

April 7, 2014
Decatur County Commissioner Meeting

Present: John Richards, Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening

Claims were approved as presented.

Minutes of the March 17th, 2014 meeting were approved as presented.

Mr. Mark Mohr, Decatur County Highway Superintendent presented the final inspection acceptance letter for Bridge 18 for the Commissioners to sign off on. Mr. Mohr, Ike from INDOT, and B, F & S personnel were all on site and the job looks good. Mr. Mohr recommended signing off on the project. The Commissioners were in agreement and signed off on the document.

Mr. Mohr gave an update on Bridge 2 on Highway 421 that has a pre-con that was approved late by INDOT so the Highway department didn't get the notice to proceed but still did crucial clearing ahead of time to meet the requirements of the Indiana Bat Law. Dave O'Mara got the bid and will do the first month of work under "Road Construction Ahead" signs. Utility relocations are in progress and all of the proper notifications have been sent.

Bridge 124, the stone arch bridge west of Burney has the right of way staked out.

The County Highway is battling major potholes due to the unusual winter. Mr. Mohr reported that the department has borrowed another hot box from O'Mara's. O'Mara is currently considering whether the company can "roll over" the contract from last year. Winter overtime and extra salt purchases impacted the highway budget early on and now with the pothole patching, it is hard to predict what the overall impact will be. The southern part of the county was worse due to soil makeup.

Mr. Mohr has worked with Frank Cummings to see if the budget could withstand purchase of equipment for the highway department. Mr. Mohr asked for Commissioner approval to pursue purchasing a grader and would like the Commissioners to give their approval for Mr. Mohr to approach the Council. He has 3 backhoes that are 20+ years old and 2 New Holland graders that constantly need repairs. He'd like to replace the 3 old hoes with 2 new ones. He is estimating between \$900,000 - \$1,000,000. Mr. Buening and Mr. Richards both agreed that it would be a good idea to start the process. Mr. Nobbe offered to attend the council meeting with Mr. Mohr.

Doug Wilson, Attorney for the Decatur County School Corporation and Mr. Johnny Budd, School Superintendent were in to request an appointment be made to the Common Construction Wage Determination Committee that is being formed for the PE/Fieldhouse Projects at North and South Decatur. Mr. Richards moved to appoint Mark Mohr. Mr. Nobbe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

EMA Director Rob Duckworth discussed the grants that have been fully executed and are ready to be acted on. Everything has been set up with the Auditor's office with one outstanding 2011 grant still needing additional changes. Director Duckworth indicated that signing the grant at this meeting would allow him to send it back today. This is one of the grants taken over from Switzerland County. The amount is for \$32,915 for one mobile generator, one lighting system and \$2900 in salary. Mr. Duckworth also presented a letter and signing request for a mobile generator purchase and a letter of intent stating that the recipient is receiving \$25,000 worth of equipment and agrees to maintain it and store it in an appropriate location with each entity required to do its own maintenance. He did state that a possible 4th generator could be purchased at some future point. Mr. Nobbe moved to support the maintenance and housing for one generator. Mr. Richards seconded the motion and with the concurrence of Mr. Buening, the motion carried.

Mr. Duckworth brought a mobile white board that was bought from a \$10,000 grant. The actual acquisition cost was \$5600. It was paid for by Homeland Security because the county has a strategic plan in place. It will be placed in the mobile command bus and can be utilized during event to help coordinate things. He did a minor demonstration of its capabilities. 2014 funds are capped at \$25,000 per county and Mr. Duckworth is hoping to get an additional electronic whiteboard for the EMA office.

He is also thinking about radio upgrades and outlined his plan for getting radios replaced over time. Mr. Nobbe asked for a quick update from EMA regarding the reimbursement for 50%. Mr. Duckworth explained that the group meets once quarterly and there is a points assessment. Because the county is the fiscal agent for the district, the county is awarded 24 points just for accepting that responsibility. He also talked about the competitive fund based on scoring over and above expected points and additional funding available if that object is met. There could be \$5200 extra to be used. He reported that he had suggested to the District EMA the possibility of creating a secondary award. Mr. Nobbe shared a United Fund brochure with an emergency application available through Red Cross.

