

RE: Insurance Consultant

Minutes-Vermillion County Commissioners & Council Special Joint Meeting May 1, 2007

The Vermillion County Commissioners & Council met in the Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana.

President, Tim Wilson called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Roll call was taken: Commissioners present were President Tim Wilson and Kim Hawkins. Council members present were Randy Dreher, Fred Daniels, John Yoho, and Jerry Hawkins. Also present were Attorney Jon Spurr, Auditor Sherrie Koma, and Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert.

Jerry Hawkins said he has suggested a few times to the Commissioners that it might be time to look for someone, a consultant type person to help us through the insurance process, someone that doesn't sell anything to the county. He said in most cases, the only one they have to deal with is the person who sold us the insurance. J. Hawkins said knowing what the Commissioners and Attorney Spurr go through, in terms of trying to evaluate proposals and figuring out the best thing to do for the county. He thinks it would be in the counties best interest and worth the fee that might be involved. He would like the Commissioners to consider publishing an RFP, a request for proposals to see if there are people out there that would do that sort of thing for us, keeping in mind that it is not just someone to help us secure the insurance but someone to help manage our claims and manage our program. It is not just someone who comes in a few days a year, it would be someone working the full year to help us manage the health insurance plan, to get us the best plan, to explain that plan to us in terms we can understand and to be sure that we get the most cost benefit that we can out of the plan. J. Hawkins prepared the RFP and sent it to Spurr. He said the council only deals with financial matters but insurance is a big financial matter in this county. Wilson asked how this person would be paid and J. Hawkins said it would be paid the same way we pay insurance, out of the general fund. He said when we select an insurance provider, we don't know what it is but there is a commission involved. It is possible for a consultant to represent us through the whole commission process, so in fact, we may end up paying less by paying someone to help us through this process. Wilson asked if it would come off the top of what we pay for insurance and J. Hawkins said yes. Dreher asked if we would do away with bidding and J. Hawkins said no, the consultant would do the bidding for us. Spurr said the problem comes when we get the proposals; you are not always comparing apples to apples and oranges to oranges. You might read a term and not know what it is and the only person you can call is the person trying to sell us the plan. Spurr said he is not an insurance expert. Yoho said he doesn't think our insurance agent is a bad person and J. Hawkins said that is not what he is saying. He is saying that every year they go through this and get a couple of proposals. Dreher asked if we were doing this with health insurance only, or property insurance as well. J. Hawkins said he is only talk about health insurance right now but that is a perfect example of what we are talking about when the only people that represent the product to you are the people that sell you the product. Kim Hawkins said a second option would be to form a group, maybe a group of office holders to form a board to accept the proposals, study them, meet with the people, without pay. K. Hawkins said the problem is insurance is insurance and if we could save \$56,000.00 by having a broker over the bids. He said this year we didn't get many proposals and he knows that there is some problems behind that but maybe if we had a broker or a group we could of steered through that and dealt with them directly. Dreher said he like the group idea and it wont cost the taxpayers a dime; it should be part of our job. K. Hawkins suggests seeing what kind of costs we were looking at for a broker and then have a second option if it comes in to high. He said we have to deal with this insurance because we don't want to err against the taxpayers, we want save taxpayers money. J. Hawkins said he knows health insurance went from \$700,000.00 to about 1.2 million in that last 4 years. That could be a natural progression but we don't know that we couldn't of done better had we had someone speaking for us. K. Hawkins said we can approve it, but the council has to find the way to pay for it. J. Hawkins said yes, it would be paid out of general fund. K. Hawkins said he

