the report created for retention in the Highway Office. Mr. Pope expressed his appreciation at being able to work with Decatur County. The Commissioners agreed to allow Mr. Mohr to sign the letter authorizing the project to continue.

Barbara Gallegos and Pepper Cooper of Neace-Lukens were present to discuss the progress of accepting bids for the county's Property & Liability coverage combined with the Workman's Compensation plan. Mr. Cooper reported that they asked five companies for bids and that three companies provided very competitive pricing. After much explanation, Mr. Cooper requested permission to "clean up" the two best bids and return with a proposal on April 1st. Ms. Gallegos thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to quote rates and thanked Christy (Smiley, Auditor's Office), Tami Wenning, Rick Nobbe (Commissioner), and various department heads for

their help in gathering the necessary information.

There was a review of claims history and some changes for the renewal. The Commissioners asked for the park dam to NOT be included in the renewal. The bridge and the dam should both be covered by the city. She also discussed the current agreement between the county and the hospital concerning the ambulances. Ms. Gallegos did remind the Commissioners to check with County Attorney Peg Polanski to make sure the county is named as an additional insured and loss payee. There was much discussion on many other aspects of the insurance coverage. A discussion on terminology differences between quotes and coinsurance limits was held. The two companies with the best quotes were Burnham and Flowers with Downey Public Risk providing the Workman's Comp portion and Bliss McKnight.

Mr. Cooper's final recommendation was to accept IPEP's quote to cover May 22nd, 2013 to May 22nd, 2014. Waiting until April 1st will provide a better snapshot comparison of coverages. Mr. John Richards moved to accept and continue workman's compensation insurance with Downey Public risk and to extend their coverage to May 2014. Mr. Jerome Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Patty Jackson, SIRPC provided a sign in sheet for the Final Bid Opening for the owner-occupied rehab program. Bids were received from Pettit Group and from S & S Construction. (see attached bid sheet) Ms. Jackson stated that the jobs may be rebid in order to obtain competitive quotes. Mr. Jerome Buening moved to take the bids under advisement. Mr. John Richards seconded the motion. Mr. Rick Nobbe concurred and the motion carried.

There are currently 18 homes under contract, 7 just got bid on and 1 property is complete. At this point, the overall project is ahead of schedule.

A request to utilize county facilities was received from the Decatur County Department of Child Services. DCS wants to use the south side lawn for their annual display of pinwheels for "Prevent Child Abuse" awareness week. Mr. John Richards moved to allow use of the facilities. Mr. Jerome Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Jerome Buening moved to enter into a revised agreement between Decatur County Memorial Hospital, Decatur County and the Board of Commissioners regarding the ambulance placement and insurance. Mr. John Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Tami reported that the Courthouse Security officer had requested a door with an indoor lock and reinforced glass in it. Mr. Nobbe will check on what needs to be done.

Mayor Gary Herbert reported that the owner of the old Decatur Apartment building and the old YMCA has received a grant to help in renovating the properties. Mayor Herbert also mentioned a bid opening at Solid Waste Management for 10:00 a.m. There was also some discussion of the reorganization of Workforce Region 9. After some discussion, Ms. Beth Blasdel agreed to let the Commissioners reappoint her to the board in the event that she does agree to re-take the position.

Rob Duckworth, EMA Director submitted a claim for \$337.50 for cleaning the Extension Building. The building was used as the headquarters/staging area for the recovery effort made when there was a plane crash in the area.

Mr. Nobbe asked Mr. Duckworth to handle filling out the Indiana Pipeline Awareness Survey.

Mr. Richards moved to recess the meeting and Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 1st, 8:00 a.m.

Rick Nobbe, President

Attest: _____
Date: _____