Present: John Richards, Jerome Buening and Rick Nobbe

President John Richards called the meeting to order.

The January 4th meeting minutes were approved as presented.

The claims were reviewed and approved to be paid.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr told Commissioners the recent snow removal costs, which includes labor, equipment fuel, sand and salt totaled $83,710. He did contact a member of the Cottonwood Subdivision Board regarding any request for the County Commissioners to accept the roads within that subdivision. Those roads have not been accepted at this time; should the Commissioners accept them, they would be open for public use. Also, the existing road signs would have to be replaced as six-inch numbers are now mandatory. Mr Mohr contacted Scott Chasteen, Hospital EMS Manager, about salvaging any parts off the Highway’s old sign ambulance. He thought maybe the old hinges and cabinet locks would be usable on other ambulances. The ‘scrap value’ is only $170 and some of the Highway employees would like to buy different parts of the old sign ambulance. The Commissioners decided to advertise to accept sealed bids for ‘usable parts’. Mr Mohr will ‘put together’ a legal ad for stone, culvert pipe and asphalt bids with a March due date. He asked County Attorney Drew Young if the “common construction wage” meetings are required with asphalt bids since the bids are in ‘tons’. Mr Young answered he thought so. Mr Mohr will be on vacation for two weeks in March, so he may not be in attendance at the actual bid opening. Mr Mohr reported an incident where one of the road graders backed into a pickup truck while out working snow removal. He will contact our insurance carrier.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall reported her office is seeing more building permit activity. Building Commissioner Kenny Buening will be attending a two-day electrical seminar in Lafayette in February and Ms Duvall will be attending a one-day seminar given by the State on significant changes in the Indiana Building Code. She likes the “Tech Review Committee” meeting once a week to review surveys— it’s going well. Decatur County Ordinances 2015-12: Kenneth Marshall, rezoning 2.99 acres from A-1 to A-2 and 2015-13: Danny Fruchtnicht rezoning ten thousand square feet from A-1 to A-2 were presented for the Commissioners’ approval.

Community Corrections Director Mark Cripe requested the Commissioners’ approval for his 2016/2017 Budget due to being on a July 1st thru June 30th fiscal year. $174,000 in State Grant monies have been approved according to Mr Cripe. The total budget is $439,421.53 and has been approved by the Community Corrections Advisory Board. The Advisory Board also asked for the new field officer to begin working full-time on January 25th instead of waiting until July 1st. Grant monies will ‘cover’ the wages and benefits for the new field officer, so no County General monies will be needed. Mr Cripe was informed by Rob Duckworth the cost for Community Corrections to upgrade to new phones/phone system is $4,200, which Mr Cripe is willing to pay. Mr Buening moved to approve the 2016/2017 Community Corrections Budget and the early start date for the new field officer. Mr Nobbe seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred. Mr Cripe requested a ‘letter of approval’ within a week from the Commissioners which he needs to remit to the State.

Commissioners signed the 2016 Covered Bridge Certification to be sent to the State Auditor’s Office so the County may continue to receive state funds ($1,850 annually) for maintenance on the Westport Covered Bridge—our only covered bridge.

Mr Nobbe moved to approve the 2016 MicroVote Maintenance Agreement ($12,000) for the Clerk’s Office, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Richards concurred.

Mr Young reported he and Sean Durbin, Environmental Specialist, have written a letter to the Federal Aviation Administration requesting approval for a drone for Decatur County for Law Enforcement, Emergency Services and general surveying work. He’s working on an ordinance to combine two or more parcels into one parcel.

Mr Nobbe reported he’s still waiting on a “lawn care quote” for 2016 from our current vendor John Knecht. He asked Greensburg Mayor Dan Manus for a copy of the contract from engineer’s bid ($25,000) on the City Park Dam.
A representative from the Fleet Management of Enterprise discussed information on ‘trading, changing’ county vehicles before too many miles and repairs cost additional dollars which could be saved for future purchases or leases. At this time, law enforcement is not included in this program; also excluded is the heavy equipment used by the Highway Department. Enterprise uses specs from a customer to order direct from the ‘factory’ whether it’s Chevrolet, Ford or Dodge. The benefit of leasing vehicles is being able to budget year to year.

Local residents, John and Nancy Derheimer, showed Commissioners a quilt made by the local quilt club depicting the local “barn quilt” patterns. Once the quilt has been displayed at various locations in Decatur County, Mr Derheimer asked if the Commissioners would ‘permanently display it’ in the Courthouse. All three Commissioners agreed and expressed their appreciation for such a beautiful quilt.

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 February 1, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

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John Richards, President
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Attest________________________
Date: ________________________