thinks it definitely needs addressed; it shouldn't be left, as is .J. Hawkins said for three years he has watched proposals roll in and you all just plop them down, who do you go to to ask a question, the person selling you the insurance. Dreher asked if the problem with our present provider not talking to people, trying to solve problems. K. Hawkins said they only complaints he got were some people said when they would call with a problem, they couldn't get into the right person and that was dealt with last month and letters went out with a list of who to contact. K. Hawkins said there were issues that came up with one company verses another company, saying that they didn't bid because of the way the rates were set and we are supposed to decide that. K. Hawkins thinks that decision should come from the office holders and a representative from the Council and Commissioners. Dreher said we have an insurance commission that we can call for help and clarification verses spending money on a consultant. K. Hawkins said he doesn't think this is against any insurance group; it's just that we don't know what the best bargain is. Dreher asked where we were going to find this person? If we are so naïve to start with, how are we going to know this person we are going to hire knows everything he needs to know. Larry Beard asked how other counties address their insurance issues. Beard said your agent, the one who sells you the insurance, should be available. If the present carrier is unavailable, vague, and confusing, then we have a big problem. He said there are people who are 65 working for the county and it is his understanding that they are on the group policy, when they should be on Medicare and a supplemental plan. That would be a great savings to this county. Yoho said people who are 65 and older are not on the county plan. Lesli Bohannon said there is one person on the group plan and on Medicare. K. Hawkins said that is why we need an insurance broker. J. Hawkins said he believes in the democratic process. He said he doesn't not get any reimbursement from the county and he is not on the insurance. The issue for him is that we get the most cost benefit, the best plan that we can get. He is not sure we can get that ourselves but he knows that the commissioners and council will make the best decision possible. Dreher asked why would we need this person full time; why not hire them when we are doing our bidding process. Bohannon said if we went with a broker, that person would manage everything for you throughout the year. J. Hawkins said he does not like the term broker; he likes the term consultant because a broker sells something. Bohannon said if you had a consultant, that person would help you throughout the year, if you had claim issues, you would bypass the agent completely because you wouldn't have no agent. This person would not work off a commission. J. Hawkins said that is part of the RFP, it would be up to them to explain how they want paid. Dirk Davis said you make the consultant the agent of record. The consultant signs the agreement with you that says he is going to charge 0% commission, you get proof from the company that consultant is not being paid a commission. The consultant charges you a consulting fee. He is the agent of record so he has the availability to be the middleman with the company just as a normal agent. He works with the individuals and the companies and then at renewal time he is privy to information needed. Last time it was 8 working days to get everything done, information was held up and information was given falsely. Lori Porter said as an elected official she would not want to be on a committee. She barley understands the insurance now and would not want that responsibility. Bohannon said that she felt we got cheated because a week before any agent got this information, things were sent to companies and that is why we were declined and if we got such a great decrease and our claims went down so much, why couldn't we get any more bid. K. Hawkins said, one year from now, we would tell the agent of record that we are ready and he would start looking for the best plans available and he would be responsible for providing all the information. Davis said you are going to have to stop this process sooner than that. Bohannon said she thinks it should be started before the year is up because of payroll issues and other stuff. K. Hawkins asked how we would find out what we are going to pay, a lot of things are going to happen. If you start 9 months from now and in the 10th month you get hit with a heart transplant. That is not going to show up on the figures. You have to have a starting point and he thinks the other company made a good point last time, you have to pay all your bills before you know how much you spent. K. Hawkins said he thinks we should advertise for this. J. Hawkins said there is no risk in advertising it, you don't have to hire anyone, and you have just simply published a request for people to respond to. J. Hawkins read parts of the RFP. He said there were 5 or 6 statements in the request for proposal that would give someone enough information. He said it is pretty straightforward. Wilson suggested giving them until July 3rd to respond. Wilson said we are going to advertise the RFP and give people until July 3rd to turn it. Someone asked

who would set this persons salary. J. Hawkins that person would have to tell you how they would charge you for this service, whether it is per person, or a flat fee. You will know all that before you make a decision and you can decide not to do it. You can decide to put together a committee. He said he doesn't have the insurance but he does pay taxes in the county, so he contributes. He just wants to be sure it's a cost effective plan. He said he doesn't see it adding any additional expense to the county, he sees it in the long term probably getting us someone who is actually interested in what we get and what we do. Dreher asked if we would do this on a yearly basis, incase we are not happy with it. K. Hawkins said he agreed, he doesn't think we should lock into it long term. We should see if it is going to save us money. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the joint meeting, seconded by Hawkins.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners & Council on the 5th day of June 2007.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Kim Hawkins

John Yoho

Fred Daniels

Lavonna Mattick

Randy Dreher

John Cheesewright

Mike Costello

Jerry Hawkins

Attest: _____
Sherrie A. Koma, Auditor

RE: Manatron/Online programs/Mike Phelps
Mule Ridge Recreation Park
Holiday Pay/Leave
Intermediate EMT Class
Ambulance Service

Minutes-Vermillion County Commissioners Meeting May 1, 2007

The Vermillion County Commissioners met in the Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana.

