

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Memoranda

September 28, 2021

8:15 a.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Courthouse

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

III. Roll Call

a. Present: President, Tim Yocum, RJ Dunavan. & Britton Luther.

IV. Approval of Memoranda

a. A motion was made by Dunavan to approve the Memoranda from September 7, 2021 and September 14, 2021 and seconded by Britton. All in favor, motion carried.

V. Approval of Claims

a. A motion was made by Dunavan to approve the October 1, 2021 claims and seconded by Britton. All in favor, motion carried

VI. Approval of Payroll

a. A motion was made by Dunavan to approve payroll for October 1, 2021 pay and seconded by Britton. All in favor, motion carried.

VII. Open Issues

a. Health Department update on COVID-19- 291 new positive cases. 79% of them are spread through the household. FDA has approved of the Pfizer booster. Health Dept. is getting ready to administer the Pfizer booster. There are certain criteria that has to be met to get the booster. Dr. Albrecht's last "official" day is October 1<sup>st</sup>, but will help out until they get another licensed physician.

b. Vermillion Rise- Joel with Rise has gotten negotiations for the solar.

c. VTA- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual victory run will be April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. There will be a ½ marathon and a 5k. Looking at some land to buy for the trails. Found some land, owners who are willing to sell. Commissioners need to be the "owners" top applicants on the land. Applied for up to one million dollars for the grant. A motion was made by Yocum to agree to be "owners" of the land and seconded by Dunavan. All in favor, motion carried. It is questioned whether the trails should be closed during hunting season due to safety issues. It was suggested to put signs up and just close during the hunting season to keep everyone safe. Britton asked who is responsible for maintaining the trails. It was suggested that they find a way to fund a hired maintenance worker, but they have volunteers that could help out. Britton suggests that whoever maintains the trails, should make the decision whether to close for hunting season or not.

d. Surplus Bids- 11 items were presented, only 8 items were rewarded. A motion was made by Dunavan to reward the bids and seconded by Britton. All in favor, motion carried.

● 2006 Chev Trailblazer \$601.00 ZoomEx

● 2011 Ford Explorer \$2,601.00 Florinda & Richard Pruitt

● 2013 Dodge Charger \$2560.00 Ringwood Motors

● 2012 Dodge Charger \$1,100.00 Ringwood Motors

● 1991 International Truck \$2,000.00 Griffin Logging

● 1981 Ford 600 \$105.00 David Francis

● Rolle Model Rex 44 \$200.00 Chris Flemming

- e. Jail Update – Demo is continuing, they are starting to pour foundation. There was a delay to the foundation because Duke Energy had to relocate a power pole. A little over a million dollars has been accumulated from contingency. Jail population is the highest it has been in the past two years at 80 inmates. 70 of the inmates are housed at other jails.
- f. Bakertilly- Need approval for services to use bakertilly. A motion was made by Britton to approve services as long as the agreement states the amount not to exceed \$5,000 who will be working on the project, and was seconded by Dunavan. All in favor, motion carried. Auditor to get new agreement from Baker Tilly.
- g. Website Use- Yocum would like to get the North & South Vermillion students to put together a video made of Vermillion County to have on the website. Yocum offered them to use his drone to produce the video. It was asked if they could stream videos on the website. Commissioners were told that someone will find out for sure whether they can stream on the website or not.
- h. Ron Mack- Helli leap is working with Ron to get everything on the website. Saving property owners money when surveying. Is having issues with the GIS system not showing the right road numbers. Britton suggests to get a proposal from the drainage board to continue with the dana ditch. It is motioned by Britton to get a proposal before continuing and seconded by Yocum. All in favor, motion carried. Ron Mack stated he will get with them in November after harvest is over to revisit the situation.
- i. E911- Derrick Williams is asked for a monthly report. Williams was good with that.
- j. Reuse Authority Appointment- It was motioned by Dunavan to hire Lacy Romig for Vermillion Rise and seconded by Britton. All in favor, motion carried.
- k. Penney Carpenter- 66 building permits so far this year. 14 of them are new houses that have been build. 2 in Helt township, 8 in Clinton township, 3 in Eugene township, and 1 in Highland. There were 97 building permits given out last year.
- 1. Ordinances
  - Solar- Commissioner Dunavan requested information from Jon Spurr on what needs to be done to amend the solar ordinance. Spurr states that in order to amend an ordinance, a proposed amendment needs to be sent to the Area Plan Commission. Then, APC has a certain period of time where they are allowed to conduct a public meeting. APC then sends their opinion on the proposed amendment back to the commissioners. From that point, it can continue to go back and forth. If there is a point they outright deny, then the amendment is stilled. If they amend it then it will become in effect. If 90 days pass and there is nothing done with the proposed amendment, then it is automatically passed into an ordinance.
  - Wind ordinance- This ordinance had its first reading on September 14, 2021. Britton suggest they have a special meeting on the wind ordinance. Dunavan made a motion to pass the ordinance today and seconded by Yocum. Britton opposed, motion passed.
  - 2021-11 Covid-19 Ordinance- temp checks upon arrival at courthouse. Can be asked to leave if questions aren't answered or won't comply to getting temp

