Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening, John Richards

Minutes for the November 18th and December 2nd, 2013 meetings were approved as presented. Claims were approved as presented.

The Decatur County Rehab Program announced a public hearing and all present were asked to sign in. Mark Mohr, Decatur County Highway Superintendent reported that Bridge 168 had been submitted timely to INDOT for consideration of funding as a federal aid project. Bridge 18 was completed this summer and a pre-final inspection is slated for 9:00 a.m. on the 19th. No problems are anticipated. Bridge 2 (Adams) information has been uploaded through INDOT for a February letting. Mr. Mohr also reported that the signed contract with United Consulting for construction inspection has been filed with INDOT and he is just waiting on INDOT to send back the paperwork. Mr. Mohr asked the Commissioners if it would be okay to schedule a bid opening for pipe, stone and fuel at the February 3rd, 2014 meeting at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners said yes.

Mr. Mohr also presented three quotes on getting the failing heating system at the Highway Garage replaced. After some discussion, Mr. Buening moved to accept the bid from Wallpe and Trenkamp for the 110,000 btu system. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Mohr discussed the details of a cost analysis performed by his department covering last Friday through Wednesday for salt and sand, fuel and time (Dec. 6th – 11th) just to give an idea of what a snow event actually costs the county. Providing this data would be beneficial in the event of an emergency situation in which the county could receive reimbursement if the proper documentation was performed. EMA Director Rob Duckworth stated that the highway department did a great job responding to problem areas.

Patty Jackson, South Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission declared her Public Hearing open and provided statistics concerning the number of residents served and their background. The rehab program was intended to target the elderly and disabled in the community. 11 county families, 9 Greensburg families and 5 Westport families were helped. Of those, there were 11 elderly people, 12 disabled people and 2 that were both elderly and disabled. Ms. Jackson supplied before and after photos of several of the properties and discussed situations that came up during the project. Mr. Richards did mention that he had been contacted by people expressing their appreciation at the project. Ms. Jackson reported that the homeowners were all very nice to work with and that a few of the contractors were a little difficult to work with. Mr. Nobbe mentioned that the county did receive value from the project.

Ms. Jackson did have paperwork for a lien that was recorded in error. County Attorney Peg Polanski reviewed it and indicated it was okay to file. Ms. Jackson asked the county if they would be interested in her pursuing another of this type of grant next year. She said the State has capped the grant amounts at $350,000 and that would assist 14 families the commissioners are okay with SIRPC pursuing the grant.

Marla Van Schaik was present to represent the Cottonwood Lakes Subdivision. She reported that Napoleon State Bank is willing to work with the property owners if an Economic Improvement District is
formed. Joe Moorman, Vice President of the bank asked that clarification of the situation be presented in the meeting minutes to ensure that the bank is comfortable with going forward and to be clear on how the county will handle the collection and payback of the money. There were three questions that the bank needed answered. What type of guarantee that the loan will be paid back and when... Would it be possible for the bank to receive the money directly instead of it passing through the EID board, and who will maintain the road afterwards? Also, it was noted that less than one mile of road will be paved. The question came up as to whether the full payment will be made annually regardless of whether taxes are delinquent or not was asked as well. Mr. Moorman would like the meeting minutes to state exactly what the structure of the collection and payment process would be. Mr. Nobbe asked if Ms. Van Shaik had consulted with the subdivision’s attorney and she stated they had not done so but had researched on their own.

Mr. Joshua Rutherford, a concerned citizen came to the meeting to discuss discrepancies that he has found while visiting local cemeteries. As a hobby, he visits cemeteries and is interested in particular in Civil War veterans. He has found and documented several discrepancies between Memorials, cemeteries, official muster sheets and records. He provided a list of verifiable errors and additional suspected errors and expressed his concern at the gaps in the history and the inaccuracies that he has found. He indicated one of the biggest regiments to serve out of Decatur County isn’t even mentioned. There was much discussion about the nature of the errors and his efforts in verifying the data. The commissioners expressed their appreciation at his concern and indicated that they felt the corrections need to be made on the memorial bricks but that maybe there are more corrections to be made. Mr. Nobbe stated he isn’t sure who was involved in getting the current memorial together but they need to be thanked for their efforts to remember our veterans. Mr. Nobbe stated that in the near future, there will likely be an upgrade on the south side of the square. Ms. Wenning was asked to make Mr. Rutherford’s list a part of the minutes so the corrections that need to be made based on his investigation can be made at that time. As a side note, Mr. Rutherford was asked how he got involved in researching the Civil War era and he responded that it was through geocaching.

County Emergency Management Agency Director Rob Duckworth presented the grant agreement from the Department of Homeland Security for the $10,000 grant to be used for equipping the Emergency Response Vehicle. After little discussion, Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Buening seconded the motion to sign the acceptance agreement.

Director Duckworth also anticipates that the additional $5000 requested will be available in January.