President, Tim Wilson called the meeting to order.

Roll call and Pledge was done at the Joint Meeting.

Wilson made a motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting, seconded by Hawkins.

Unfinished Business-Manatron

There was no representative from Manatron present.

Technology Coordinator, Mike Phelps was present and he recommended that we not sign anything at this point until we have all had time to set down with Manatron and discuss a few things. Phelps said he is not completely against them but we don't even know if what we have is being leased or owned in most cases. The contract that has been submitted includes \$7,500.00 per year for email addresses using Microsoft exchange hosting. It is a very good service but way more than what we probably need right now. Also in the contract, under their security section it says that they will try to keep it free from security breaches, obviously anybody would try to do that but if there are any, they are not liable for anything. Phelps said in this contract we are also giving them the right, once we upload this data to their server, they now own it. The contract says Manatron will have the right to lease and sell the data in that server. Phelps said he is against that completely. It also says they are not assuming any risks for anything and the possibility of paying them for this and then them making money again off of selling our data to someone else. Phelps said until we set down with them and discuss he is going to say no to putting our stuff on the Internet. He said he recommends that we do set down and talk to them.

Phelps said he does have another company that can provide us with email and the price is a lot cheaper and includes a lot more mailboxes with larger space. K. Hawkins asked if that was for the entire courthouse and he said yes, for all county employees. Phelps said this will give the county a decent address that is uniform, such as vermillioncounty.org, .net, or .com and he would recommend that we purchase all three to keep someone else from buying it and put smut around us. Porter asked if other companies have been contacted about the Internet service, what Manatron is proposing. Phelps said he has one company that needs put on the agenda next month. He recommends that the office holders be a part of this because he is not even sure that our data is ready to go on the Internet. Phelps said he has a proposal from WTH, the people that do our 911 map. There is two different proposals and he is going to let them explain it at the next meeting. The \$18,000.00 grant that we talked about last month that is what the \$5,700.00 is for. He is going to talk to Columbo because he thinks there is a misunderstanding between him and us or him and the state. He thought we made it pretty clear last month that the \$17,900.00 is what the state is willing to give us for this project and he is saying it is a lesser amount. Phelps said WTH does 25 counties in the State and a few other states as well. Phelps said they also provide the same things Manatron does as far as the plat map and they guarantee it to be done, up and running in 60 days not 4 years. Wilson said to put WTH on the agenda next month, June 5th. Phelps said he has a lot of questions for Manatron, he doesn't know if we are leasing, renting, or we own this equipment or if this is new equipment we have purchased this year. The prices for the individual items aren't horribly bad if we purchased them. There is a server listed that to the best of his knowledge we don't have it. We are paying \$3800.00 for this and he doesn't think we even have it. Phelps said he is going to try and set up a meeting with them soon. K. Hawkins said to make sure Spurr is clear on what he wants to strike out on the contract. Porter said there are some other companies out there as well and she picked up some information at the Records conference. Phelps said he would like more information on other companies; he is having a hard time finding other companies. Phelps said he has

been working with Mark Cameron on installing the judge's new server and everything is working great. He said that it really sped up the third floor Internet. He would like to ask Cameron to set down with them while going through the contracts.

Wilson asked Spurr if he checked on the atv insurance and he said he has the statute pulled and it says \$100,000.00 per person and \$300,000.00 per occurrence. He is trying to find out how that compares to what other counties are doing to find out if that is high or low. Yoho said that sounds about normal.