taken. A motion was made by Dunavan to pass the amendment and it was seconded by Britton. All in favor, motion passed.

- 2021-12 Illegal Dumping Ordinance- the first reading took place today. (see attached). Should the money from the fines go to general fund or elsewhere? Talk more about at next meeting.

m. Ambulance Run August 2021- 121 runs serviced and an average of 8.07 minutes each run. Bakertilly draft report available October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

#### VIII. New Business

a. Kristy Jerrells spoke about the county's small business grant. The county received \$250,000. Jerrells also stated that the County needs to get the Comprehensive Plan moving forward or the County could have to pay the \$50,000 back for the grant the County received. Penney Carpenter stated that the APC was not involved at the beginning of this and when they did get involved the Plan had a lot of incorrect information. Carpenter stated that she will meet with the board and move forward with the plan.

- Economic Development got a new director and they are holding an open house on October 4<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7pm.

b. Change of commissioners meeting format to talk about at next meeting.

c. Topic Discussion-

- President Ashley James spoke on the county insurance committee. She invites everyone to a meeting. They are doing all the leg work and research. They don't make the final decision, it is entirely up to the commissioners. Insurance to be talked about at the next meeting.

- Youcun states he is gathering more information to have a broadband committee. Board and Committee

b. Applications will be available November 11<sup>th</sup> on the website. Britton would like formal committees.

d. Transfer of EM vehicle (Mark O'Heir) vehicle to Assessor's office (Paige Kilgore)- Topic was discussed, but there was no motion or agreement made at this time.

e. Wabash River Run- River Rescue Practical- Raised \$10,000 for the human society. Next year have it the weekend before Labor Day.

f. Highway Updates

- Rangeline Road should be opening up next week.
- Commissioners to set a work session after the next meeting to talk about Highway issues that need to be addressed.

g. DNR letter about the Ernie Pyle House-It has been added to the National Registry.

h. Thank you to Dr. Albecht for serving Vermillion County for 32 years as Vermillion County Health Officer.

#### IX. Public Comment-

- a. Chad Hennis proposes to change the speed limit on 300 N to 50 E to S Division then 350 N to 400 N from 55mph to 40 mph for the safety of everyone. Suggested that all roads that are unmarked should be 45mph-not 55mph. A speeding fine can be written as state statute or local ordinance.

- b. Builders Risk- Jail- George Smith with Traveler insurance. \$1,000 per one million dollars. \$10,000 deductible. It was motioned by Britton and seconded by Dunavan. All in favor, motion passed.
- c. Penney Carpenter Covid-19 pay- Back in May employees were given 80 hours covid pay. Dunavan motions to reinstate the Covid-19 pay with 80 hours and to revisit in 60 days. No one else agreed and the motion died. Yocum suggests to talk more about covid pay next meeting. It was questioned where the Covid-19 pay money will come from and it was stated that salaries are budgeted, so the money is there. Lyme Brewer states that there should be a decision today due to us being back in the red. Dunavan motions to pass 40 hours covid pay and seconded by Yocum. Britton opposed, motion passed.
- d. Travis Newman talks about the wind ordinance. APC made it clear that it is not restricted. Provides a petition that supports for the ordinance have signed. Petition was handed to Yocum.
- e. Lewis Berry wants to thank the APC and the commissioners for the wind ordinance.
- f. Public Defenders board is invited to the next meeting. Nancy Wilson.

**X. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Dunavan and seconded by Britton. All in favor, meeting was adjourned.

May

Aye

Tim Yocum

RI Dunavan

Britton Luther

Attest  
Brenda Ferry

Date:

10/21/21