

Commissioners Meeting

July 18, 2016, 8:00 a m

Present: John Richards, Jerome Buening and Rick Nobbe

President John Richards called the meeting to order.

The July 5th meeting minutes were corrected and approved as corrected.

The claims were reviewed and approved to be paid.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr was contacted by a representative of the **Indiana Trails and Hoosier Rails** requesting approval for bike routes crossing Decatur County. Mr Mohr doesn't have any problems with the route as long as the bicyclists stay on public roads. Mr Mohr did attend the **Title VI meeting** in Crawfordsville, but Harold Sample did not attend due to a Dr's appointment. The **Title VI Coordinator's** responsibilities are pretty in-depth, complex. Mr Mohr asked for the authority from the Commissioners to send the **Title VI** commitment letter-a good-faith letter to **INDOT** in order to timely submit the **Community Crossings Grant application**. Commissioners approved his request. He suggested maybe the responsibilities of **the Title VI Coordinator, the ADA Coordinator and the Human Resources person** would require creating a full-time position, thereby not overloading any one employee. Mr Mohr did say the **Title VI discrimination** might involve something as simple as which county road the snow plow goes through first. He believes this will only 'get bigger' and will involve every county office.

Indiana Trails and Hoosier Rails' spokesperson Mario Vian's requested the Commissioners' endorsement of the touring cyclists traveling from Illinois to Ohio as a part of the **Hoosier Hike and Bike Centennial**. Mr Vian explained he is not asking for money, only approval for a "route to follow" which he had submitted to Mr Mohr. Mr Vian would like to 'recruit' a 'local route coordinator', who the Commissioners agreed could be the **interim Tourism Director Gary Herbert**. Mr Vian also asked for permission to place signage of the bike route to help the bicyclists stay on course. Mr Mohr stated the placement of signs would be under the **Area Plan's jurisdiction** and the private land owner. Mr Richards asked **Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** if there is anything she knows of preventing Mr Vian's request to plan signs along the bike route. She stated she would have to check and report back to the Commissioners. Mr Richards believes this would be great for our community, but he doesn't want any liability to fall on the County.

Mr Mohr was contacted by **Greensburg Street Commissioner Mark Klosterkemper** and **City Engineer Ron May** to ask for help in demolishing a small private bridge on Stewart St which is creating a drainage problem. Mr Mohr anticipates this to be a five day project for his operators to tear out the bridge and some roadway. **Greensburg Mayor Dan Manus** told the Commissioners access to this bridge will be through Kessler Boulevard. Mr Klosterkemper's employees will replace the bridge and repair the road. Mr Richards stated it's good to work with the city- Mr Mohr will contact Mr Klosterkemper and Mr May on rates for reimbursement.

Ms Duvall didn't have anything to come before the Commissioners.

Children's Advocacy Center of Southeastern Indiana Spokesperson Sarah Brichto presented information on services provided to young victims of violence in Decatur County. **Decatur County Prosecutor Nathan Harter** added that some of these children were 'witnesses to violence' and he believes the numbers show a need for a 'satellite office' to be located in Decatur County. Currently interviewing a child is done at the **Center's** office in Dearborn County. Ms Brichto asked the Commissioners to include \$25,000 for Decatur County's share for the **CAC**. Ms Brichto will attend the County Council's next meeting to present information on her \$25,000 budget request for 2017.

School Resource Office and EMA Director Rob Duckworth and **Decatur County Schools Superintendent Johnny Budd** shared the 'positive growth' seen in students since the **School Resource officer Program** was introduced three years ago. Students at the elementary schools as well as the high schools are building relationships with the officers and in the process are learning to trust uniformed law enforcement.

Mr Duckworth explained to Commissioners the various grants he has obtained over the last few years will not cover infrastructure improvements. He asked for a quote from **Geis General Contracting (Dave**

Geis) to add kitchen facilities- a 'food prep' area for the **First Responders and C.E.R.T Team** in the **Emergency Center**. A gas range, sink bowl, garbage disposal, microwave ovens were a few of the items included in the quote of \$21,415. The Commissioners told Mr Duckworth they would like to wait until the latter part of the year before committing to this project.

Commissioners agreed to increase their 2017 budget request to pay rent for **Big Brothers Big Sisters**. If the Council approves the Commissioners 2017 Budget, the County will pay \$500 a month rent to Tim Hedinger for **BBBS**.

County Attorney Drew Young asked how the Commissioners want to handle maintenance- general oversight of the twenty lots at Lake McCoy once the Judge has signed the Tax Deeds. These lots will be added to the County's liability insurance policy. Mr Young stated the County needs to 'mark' the lots to be owned by the Commissioners and he will contact **Tena** representatives for information on the area. Also, he will try to contact a Lake McCoy Conservancy Board member to determine the balance of the bonds for the dam. Mr Young suggested reviewing current ordinances and laws to insure Lake McCoy property owners/renters are in compliance. Mr Young has prepared the noxious weeds letter to send to the Township Trustees; the letter will also be posted on our County's Website. Mr Young will present at the next Commissioners' meeting 'an oath' for individuals appointed to various boards and commissions to extend similar ethic rules, internal controls and materiality rules adopted by the Commissioners and Council for county employees. He has notified Guy Relford, Bell's attorney, he is prepared to file the lawsuit against Joseph Bell and Jerry Bell. The litigation he filed against **Enterprise TE Products Pipeline Company LLC** has been moved to **Shelby Circuit Court**.

Mr Nobbe announced the **Interim Tourism Director** is Gary Herbert.

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 August 1st, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

John Richards, President

Attest _____

Date: _____