New business-Mule Ridge Recreation Park

Web Crouch who lives at 2542 E US HWY 36 and he said he has some questions regarding Mule Ridge Recreation Park. This guy is zoned under agricultural, it was residential and it was rezoned under agricultural. He has a business there, which is an ATV park. It's a business, if you make money at what you are doing, it's a business. He talked to K. Hawkins, Wilson, Crossley and others. Some people have argued that agricultural is a business too but you don't have 400 farmers show up to farm the ground 363 days a year. There is traffic issues on the highway, both 36 and 63, however he wants to bring them in or out. Crouch said he doesn't understand how this thing happened, he was allowed to open. Open a business, where it is at, zoned how it is zoned. In fact he talked to Kenny Nelson tonight, when he wanted to open a business on his road, which is just the next county road to the North, he had to talk to all his neighbors, get consent from them, go through all the paperwork, do all the steps to be able to do that. When we went to the zoning board meeting, the last one they had, we mention it, everyone looked at us like we were idiots, and they had no clue. The zoning board of appeals, area plan, no one knew a thing about this until it was already opened. Every person Crouch talked to knew nothing about it until after it had opened. He did not advertise locally. Crouch said he never saw anything in the paper before he opened, which was a couple of weeks ago. Nothing was local. The only thing was Internet advertising. The sign in front of the place on 63 went up the day before he opened in the pouring rain. Crouch said he has a big problem with the whole thing. He has issues of my own and everyone in our group, which is a group of about 15 and it's growing pretty rapidly, everyone has an issue with it and they are not all same. Collectively they all have importance. He said he talked to the Badlands, he talked to someone who works on the ambulance service up there, and they have 70 to 100 run per year. Those are just ambulance runs. They have a nurse practitioner on sight that makes the call if they need an ambulance or can go by car, so there are a lot more accidents than just he ambulance runs themselves. Crouch said he doesn't know a percentage, he doesn't know an amount of money or runs but some of those go unpaid. The taxpayer's foot the bill for the burden of the ambulance runs; these folks are from out of state, out of county. He doesn't know what he is seeking, if he is seeking rezoning. Crouch said he would assume he would have to. Wilson said he doesn't know but it is trying to find out. Crouch said and if he does this, how does it benefit the county? What revenue do we get? He knows the ethanol plant is a hot topic and he understands both sides but at least in generates some revenue for the county, from construction, long-term jobs, with the price of corn the farmers are going to do well. With this, what does the county benefit? 200-300 guys running every weekend and one guy makes his money. Crouch said he appreciates that they guy bought the ground and he wants to do what he wants to do but he thinks it's not permissible what he is doing with the ground. Crouch said he doesn't think its zoned for it and the issues with the traffic. When you are coming North bound, you've got a truck and trailer behind with a couple quads on it, people are in the median, and a line the passing lane on 63, is that endangering the folks of Vermillion County, cause we travel those roads a lot more than other folk. He said he doesn't know how the state looks at it, but he understands the state is looking at a zoning issue; they don't want to make a move until it is zoned properly. They feel it is not zoned properly. Crouch asked the Commissioners if their attorney is Jon Spurr and Wilson said yes. He asked Spurr if he was also the Attorney for this guy. Spurr said J. Cox hired him about 2 years ago and he went before the board of zoning appeals with him and he talked about opening an ATV park in front of the board of zoning appeals. Ann Smith said no he didn't. Spurr said yes he did, he was there with him. Smith said she had a tape of the meeting. Spurr said he was there with him. Smith said she just wanted make that clear. Spurr said he thinks Wilson has talked to one other guy who has notes from the meeting that talks about him opening and ATV Park. Smith