Mr. Duckworth, along with 9-1-1 Board President Scott Chasteen and representatives from the Spillman company were on hand to discuss the possibility of purchasing a county wide public safety data administration program. The 9-1-1 Board would like to use Spillman and asked the TIF board to consider funding this project. Spillman works with a “site” license instead of a “seat” license and brings all public safety users together into the same network. (Police, firefighters, courts system, even VFD’s) The program streamlines the data collecting competitiveness component necessary for requesting federal and state aid and enables local agencies to access information more efficiently and completely. Mr. Andy Doyle and Mr. Dave Allen spoke about their company and answered several questions. After much discussion of the importance of the product, Commissioner Buening asked if there were a deadline involved regarding the potential funding by TIF. The deal being offered at the moment does not hold the county responsible for payment if TIF doesn’t choose to fund the program. But, signing now will lock
in the savings in the event that the funding does become available. The program is $614,000 with an annual maintenance fee of $50,000 to be split among the city, the jail and the 9-1-1 board. Training needs were discussed as well as future funding. After more discussion, Mr. Buening moved to sign the contract to lock in the price in the event that TIF does decide to fund. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Commissioners reviewed the state’s holiday schedule and Mr. Richards moved to follow the state’s schedule for 2014. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Community Action Coalition was asked to do a presentation to explain their

The Minute Maids contract was reviewed. There were some questions on whether the county has the right to agree on who will work in the county buildings prior to their start.

Bryan Robbins was present to get commissioner permission to accept a bid from McCallister for $672,596.00. Mr. Richards moved to allow acceptance of the bid. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried. The next step will be to get with INDOT to get final funding. ½ will be accepted for the match.

Alcoholic Beverage Commission – Mr. Richards moved to reappoint Mr Al Knecht, Mr. Buening seconded. The motion carried.

Area Plan – Mr. Richards moved to reappoint Albert Armand. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Mr. Richards moved to reappoint Albert Armand. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Library Appointment – Diane Beggs was reappointed to the Contractual Library Board by the County Auditor. Jenny Robbins…. Mr. Nobbe asked to hold the appointments until he has a chance to speak with the appointee.

County Attorney Peg Polanski was reappointed with a motion by Mr. Richards and a second by Mr. Buening.

Fair Board – Mr. Richards does not wish to continue on the fair board. Mr. Buening is not interested. They will check on whether it must be a commissioner when the fair board meets in January.

Health Department Board– Dr. Darr and Glenda Porter were reappointed by a motion made by Mr. Buening and seconded by Mr. Richards.

Mr. Mark Mohr and Mr. Tim Ortman were reappointed to their positions with the Highway department in a motion made by Mr. Buening and seconded by Mr. Richards.

Mr. Roy Friedersdorf and Ms. Karen Matlock were appointed to the Decatur County Hospital Association aka Hospital Bldg. Authority in a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Buening.

Mr. Bill Smith was appointed to the Innkeepers Board with Mr. Richards making the motion, Mr. Buening seconding.
Veterans Service Officer Harold Sample was reappointed by a Mr. Richards motion and a Mr Buening second.

Ms. Brenda Dwenger was reappointed to the Economic Development Commission, Mr. Richards moved, Mr. Buening seconded.

Mr. Dave Stults was reappointed to the Vernon Fork Water District.

Chief of Staff appointment at the hospital was given to Dr. Fletcher through February of 2016. Dr. Fletcher replaces Dr. Mungcal at the end of his term in 2013.

Commissioner Nobbe accepted reappointment to the SIRPC.

TIF board reappointees were Brian Keith, Mike Walker and Don Schilling,

Tourism Board appointee was Mr. Bill Smith.

The dates need fixed on the Park Board appointment list. No action was taken as there may be others interested in being appointed to this board. (Wilkerson)

County Attorney Peg Polanski created a draft for Minute Maids to include in their contract that state that any new person coming in to clean needs to be submitted to the Auditor’s office first. The name needs to be shared with other offices before approval is given.

Ms. Polanski discussed some changes to the newly adopted personnel policy regarding sheriff longevity. Only road deputies are eligible for longevity. The policy currently states all sheriff employees. Mr. Nobbe said to send this to Kent Irwin to be updated. Ms. Polanski said it needs clarified to say only merit road deputies. Mr. Richards made a motion to better define the policy in this regard. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Polanski listed several ordinances that need reviewed and/or repealed.

Motion were made and seconded to repeal the following ordinances:

1-1979 Dumpster Ordinance

2010-5 Synthetic Marijuana

A motion regarding the state highway and the creation of official detours was repealed also.

Mr. Richards asked whether the news should do a story on the tree getting trimmed and whether an arborist should be present. Mr. Nobbe said he had received complaints about how trees on the property are trimmed.

Mr. Richards moved to recess. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The meeting recessed at 10:35 a.m.