

Decatur County Commissioners  
February 3, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.

Present: Jerome Buening, Rick Nobbe, John Richards

Mr. Buening called the meeting to order and the previous minutes were approved as submitted. Claims were approved as submitted.

Mr. Mike Walker was scheduled for the next Commissioner Meeting.

Alan Lowe was in regarding a road closure for a road that runs behind Lowe's Pellets and Grain. County Surveyor Andy Scholle and County Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr had reviewed the request. Lowe's wants to build a truck garage. The Commissioners reviewed the survey. Mr. Mohr had concerns about giving up the road. There was concern about the road being built for Honda and whether it could be turned to private property. Snow removal was also mentioned as a concern. Mr. Lowe stated he will leave the road. Mr. Buening asked if federal funds usage on the road would determine whether it could be returned to private ownership. Mr. Richards said to hold off until answers to that and other questions were found before making a decision. Mr. Mohr stated that if it was closed, the highway would have right of entry. Mr. Buening mentioned working towards a variance with Area Plan Director David Neuman.

Mr. Mohr discussed EDIT money and the fact that other counties are utilizing some of their EDIT money for funding highway department projects. He presented some e-mails stating what other counties are using their money for. Not all counties utilized EDIT for highway but it is an allowable option.

Mr. Mohr gave an update on Bridge 18. Currently waiting on Duncan Roberts to remove equipment before the project is closed out. Bridge 2 letting moved back to March. There was a comment that a supplemental from INDOT that changed a total amount due to engineering design. Mr. Buening commented that the match money is being funded by left over money from Honda TIF.

Mr. Nobbe moved to authorize the Bridge 2 project. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried with the concurrence of President Buening.

With the last snow there was a wreck on CR 50 N on a bridge. The bridge was inspected and cleared to reopen. United came out quickly and sent a detailed letter with pictures and their insurance will cover.

Bridge 231 – A temporary "Right of Way" has been acquired. The property owners are okay with it and the project should move forward. Mr. Mohr reported that he had contracted with farmers with snowblowers for the 27<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup> for help in getting roads cleared. (CR 400 East and Stewart Road)

Mr. Mohr reported that he is searching for another source for brine with another storm forecasted. He reported he did receive 45 more ton of salt on Thursday. He had to pay more than the contracted amount but at least the county has salt available.

Ms. Jodi Comer, Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission was in to report on the Letts Volunteer Fire Department project. The grant end date is March 31<sup>st</sup> and the end date won't be met because of state issues. The commissioners need to approve an extension for August 31<sup>st</sup>. The building is complete and is in use. They are currently waiting on an old tank to be cleaned out. Mr. Richards moved to extend the deadline from March 14<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Mr. Nobbe seconded the motion and Mr. Buening concurred.

Ms. Comer presented a Semi-Annual report for review and Mr. Buening signed the document.

Sheriff Greg Allen commended Mr. Mohr and the Highway Department for getting roads cleaned and for all the hours they had to put in to get the job done. Sheriff Allen requested \$58,000 for two Chevy Tahoes. One Crown Vic and the current Tahoe need replaced because of high miles. They come with a high trade-in value. There aren't many 2014 models left so he wants to act quickly. There is \$29,000 still remaining from 2013 to encumber. Mr. Nobbe thinks this sounds like a good value. Cars are lasting around five-six years. There are 21 vehicles with three back up vehicles. They will be trading 3 vehicles

for 2. Mr. Nobbe made the motion to okay the purchase and trade in. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. Mr. Buening concurred.

Justin from Cintas was in to discuss his findings for the US Communities base program pricing. He reported he handed out prices for uniforms and indicated there would be a savings of \$1500/year. U.S. Communities is also cheaper for disposable goods. All supplies are stored here and then distributed out. Each building will make their own order and have their own delivery. This will provide better tracking of the county. Dispensers are going to be upgraded. Mr. Buening asked Ms. Davies of Minutemaids how they track inventory and she reported that they utilize a spreadsheet with a sign out process for other locations. Ms. Davies then produced a spreadsheet that compared costs between Cintas and other companies. Justin/Cintas stated that pricing is based on cases or rolls. Mr. Nobbe asked that the request of other departments get brought back before the Commissioners. Mr. Mohr discussed an additional contract with US Communities and said the Highway already has a 36 month lease. Ms. Davies requested that she be allowed to have her employees fill out usage charts to send to GTS to track better. She was told to do that and get back with the Commissioners.

EMA Director Rob Duckworth was in to review Grant Agreements. One would be for \$50,000 for 2 40KW generators and the other for \$1200 for District 9 teleconference costs. 3% will be received back by the county because Decatur County is the pass-through agent. Mr. Richards moved that the grant agreements be approved. Mr. Nobbe seconded the motion. Mr. Buening concurred and the motion carried. One unit will stay here as part of the pass-thru agreement.

Decatur County United Fund requested use of the courthouse lawn for the annual Strawberry Festival on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Nobbe moved to allow usage, Mr. Richards seconded and Mr. Buening concurred.

There was a 9:00 a.m. public bid opening. County Attorney Peg Polanski opened bids received for stone, culvert, sand, fuel and other Highway Department materials. Various prices for various articles were read out loud. Mr. Nobbe moved to accept the bids for review. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. Mr. Buening concurred. There was some discussion and Premier Ag was awarded the fuel bid after a motion by Mr. Richards and a second from Mr. Nobbe. Mr. Buening concurred.

EE Roofing submitted a quote to remove and replace portions of the roof for \$21,780. Mr. Nobbe moved to okay the work. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Buening's concurrence.

Mr. Buening mentioned that he would like to receive Budget Status Reports monthly.

The topic of renewal insurance for the county employees discussed the larger-than-usual claims coming in and the "lasering" of a few top users of the existing plan. Explanations were given by Marsha Miller Smith and Pepper Cooper of Neace Lukens. There was concern about the time frame in which decisions need to be made concerning coverage options. Mr. Nobbe was concerned that some changes may need to be made quicker than the county is ready for. He said that the proposed changes will need to be in writing so that employees can be talked to. The county needs to know the numbers know so that a decision can be made on how much to put in fund. After much discussion, it was agreed that another meeting be scheduled for Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to meet with all department heads.

Mr. Richards moved to recess. Mr. Nobbe seconded the motion. Mr. Buening concurred and the meeting was recessed.

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Jerome Buening, President

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Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_