said she would pull that tape. Spurr said he got on the phone with the Building Inspector, we went through the zoning ordinance, we read it, and we talked about it. Smith asked who he talked about it with. Spurr said John Koma. He said he called him and asked him if Cox was zoned correctly, they pulled the zoning ordinance, it says he is zoned agricultural, but the lot was subdivided as a subdivision. There was no zoning change; it had to be taken from lots back to acreage in order to use it as a recreational park because you cannot use it as a recreational park when it is subdivided into lots. There was never a zoning change, the land was already zoned for a recreational park because that is part of the prescribed uses for agricultural land but it had to be taken from lots back to acreage and that's what was done. Porter said it has never been recorded in the records office, the vacating of those lots. Jim Britton said that particular issue regarding the lots, he bought all his ground and Cox bought part of this ground from Carl Brown who is deceased. He held at one time, Crouch bought his ground there too, there was a subdivision that Brown had, he saw it with his own eyes, laid out on blue prints, about 12 to 13 acres in the middle of the ground that was zoned for lots and he was going to build a subdivision there. Now since that time, Cox has bought that ground, condensed the ground and now he used that variation where there were lots there so it didn't have to be rezoned but the rest of his farm had to be turned the other way. Spurr said if it were a farm it would have been agricultural. Britton said yes. Spurr said if you read the zoning ordinance there is a list of things you can do when you have certain zoning and you look at agricultural and one of the things on the list is recreational park. Britton said to him, if a man puts a sign up out front that says open, that constitutes a business. Spurr said he doesn't have a copy of the ordinance with him but he would assume a farm is a business. Britton said yes but you don't put a sign on a farm. Britton asked Spurr if he still represented Cox and Spurr said no he told him he needed to seek other council because there was likely to become a conflict of interest and he has hired another attorney from Terre Haute to represent him. Britton asked if this becomes a further issue with us, with this body, and we seek council would you not represent him. Spurr said no, he represents the board of Commissioners and I represent them long before I ever met Cox so he told him to go get a different attorney and he called the Attorney for the Board of Zoning Appeals and told him and Wilson what was going on. Spurr said it is possible he will be a witness testifying that he was at a meeting with him and that he went through the proper steps. Britton asked Spurr if he was saying that it is on public record and who made the decision to allow him to run a business in agricultural? Spurr said he read the zoning ordinance and it said you could have a recreational park. Someone asked if it was published and if it was recorded? Spurr said they filled out a form and it had to be signed and filed and the lady asked where it was. Spurr said he didn't know because he didn't know they were going to talk about this tonight. Crouch said they have already talked to the zoning board and they seem to give us the same thing, no one knew anything about it. Spurr said it was his understanding is that at least one member of the board has notes talking about the ATV Park. Wilson said Kevin Gallagher with the BZA told him today that he had notes, he remembers talking about it. Smith said she would know because she has the tape of that meeting. Smith said it was a complete surprise to every other member. Smith said she would like to comment about the vacating of the subdivision. Cox vacated the subdivision, those lots that were platted, in a completely legal way. Spurr said, so there is a record of it. Smith said there is a record of it, it was published in the paper, the adjacent property owners were notified, and however it was not said at that time when they were vacated, what he was planning to do with it. It was vacated. It was always agricultural; the zoning was not changed on it. It was a platted subdivision in an agricultural area; all they did was vacate the subdivision. Smith said it was a complete surprise to her and other members of the APC and BZA when this business opened. Britton said the people sitting here are pleading to you the Commissioners to stop this until he gets, what we feel, either a proper reading, not Spurr, no offense, who has a conflict of interest in this deal. He said he is asking the Commissioners to put an injunction against this man until this is properly decided in a court, your court. K. Hawkins asked what they were to file an injunction on; we have to have a cause. Britton said the cause is that he has a business in an agricultural area and Spurr has a conflict of interest. Britton asked the Commissioners to find it in their heart to stop this until we find out what is going on, what the true legal definition of what that zoning ordinance is. He is sure the people here would appreciate it and give them a legal standing, something to go on. Smith said the Department of Transportation called her after one of the property owners contacted them, and regardless of what Cox said that she said to them, what she

