Present: Jerome Buening, Rick Nobbe, John Richards

Minutes were approved as presented with a minor misspelling pointed out by Mr. Richards. Tami will correct.

Claims were approved as presented.

Dave Richter and Matt Lee of United Consulting were on hand to discuss the results of the Bridge Inventory Project for Decatur County. Mr. Richter explained that the binders they presented contained the results of Phase 1. He thanked the commissioners for the opportunity to work in the county. Mr. Richter introduced Mr. Matt Lee as the person who was physically out in the county doing the inventory. He explained the layout of the Bridge Inventory Book and that the end product is what is federally mandated for bridges with a 20’ or greater span. Those bridges must be inspected every 2 years. He explained that the contract with United is for two phases and this inventory covered the 2 year span that ended in September 2013 with Phase 2 being completed in September of 2015. After the removal of four bridges that were on the list but were less than 20 feet, there were 183 bridges that were inventoried. An in-depth review of the report was made by Mr. Lee including a summary of needed repairs. The binders each contained a flash drive that contained the entire report in a digitized “interactive” format with the bridges mapped and numbered. While in the county, they also responded to a request from County Highway to inspect a bridge that was hit by a vehicle to do a damage/safety inspection. There was discussion on other action items that the county could take care of. Mr. Mohr asked how the county compared to other counties across the state with bridges over 50 years old. We are higher than the state average but it is because the county has so many stone arch bridges. In closing, the gentlemen from United Consulting again thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity and Mr. Mohr reported that the company was great to work with.

Mr. Mohr reported that he met with the county council last week and spoke with them regarding the possibility of purchasing new equipment. He would like two road graders and 2 backhoes. He reported that a new transmission for one of the New Holland graders was quoted at $52,000. He is also investigating lease-purchasing options. He asked the commissioners to see if any funding is available. As he pointed out to the council, the more of his budget that is spent on equipment, the less road repairs and paving get done.

There was some discussion of a blind intersection at 600 South and 700 East. Many options were discussed and Mr. Mohr is going to do further investigation to see what the estimated costs would be to do some of the proposed changes. The obvious solution involves relocation of gas, water and fiber utilities and the price may prove to be prohibitive but Mr. Mohr is going to check into it. Meanwhile, Mr. Mohr reports the highway crews are “patching, patching, patching”.

Lisa Davies, Minutemaids reported that she has spoken with Greensburg Tool and Supply regarding the purchasing and delivery of cleaning supplies and paper products. She is finding that CINTAS and another
company are more inexpensive than GTS. GTS did indicate they would supply new dispensers but would not install. They would deliver to different sites if someone would tell them when, where and how much. Ms. Davies emphasized that the commissioners wanted it broken down by costs per building. She stressed to GTS that if they were interested in being the supplier, it would be in their best interest to attend the Commissioner meeting but no one was present to represent the company. CINTAS will provide those services and will hand the dispensers at no extra cost. The Commissioners agreed that a decision would be made at the May 5th meeting.

Executive Director for the Greensburg-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce Jeff Emsweller was on hand to discuss the Colts Fan Fest and to get commissioner approval to use the courthouse lawn for part of the festivities. The Fan Fest is planning to come to Greensburg on Thursday, June 12th with cheerleaders, players, a trailer and a band. They will have an NFL Play 60 zone and autograph and picture sessions. The Chamber is requesting use of the south side of the courthouse lawn and would like to block north bound lane on Broadway and to limit parking on the east and west sides and block off the south side. The event will run from 5 – 7 p.m. with set-up earlier in the day. There was some discussion of portable toilets. Tami will send Mr. Emsweller a Request form for the courthouse grounds. Mr. Richards moved to tentatively approve the Fan Fest activities, Mr. Nobbe seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Sarah Robinson, Mainstreet Greensburg came before the board with a Request form filled out for the Junk in the Trunk activity to take place in conjunction with the 2nd Friday events on the square. The request asked for use of the parking lot on the corner of Franklin and Main streets from 4 – 8 p.m. Sharon Herbert and Judy Imel will run the event. The women and Ms. Robinson will work together to find a way to notify persons parking in the lot that it will be in use that night each month during the summer. The registration fee to participate is donated to a local non-profit. Mr. Nobbe moved to allow the event to happen and to review as needed if problems arise. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Buening would like to see signage. Ms. Robinson will put a notice in the paper and on the radio.

The Mayor reported his still working on a scoring committee for review RFP’s for reviewing and updating the city’s comprehensive plan. He received 4 responses for RFP’s. The last plan was done by HNTB but they did not submit a quote. The last time there was a review, the city and county partnered together. Mr Buening stated that he would support the county partnering with the city if the Mayor was agreeable to the idea. They did state that Area Plan would need to be on board. Mr Nobbe agreed that partnering was a good idea. Mr. Buening stated that synchronization of plans makes sense.

Mr. Nobbe mentioned that he, the Mayor and Ms. Robinson were working together regarding landscaping on the Broadway side and the war memorial. A request for quotes on doing the work was sent to local nurseries with two replies received. Vohland Nursery quoted $9,350 for 136 boxwoods, 124 spirea, 16 holly, 4 lilacs and to clean, preen and mulch the area. They also submitted quotes for quarterly maintenance of the area. Fletchers quoted $5300 for 20 boxwoods, clean up and mulch. There was much discussion and several questions after which Mr. Nobbe requested that Ms. Robinson
ask Fletchers to quote the same items that Vohland did, just to see how they compare. Ms. Robinson stated that events start happening May 9th and it would be nice to have work completed by then.

Mr. Nobbe also reported that the proposed Cottonwood Lake Economic Improvement District group had sent him notice that their loan through Napoleon State Bank was approved. The group is on the May 5th agenda. Ms. Polanski will put together an ordinance.

Mr. Nobbe discussed the savings that ESPY group/Pat Yeskie found in reviewing the county’s telecom contracts. The savings plan is being executed and the estimated savings are around $3000 annually. The ESPY group gets ½ of that amount for the first year as their payment.

Mr. Nobbe stated that he had three quotes on doing Courthouse HVAC service contracts. There was some discussion. Ms. Wenning voiced her support for the Peine group because they are good to work with and know the building and where things are located. Mr. Nobbe will see if he can renegotiate their asking amount.

Mr. Richards reported he had talked with Bill Meer and had some pricing on a lift. He also spoke with Ralph Wiggins about trimming the tree.

Mr. Nobbe read through a letter regarding repairs on the tower. Mr. Buening is going to call the company about it.

Mr. Richards moved to recess. Mr Nobbe seconded the recession movement. Mr. Buening concurred. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, May 5th at 8:00 a.m.