

*Draft*

Commissioners Meeting

October 17, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

Present: John Richards, Jerome Buening and Rick Nobbe

President John Richards called the meeting to order.

The accounts payable claims and payroll claims were reviewed and approved to be paid.

The October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes were approved as presented.

**Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr** reported the 42.2 miles of paving for the **Community Crossings Grant** have been completed and the stone shoulders for those 13 projects should be completed in a week if all goes well. The issue of the asphalt binders on Bridge #2 has been resolved with **O'Mara Paving and INDOT**; also the approach pad has a 'dip' which still needs addressed. Mr Mohr received notification the Bridge #236 on East Central Street has been approved by **INDOT** as a **Federal Aid** project for a **2021 letting**. Mr Nobbe stated maybe there could be a 'trail link' between the bridge and the existing walking path near the **Greensburg Schools**. **INDOT** has approved the **City of Greensburg's** project to add sidewalks from Stewart Street continuing to the existing walking path. **Greensburg City Engineer Ron May** told the Commissioners there may be a 'gap' between the sidewalks on the north side of East Central Street. Mr Mohr asked the Commissioners to sign the "unofficial detour agreement" for county roads 280 north to county road 100 south again since **INDOT** has misplaced the one the Commissioners signed on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016. He will have another 'unofficial detour agreement' for the Commissioners approval for a Ripley County bridge project which will divert traffic to Decatur County's county road 550 east- that section of 550 east is part of the **Community Crossings Grant** was just 'resurfaced', so Mr Mohr will document the condition of that road before and after Ripley County's detour. **INDOT** has approved **Decatur County's 2017-2020 Bridge Inspection Contract** with **United Consulting**, so now that contract becomes **INDOT's Contract**. The contract is a '80/20' Federal grant. Mr Mohr requested a 'preapproval to pay' invoices to **O'Mara Paving** from our 'local match dollars', for work completed within the **Community Crossings Grant**. He waited to submit the invoices until the Auditor's office had received additional instructions from the **State Board of Accounts** on what funds to set up/create for tracking grant monies as well as local match monies. Commissioners agreed to his request. They commended the Highway employees on a job well done on the 13 road projects under this grant.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** didn't have anything to present to the Commissioners today. She hasn't received any word from the Bell's nor their attorney. **County Attorney Drew Young** stated the **Bells** had until October 15, 2016 to answer the civil lawsuit, 16D01-1608-CT-000348, filed on behalf of the County.

**County Extension Homemakers Club Vice President Janet Bedel** asked the Commissioners if they proclaim October 18<sup>th</sup> as **Decatur County Extension Homemakers Day** to honor all members of their organization. Terri Hornberger told the Commissioners their Homemakers Club was started in 1930 and October 18<sup>th</sup> is their "**Achievement Night**" for all of the Homemaker Clubs to get together. Mr Nobbe moved to proclaim October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as the Decatur County Extension Homemakers Day; Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Richards concurred.

**R.J. Kunkel** presented a price summary for 2016 and 2017 for materials and work he recommends the Commissioners considers doing to preserve the exterior of the Courthouse. The Commissioners are currently working with an engineering firm and hope to have a set of specs for 'bidding the work' soon, but they are not ready to act on Mr Kunkel's proposals. They will notify him when the engineer has 'set the scope' of the work to be done.

**Visitor, Rec and Tourism Director Gary Herbert** presented the **Innkeepers Taxes Report** receipted into that fund in the Auditor's office. He reported meeting **Parks and Rec Director Bob Barker** about hosting more softball tournaments; met with Mike Cuskaden on utilizing buildings at the Fair Grounds for various events.

Mr Young reported he is waiting for **Enterprise's** response to 'written discovery'. He asked for direction on borrowing funds for work on the exterior of the Courthouse. He keeps missing the Judge, so he hasn't received any tax deeds for Lake McCoy properties the Commissioners are wanting to take title to.

Mr Young asked the Commissioners where the issue of vacating alleys stands. **Greensburg Engineer Ron May** suggested establishing a permanent utility easement when vacating an alley. Auditor Chadwell would like for the person petitioning to vacate a platted alley or street to submit a legal survey which establishes a legal description for adjoining property owners to know the exact location of the alley/street prior to being vacated. Mr Young told the Commissioners he is worried about everything done under the current Area Plan Ordinance may be voided due to the 'make-up' of that board not following state statute. He proposed 'making an adjustment' of that board as opposed to Cynthia Bowen's, Comprehensive Plan Director, recommendations of dissolving the existing Area Plan Commission and then the various entities make their appointments according to state statute. Mr Young stated the existing board members would stay in their current positions; add the appointment of the Advisory Council on Town Affairs and the County Council appointees. Commissioners discussed length of appointee's terms and reestablishing term ending dates as Mr Buening believes the length of the terms should be set before their appointments are made. Current APC member Jay Hatton stated the 'appointing board sets the term limits'. Mr Richards said the Commissioners want to do this in the proper way and in the best interest of the County, their APC appointments should be tabled until their next meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

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 November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

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John Richards, President

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Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_