told the DOT in answer to their question was that she was not the person to say that that business was not in violation of the zoning ordinance. Smith said she told the DOT that the BZA has to make that decision. They asked her to put that on the agenda. She called Jeff Williamson, the President of the BZA, he said to put it on the agenda. The reason being, the DOT will not approve that application for ingress egress on 63 until it is verified that he is not in violation of a zoning ordinance. The BZA will address that issue next Thursday night. K. Hawkins said if this was brought up at a previous zoning, let's say it was, and then they have grounds to appeal it, if it was on the agenda previously. Smith said and ATV track was never on the agenda. K. Hawkins said somebody is right and somebody is wrong. K. Hawkins said if Koma is right and maybe you weren't there, or something happened that it was, that gives them the right to get their foot in the door and to be re-heard. He said wouldn't that be true, wouldn't it be a good thing if it was brought up before to zoning. Smith said she couldn't disagree with that. Wilson said the zoning board needs to hear this and make a recommendation to the Commissioners. K. Hawkins said didn't Larry Thomas state that it was never on the zoning agenda so they weren't going to hear it, isn't that what he told the neighbors. Crouch said that Thomas told them they had to file a formal appeal. He told them that they were to appeal that an administrative decision had been made by John Koma saying it was ok for him to have a business in agricultural. It is not recorded and it is not documented, no one knew a thing about it, that was our whole thing so if we file an appeal on that decision alone then we admit that the decision has been made legally. If we don't, it's a catch 22. No one can prove that it has been made. He said he does not understand business and agricultural. Spurr said he didn't that was a relevant issue. Crouch said he said he thinks it is. He said there are 5 things under that, public parks, playgrounds, recreations areas, golf courses, and country clubs. Spurr said what you do with zoning, if your looking at a guy, how he is using his land, and you don't think he is using it within in accordance to how it is zoned, you go to your zoning ordinance and you read it, if you don't think it is being used in the correct way, that is what the argument is, not whether someone brought it up in a meeting. The question is, is it a recreational park. Crouch said, is it a business that is a question too. K. Hawkins asked if they would be heard at the next zoning meeting. Spurr said he doesn't have anything to do with zoning so he doesn't know. K. Hawkins said he thinks that is what they are asking for, a forum to listen to them. Wilson asked Smith what they needed to do to be put on their agenda. Smith said they already on the agenda. Britton said he doesn't want anyone to be influenced by someone just because they have already put money, and he doesn't care if it's a million dollars, on a piece of grounds because if that is the way we are going to do business, we don't need a zoning board, an area plan commission, or anything else. You aren't going to do nothing about it. It is time for you all to take a stand. K. Hawkins said if the gatehouse goes down, and it's free access, that is not going to make your problems go away. Britton said no it wont. K. Hawkins said your problem is the noise. Britton said partially. Someone said its way more than that. Britton said a problem is keeping them off their property. A lady said she lives on 450 S and last weekend they were running all up and down our road. She said they have to little girls that like to go down to the creek and play and we couldn't let them go there because we had all kinds of crazies running up and down that road. She said do I want my little girls to get run over; do I want my dogs to get run over? K. Hawkins asked if the Sheriffs Department get complaints on it? They should if people are trespassing. The lady said they weren't actually on her lawn or anything. They would slow down and we would have to call them back up there because you don't know what they are going to do. Are they going to get on a 4-wheeler, are they going to come in your yard, are they going to push my children. You don't know what they are going to do. Britton said you have a problem here, these people are coming from out of state and what safeguard does this guy have to keep them off his property. The lady said there is no way to keep track of these people; they are running all over everybody else's property. Britton said they don't care, who knows where they are from so they start tearing things up. What if someone is hunting back there and someone gets shot because they have strayed from where he ought to be. Wilbur Crouch, who lives in Hillsdale, said he has some issues above and beyond the zoning issues. If it is a business, what are they doing for sanitation and water up there, what is going to happen to that creek up there? If they have a business don't they need to have sanitation and water and those types of things up there. They are advertising that you can camp, camping, and horseback riding. What are the horses going to do to that up there? Wilson asked Larry Beard if they have contacted the Health Department. Beard said he is legal with his septic system. Someone asked Beard if he

