

Commissioners Meeting

December 4, 2017 8:00 a.m.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors

Commissioner Nobbe called the December 4th, 2017 Board of Commissioners meeting in session. He announced **Title VI voluntary survey forms** are available on the table by the door for whoever would like to complete one to turn in to the Auditor's office.

After reviewing the November 20th meeting minutes, Mr Buening moved to approve those minutes, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Koors moved to approve the accounts payable claims and payroll claims, Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr told the Commissioners final drawings for Bridge 168 have been sent to **INDOT**, putting that project on the Spring letting. He has a meeting tomorrow with **United Consulting** now that right-of-way has been cleared. Bridge 236 (East Central Avenue near the Greensburg Junior High School) is another one of our bridges 'in the Federal Aid System'. Mr Mohr plans to meet with **Greensburg Schools Administration** to select a consultant to do the design work since they have a sidewalk project near Bridge 236. Both the school and the county would save money by using the same consultant and contractor. Commissioner Koors and Mr Mohr are scheduled to meet with an **INDOT** rep today at 11:00 to negotiate reimbursement for the unofficial detour for **INDOT's** south 421 project. **INDOT's** initial reimbursement amount was three hundred tons of patching, which the Commissioners believe should be at least six hundred tons. For the past two weeks, County Highway workers have focused on installing a ninety-six inch round pipe- one hundred and five feet long under part of north 421 between CR 420 W and CR 520 W. Mr Mohr hopes to pave that stretch of road this evening and open the road on Tuesday. Commissioners thanked Mr Mohr and his workers for getting this repair done so quickly.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall presented **Ordinance 2016-9** for the Commissioners' review and approval. The **Area Plan Board** unanimously approved Steve Snyder's petition to rezone 2.5 acres from A-1 to A-2 for construction of a single family detached dwelling. Mr Buening moved to approve the ordinance, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Area Plan Building Inspector Kenny Buening had 35 building inspections scheduled in the last two weeks; issued 9 new building permits and has sent four letters, three of were sent to property owners in **Forest Hill** and the fourth letter was sent to the property owner at **10459 W St Rd 46**. Two property owners in **Forest Hill** told Mr Buening there isn't anything of theirs in the alley. Mr Nobbe asked Mr Buening to contact Jim Ude of **INDOT** since Robert Walls still has equipment and vehicles in the State's right-of-way. Mr Buening will review our current **ADA Ordinances** to insure those are current with **Federal Regulations**.

Clerk of the Courts Adina Roberts presented a quote for 'a woven wire enclosure' for the Clerk's confidential files in the basement. The **Internal Revenue Department** requires all of the Clerk's confidential files be 'under lock and key'. Since all of the Courthouse offices have a key to the basement, the Clerk must partition an area which only that office may access. The **IRS** conducted their audit of the Clerk's federal tax information on October 25, 2017; which the Clerk did 'pass- with the understanding we are in the process of approving a locking enclosure in the basement. Ms Roberts will use her **Child Support Budget** to pay the \$2,365 for materials and labor for this project. Ms Roberts then presented a request to have a fax line installed in the **Absentee Voter Room** located on the first floor of the Courthouse. Military and Overseas voters do request ballots and submit their ballots via fax which often is time sensitive. A top priority is the confidentiality of a faxed ballot- which if faxed to the Absentee Voter Room instead of the Clerk's office fax, keeps that ballot in a secure election-related room. Ms Roberts agreed the installation costs would be paid from her budget. Mr Koors moved to approve the Clerk's request to purchase fencing from **Indiana Wire** to build a locking enclosure in the basement for confidential files. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Next, Mr Buening moved to approve the installation of a fax machine and a fax line to send and receive ballots in the **Absentee Voting Room**. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Ashley Hadler, Jeff Gibson and Ves Miller of Cohen and Malad Law Firm explained their law firm has filed three class action cases (Marion County, City of Lafayette, City of Hammond) so far targeting the manufacturers of opiate drugs who 'push' or over promote addictive drugs and the opiate distributors.