Justin Burt, CINTAS, was on hand to discuss what he has found in his inventory of cleaning supplies, floor mats and hygiene products of county facilities. He reported that County Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr had signed with US Communities to get better pricing. Ms. Lisa Davies, J & L Minutemaids, was on hand to discuss the topic with commissioners as well. She reported that she works with Board of Health, the Parks Department, Extension, the Highway Department, the Sheriff's Department and the courthouse. After some discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Davies and Mr. Burt would meet immediately after the meeting and discuss a game plan and return to the Commissioners at a future meeting.

There was more discussion and the Commissioners thanked Ms. Davies for her extra work in checking to see if a local supplier could still be competitive.

Barbara Gallegos and Pepper Cooper were on hand to follow-up with the Commissioners on their proposal of renewal rates for Property and Casualty and Workmen's Comp insurances. After a thorough review and much discussion, Mr. Nobbe moved to renew with Bliss McKnight. Mr. Richards seconded the motion and it carried.

Assessor Dorene Greiwe appeared before the board and discussed the recent bid opening for cyclical reassessment. She recommended the Commissioners sign with Ad Valorem Solutions. There were some questions since Ad Valorem was not the least expensive bid and Ms. Greiwe stated that Ad Valorem is her current vendor and she is very satisfied with the high quality of their work. Mr. Jay Morris of Ad Valorem was on hand if there were any questions. Mr. Nobbe moved to sign the contract for Cyclical Reassessment with Ad Valorem Solutions. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Russell Wilson, Westport Kiwanis, was on hand to ask the commissioners to consider donations in the future to a program called Youth in Yellowstone. Mr. Wilson was representing a committee that has worked to put together a trip for disadvantaged youth to go to Yellowstone. He outlined the details and asked the commissioners to keep in mind the rewards that a program such as this can provide in the future to our community. There were several questions concerning who gets to go and what the end result of the trip would be.

Mr. Mike Cuskaden, Decatur County Fair Board was in to ask permission for the fair board to pursue having camping facilities at the fairground. He outlined what has been happening and how other counties that have done it say it is successful and well received. There were several questions and concerns. Ultimately, the commissioners agreed that it didn't sound like a bad idea for Mr. Cuskaden to continue exploring the option. Mr. Cuskaden also discussed upcoming changes to livestock at the fair. Swine will be limited to 72 hours at the ground to help reduce risks of disease to the swine.

After brief discussion, Mr. Nobbe moved to award the lawn mowing contract to John Knecht. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Nobbe discussed his most recent efforts in getting a local landscaper to help get the courthouse grounds and especially the war memorial and 5 – 7 planted beds in shape. He is waiting on quotes from Fletchers and Vohlands.

Mr. Richards reported he has attempted to contact Bill Meer from Bruns and Gutzwiller to coordinate tuck pointing along with tree trimming. It was agreed that tree trimming should be done and while it is getting trimmed, the company should go ahead and do the trees on the ground as well.

Mr. Nobbe discussed efforts to bring water to St. Maurice are moving along and there are enough easements and signups to have a public meeting on Monday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Maurice Hall. The commissioners are invited to attend.

Mr. Nobbe discussed the consolidated findings of Espy Services in their recent audit of all telecomm related billings for the county. Overall, the company believes that they can save the county some money. With various contract revisions and some small changes, the county could potentially save \$3000 per year. Mr. Nobbe will call Mr. Yeskie and discuss what needs to happen next.

Decatur County Department of Child Services asked permission to put pinwheels and a display on the lawn from April 14th – 21st to promote Child Abuse Prevention. Mr. Nobbe moved to allow, Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried and Tami will call the group and let them know to proceed.

A proclamation proclaiming Mental Health Awareness Month was read by Jerome Buening and approved by the commissioners. May 2014 has been proclaimed Mental Health Awareness Month with all commissioners concurring.

A thank you was received and noted from the ISBDC for \$5000 they recently received from the county.

Mr. Nobbe moved to recess. Mr. Richards seconded that motion, which carried.

The next Commissioner meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 21st at 8:00 a.m.

Jerome Buening, President

Attest _____

Date _____