inspected it himself before it was covered and if there was documentation. Beard said yes, he has it in his office. A lady asked if he had the right septic for campers. Beard said by state law he can have porta-potties. She said he has 4 out there now. Beard said maybe he needs 10. Crouch said, isn't a porta-potty intended for temporary use? Beard said they are for any type of business or festivals. Crouch said festivals are temporary. Beard said there is no such law. Crouch said a 363-day festival; he is closed thanksgiving and Christmas day. Britton said this thing is running in our back yards. Someone outside your door every Sunday morning, every Saturday morning, 5 days a week. There is nothing more obnoxious than a 2-cycle engine running. Now put a hundred of them running one after the other. Wilson asked how many were out there last weekend. A lady said a lot. Britton said he took some pictures, and he is going to start making a file, start counting heads for other reasons. Kenny Nelson said he owns property close to Cox. Nelson said he was out in his own field and one of his buddies was driving through Nelsons field in his pick up truck. Nelson asked him if he knew where he was at and the guy said yes, J Cox owns this property, he owns all of it. Nelson said it was his property and told the guy he was trespassing. Nelson said he had a 357 magnum on his hip. Nelson said he patted it a few times and said I think I'm where I need to be. Nelson said he just walked away. About a week later, his boy was driving through Nelsons field and said he was Cox's son. Nelson asked him what he was doing there. He said he was just checking everything out and Nelson told him he was trespassing, you should ask for permission. Nelson said Cox does not believe that the law applies to him. He said he has first hand knowledge that he will ram it down your throat, saying he's a millionaire and will do what ever he pleases. Crouch said the people from his county call him Boss Hog because what he says goes, what he wants goes. He has all the politicians bought. He does what he wants when he wants. Crouch said he has done his homework and understands how this guy operates. He has no regard for us whatsoever according to Crouch. He is going to run right over the top of us, he will do what ever he wants, he has enough money. Crouch said their group met, and he was unable to attend, but they met with Cox and Cox told them you can spend your money if you want to, get you a lawyer, do what ever you want but He is going to operate his business. He said he was well connected to the county and he intends to operate his business. He said he is going to do whatever he wants and make money. He said he was a business man and everything he does he makes money at and this is going to be another one. Crouch said they are going to go through the proper steps and do what they need to do. Randy Riggen said he thought if a legal survey was done you had to notify your neighbors. Riggen said he has not gone any notices. Riggen questions how the survey could be legal if he didn't know anything about it. What if someone gets on his property and gets hurt, who is responsible. Riggen asked who would pay if they run his cattle off. He said there is no way your going to keep them off our property. Marlene Stevenson said she lives right across the road from Cox. She said he never had the courtesy to tell them what was going on. She said she thought he was building a horse farm. She couldn't believe it when she heard. The other thing is he is bragging that he is going to have over 200 trailers in there every weekend plus he is inviting large groups to camp there, what kind of mess do you think we are going to have along the highway and what type of people are we going to have in there. Wilson asked Smith when the board would meet and she said a week from Thursday night. Smith said she has been with the zoning office for over 7 years now. If Mr. Cox would have come to the board and discussed what he was going to do, they might have said to go ahead, however they would have had the chance to address all of the issues that these people are raising. Smith said she is not saying that Cox is in violation and she is not saying he isn't. She is just saying that there are some checks and balances along the way that didn't come into play. This got past us, quite frankly. A lady said it got past the highway commission to, when she built out there she had to get permission from the district engineer and only put one house out there. He didn't get any permission for anything. David Lewis said in regards to the children and calling the police, if your going to call the police in every instance that goes on in this kind of situation, do you have the manpower in your police force. Do you have the revenues to support that kind of manpower? Do you have the medical facilities for all the people that are going to be hurt out there? Do you have the revenues to support that kind of manpower for an EMT service that is going to have to be out there 363 days a year? These are issues that should have been brought up. He said sure we can call the police, but do they have the time and the money to be spending 2 or 4 trips a day out at that area? Crouch said how many residents of Vermillion County, potentially as this thing grows and grows and grows, how many residents that live right here, that pay taxes right

