

Commissioners Meeting

March 2, 2015, 8:00 a.m.

Present: John Richards, Jerome Buening and Rick Nobbe

President John Richards called the meeting to order.

The February 16th meeting minutes, the February 16th Executive Session minutes, the February 16th Special Meeting minutes and the February 20th Special Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as corrected.

Claim were reviewed and approved.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr gave an update on the meeting about repairing/improving the railroad crossings intersecting various state roads in Decatur County. Hopefully **INDOT** will participate in this project as the State shouldn't rely solely on our local **Redevelopment money** to fund fixing these railroad crossings. Mr Mohr told Commissioners the generator to be placed at the Highway Department facility is setup for natural gas and he would like to convert it to propane gas. Mr Mohr gave his recommendations on the stone, fuel and culvert pipe bids received at the February 16th Commissioner Meeting. Mr Buening moved to accept all stone/aggregate bids, award the culvert pipe bid to **CivilCon** and the fuel bid to **Premier Ag Energy**. Mr Nobbe seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred. The bid letting for **Bridge #188, Greensburg City TIF Project**, is to be held today. Mr Mohr will contact Mark Klosterkemper, Greensburg Street Commissioner, to request a bi-weekly meeting/updates.

Kurt Kegerreis of **Southeastern Indiana Workforce Investment Board** spoke to the Commissioners on the work being done to increase graduation rates in Region 9 as well as finding jobs for America's graduates. Mr Kegerreis asked the Commissioners to sign a letter of support to continue/retain the local Region 9- as presently defined: Bartholomew County, Dearborn County, Decatur County, Franklin County, Jackson County, Jefferson County, Jennings County, Ohio County, Ripley County and Switzerland County- under the **Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act of 2014**. Mr Buening moved to sign the letter of support, Mr Nobbe seconded and Mr Richards concurred.

Wendy Blake, **Main Street Greensburg**, presented her **2014 Annual Report**. There has been ten new businesses locate in a seventeen-block area in Greensburg; two 'distressed properties' have new owners and the gas station at Michigan Avenue and Main Street should be opening soon. Ms Blake also submitted two "requests for use of facilities"- the weekly **Farmers Market** uses the south side of the Courthouse lawn and the **Fisher 5** to be held on May 9th. She would like to close Washington Street for various "racing events". Mr Buening moved to approve the requests for the **Farmers Market from May to September and the Fisher 5 Race**, Mr Nobbe seconded and Mr Richards concurred.

Marc Coplon- **EDC director**- presented his quarterly report. The pace of job creation is going quite well in the manufacturing sector in Decatur County. Mike Ames of **MPW Industrial Systems**- subcontractor who does painting for **Honda** would like for their employees to become "certified" as industrial quality control experts. This might be something Mr Kegerreis could get involved with. The **EDC** will be spending monies to 'make 672 acres on the north side of I-74 shovel-ready'. Mr Coplon will be traveling to Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio, for the **I 74 Regional Group** to see what businesses might be interested in expanding/relocating to Decatur County. Also, he is working with the State to travel to Dallas in December. The **Community Growth Group** is meeting regularly to discuss options to bring people and businesses to Decatur County.

Mr Nobbe moved to approve a request submitted by Bonnie Hahn for the **Westport Business Association** to use the **Westport Covered Bridge** on June 6th for their annual festival. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred. The request also mentioned closing the Covered Bridge about noon on June 5th to prepare for Saturday's activities- this information will be forwarded to the Highway Department.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Nobbe moved to recess, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Richards concurred. Meeting recessed.

Mr Richards called a second meeting for March 2nd. Mr Buening moved to sign an agreement for professional services with **CHA** for preparing a comprehensive plan contingent upon the steering committee appointees meeting the satisfaction of the Board of Commissioners and the Area Plan Board. Mr Nobbe seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred.

Mr Buening moved to recess, Mr Nobbe seconded and Mr Richards concurred. Meeting recessed.

The next Commissioner meeting will be March 16, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

John Richards, President

Attest _____

Date: _____