

Commissioners Meeting

May 4, 2015, 8:00 a.m.

Present: John Richards, Rick Nobbe and Jerome Buening

President John Richards called the meeting to order.

The April 20th meeting minutes were approved as presented.

The claims were reviewed and approved to be paid.

Tim Ortman, **Assistant Highway Superintendent**, presented the costs for 'striping' the County Parking Lot and the Highway Parking Lot: \$2,853 for seal coating and striping plus \$1,000 for parking 'bumpers' at the County Parking Lot for a total of \$4,000. The Highway Department personnel will do the work for this project. The County in cooperation with the City of Greensburg will 'stripe' the three sides of the Courthouse parking. Mr Nobbe stated these costs will be paid from the Commissioner's budget line item 'Plans and Implementations'.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr reported on the meeting with **O'Mara Paving's Scott Dawson** on the **Bridge #2** project approaches. There may be a problem with the 'binder mix' used on this project, so hopefully a solution can be agreed upon in a reasonable amount of time. **Bridge #168** project may have an issue with the turning radius at **Layton Drive** and there aren't enough monies in the project budget to 'do' that intersection. Mr Mohr told Commissioners there are several pieces of highway equipment sitting out in all kinds of weather as there isn't any available garage space. He requested approval to 'get some pricing' on storage buildings and hopefully there would be enough space to share with **Emergency Management**. Commissioners instructed Mr Mohr to check with Bob Barker at the **Parks Department** since that department has used that area at various times.

Wendy Blake, **Main Street Greensburg**, presented the first quarter report on the group's activities. There weren't any losses and one 'start up' business (consignment shop) has located on the north side of the square. Ms Blake described efforts to find franchises to 'fit' in on the square and/or county and they are always looking for grants for the community to help in these efforts. Mr Buening moved to approve the "Request for Use of Facilities" for the east side of the Courthouse lawn on August 29th for the **Tree City Rolling Tour/Decatur County YMCA**, Mr Nobbe seconded and Mr Richards concurred. Mr Nobbe moved to fund **Main Street Greensburg** for the requested \$20,000 out of the Commissioners' Plan and Implementations budget line item. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred.

Community Corrections Director Mark Cripe requested permission to place a 8' x 10.5' x 8' wood shed on the north side of the Sheriff's Department to store mowing equipment as the grounds' upkeep will be done by people in the **Community Corrections program**. The Commissioners approved Mr Cripe's request and the cost will be paid from **Community Corrections' funds**.

David Richter, **United Consulting**, introduced several gentlemen who he 'brought in' to put together an assessment of the building and proposal for preserving and maintaining the Courthouse- especially the Clock Tower and the 'famous' Tree. The proposal is in three phases: the clock tower, the main part of the Courthouse and the north expansion. Fritz Hargitt of **RC Engineers** detailed the different kinds of limestone used on the Courthouse; the safety issues with the falling stone; and the historic reputation of our Courthouse. He stressed the urgency of addressing the structural issues on the Clock Tower and the original part of the Courthouse. Nate Faris, a Master- Certified Arborist with **Faris Tree Consulting**, offered his expertise on the health and condition of the Clock Tower Tree since the "tree is truly an asset" to Decatur County. Mr Buening stated the Commissioners want to be proactive in preserving the Courthouse facade and the Tower Tree. Mr Richards would like to take some time to look at the building and their budgets. The assessment/ inspection report would be given to the Commissioners sixty days after a proposal is signed/approved.

Jodi Comer of **Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission** asked the Commissioners if they would agree to participate in the **Owner Occupied Rehab Program**. The **City of Greensburg and the Town of Westport** have already 'signed up'. The local match for this program is \$35,000. **SIRPC** has received a grant for \$11,198 so the remaining \$23, 802 would be divided between the County- \$11,401-, Greensburg- \$11,401 and Westport- \$1,000. This program would help fourteen families and should increase the value of their home \$20,000 to \$25,000. Mr Buening moved to participate in the program by providing the \$11,401. Mr Nobbe seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred.

Bill Read of **INDOT** presented an “unofficial detour agreement” for County Road 700 West for the Commissioners’ approval. The actual work is on a bridge deck in Jennings County on State Road 3 and local people will not have to use the “official detour” set by **INDOT** so there will additional ‘wear and tear’ on our County Road 700 West. Mr Read stated **INDOT** will video CR 700 W before and after the Jennings Co bridge project is completed. He urged the Commissioners to also document the conditions of the road before and after. Mr Nobbe moved to sign the “**Letter of Understanding**” for the south end of County Road 700 West to Jennings County line. Mr Buening seconded and Mr Richards concurred.

County Attorney Drew Young presented the County Parking Lot (located at the corner of East Main Street and North Franklin Street) Schedules and Ordinance for the Commissioners’ review. Mr Young stated the current Parking Ordinance 1998-6 would have to be repealed and then the new parking schedule be adopted. Mr Nobbe moved to repeal County Ordinance 1998-6 for the Decatur County Parking Lot, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Richards concurred. Mr Nobbe then moved to approve the 2015 limited parking ordinance for the Decatur County Parking Lot, Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred.

Mr Nobbe will work with Auditor’s office on their 2016 budgets on June 10th. Preliminary budgets will be given to Mr Buening and Mr Richards to review/update at their June 15th meeting.

Mr Nobbe asked what Mr Buening and Mr Richards thought about charging David Thomas rent after approving Mr Thomas’ request to set his hot dog cart on the County’s parking lot three to four days a week. It’s possible other people might make a similar request or just set up their ‘booth’ for business.

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

The next Commissioner meeting will be May 18th, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

John Richards, President

Attest _____

Date: _____