The 'over prescribing' of the opiates has created a 'market' or pill mills. For the past several years little to no monitoring of the quantity of pill orders was done by the distributors; therefore the **Drug Enforcement Agency** wasn't informed timely- we have a full-blown opiate crisis. The availability of 'pain meds' is decreasing since the **DEA** is monitoring doctors' prescriptions more closely; so now individuals are turning to heroin. Mr Gibson told Commissioners **Cohen and Malad** are only representing Indiana cities and counties and there isn't a timeline for a resolution for these court cases. If and when there is a positive resolution for these court cases, there may be funds available drug treatment programs. He did urge the Commissioners to make a decision 'sooner than later' whether to 'get on board'. **County Attorney Ken Bass** does have the 'agreement for professional services' contract should the Commissioners decide to join in the class action lawsuit. The Commissioners agreed to address this after the first of 2018.

Clair Fredrickson of the Lake Santee Regional Waste and Water District Board presented **Resolution 12-4-17** for the Commissioners' approval, appointing Larry Kiernan to fulfill the remainder of Greg Montgomery's term. Mr Buening moved to appoint Larry Kiernan per the resolution, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

County Prosecutor Nathan Harter asked the Commissioners to revisit the request he made earlier this year: to reallocate office space to be vacated by Probation Department, allowing the Prosecutor more office space due to increasing caseloads plus his 2018 budget includes a new Deputy Prosecutor who will need some office space. Mr Harter presented a letter signed by both Judge Bailey and Judge Day asking once the Probation Department relocates to the Sheriff's building, that office space be divided giving one room for the Public Defenders and the remaining rooms be dedicated to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. Mr Nobbe asked Mr Harter to 'go after grant dollars' to help offset his employees' health insurance fees. Mr Buening moved to approve the relocation plan for the Prosecutor and his team in the Spring of '18. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

The 'credit card/store card discussion' continues with Deputy Auditor Teresa Reiger telling Commissioners she has contacted **Napoleon State Bank and MainSource Bank-First Financial** for information on our County Government to have one credit card account with a credit card for each department. Both banks would not charge an annual fee for that account. **County Treasurer Brenda Dwenger** stated she has spoken with **First Financial Bank** - have not found any reason not to stay with **First Financial Bank**. After some discussion, Mr Buening moved to approve one credit card per department after that department head submits a written request to the Auditor's Office to be presented to the Board of Commissioners to approve or deny. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. The approved credit cards will be distributed after January 1, 2018.

The Commissioners received a letter from the **Decatur County Hospital Board of Trustees** recommending two people to be appointed/reappointed to four-year terms and one person to be appointed to complete resigning Board member Scott Simmonds' term which would be one year. They decided to wait until their December 18th meeting to make the various Board Appointments for those whose terms are expiring.

Emergency Services Director Scott Chasteen told Commissioners he is currently working with the Hospital's attorney on a contract with the Commissioners for the ambulance services supported by County Government. He hopes to present an updated contract at the next Commissioner meeting.

Mr Nobbe signed the **2018 Extension Service Contractual Agreement with Purdue**. The Commissioners have budgeted \$104,720 for three Extension educators.

Commissioners agreed to hold an auction on a Saturday morning sometime in January, 2018, to sell the Lake McCoy parcels the County 'took deed to' after the 2016 Tax Sale. Since the delinquent taxes were removed once the parcels transferred to the Commissioners, they agreed the 'minimum bid' on each parcel should be a total of the tax sale fees, the notification and title work fees, the advertising fees and the auctioneer's fees. The Auditor's office will create a form for the successful bidders to take to Mr Bass who will 'draw up' the deed.

With nothing else to come before the commissioners Mr Koors moved to recess, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

The next Commissioners meeting will be December 18th, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Richard J Nobbe, President

Attest _____

Date: _____