here, vote right here, take a burner because a couple of yahoo's out there got tore up and our ambulances are tied up and cant get to you. Your child gets seriously hurt, you have a car wreck, people are seriously hurt, grandpa has a hear attack and cant get to you because they are tied up on Cox's property. K. Hawkins said he thinks zoning board is the first step to attack it at. Smith said zoning would be the first step. Britton asked the commissioners to stop it until they get it on the agenda. K. Hawkins asked what they were supposed to write down for the reason to stop it. He can counter with us stopping his business. A decision has to be made, not by the audience and not by the Commissioners. Britton said it has to be made by you the Commissioners because the bottom line is, when the BZA & APC get done with it, his lost course of action is the Commissioners, we are going to come right back to this. K. Hawkins said only because Cox is charging, what if he doesn't charge, what if he comes up under club? In the North end of this county there is a place called Pleasure Riders and he, when Sheriff, had several calls up there but there was never reason to stop them. Someone asked if they charged and K. Hawkins thought it was considered a club. Someone said Cox is charging \$20.00 per person. K. Hawkins said but what if he doesn't and the lady said, but he is, it's in the paper. K. Hawkins but what if he doesn't, it is not going to make the problem go away. He said if he himself lived there he would be sitting in the audience as well. He said they all understand but you have to have a reason to stop somebody. Someone said what about illegal use of the road. Smith said the way this is supposed to work, is the zoning administrator looks at an idea; he either says yes it's an allowable use or no, you have to have a special exception and you have to change the zoning. If the zoning administrator makes the decision and all the property owners disagree with that decision they have 30 days to file an appeal on that decision. In this case, we don't have proof that the zoning administrator made a decision. There recourse is to go to the BZA and say we think he made a mistake, would you reconsider it. If the BZA says no, the zoning administrator was right, then there next step is circuit court. That's the progression, that's they way it works. Smith said what these people are saying is that no one can show them that the zoning administrator made the decision to allow that to go in. Britton said, then how can you operate the business if that is the case. What recourse do we take next, cause no one can show us documentation or proof that the zoning administrator made a decision. He needs to make that decision. K. Hawkins said we need to determine if they made it or if they didn't. It was brought up at the last meeting, and Mr. Craig is here, is maybe we should re-visit zoning. Maybe we should make ordinances. Maybe it is time to forget zoning, because every time there is a zoning issue that comes up, its one group is happy and one group is sad. If you make an ordinance and say no ATV on agricultural property it's done. An ordinance is and ordinance, it's a law and we the Commissioners make ordinances. Zoning is set up to catch issues like this. K. Hawkins said they need a venue to be able to go in front of and say, we've got a problem You are going about it the right way, no one is putting you down, everybody is in agreement, you've got a complaint that is legitimate, but you've got to be heard by the right people. As Commissioners maybe we need to start thinking about zoning issues, if we need zoning. Maybe we will just make an ordinance for each issue and then we don't have to worry about and outside board making decisions. K. Hawkins said right now we are dealing with zoning because it is in place. We can't make a rule tonight to stop this guys business because he has a right. Crouch said he understood but if we get the same thing we got the last time we went in front of the BZA, which was Larry Thomas saying, nope your done, you need to file a formal appeal on the administrative decision and we still don't have any record or documentation. Who do we go to to find this out? K. Hawkins said John said they made a decision and to me it appears you need to make an appeal on the decision. Crouch said maybe they need to make an appeal that the decision was never made, where do you go next with this? Marlene Stevenson said, on agricultural zoning it doesn't mention ATV's that was made a long time before they ever had ATV's. K. Hawkins said you could invite 100 of your friends over and have them bring 100 ATV's on your property and ride on your property. The issue is, can you charge those people. He said it is not in this venue that you're going to get that answer. That has to come from zoning. You can't stop it. Britton said K. Hawkins was right but Cox is all about money. K. Hawkins said we don't need to do that here. Britton said that Cox is running a business. It's about money. He said he was cutting the man down, he is just saying that Cox opened that up to make money and he is not going to let them in their for free. He said he wouldn't have the problems if this were not allowed to be a business. You wouldn't have the volume of people that you have now. Cox is about business. Brad

Porter said if he plays his music too loud, and wakes all the neighbors up the cops would be called. The ATV's are loud. K. Hawkins said there would be times, nuisances. He said there was a time, when a child was riding his dirt bike up and down the alley. Someone called in and said this kid was riding on a public roadway. We told him he couldn't go off his property. The kid rode around his yard all day and the next day and so on. There is a nuisance but there is not a law that says you can't ride on your property. Now if we do away with zoning and start passing ordinances, then we can mandate what you can do and cant do. K. Hawkins said everyone is in agreement; no one wants to listen to that noise. You have to have some to put in front of them saying, you can no longer do that. John Bussey asked if there was some legal recourse for those who will lose property value because of this. Can Crouch get his taxes lowered cause surely his property value has went down. People in this county, work in this county, raise their kids in this county and we are losing. There has to be a legal issue their. Spurr said the regarding the taxes, there is a form you have to fill out and file it with the tax assessment board of appeals. We appoint the board every year when the assessor goes around, then you just go and appeal if you think your taxes should go down, if you think your property value is dropping and you have a civil claim, then go hire an attorney and file yourself a claim in court. Spurr said there is legal recourse out there, you just have to make use of it. Bussey asked about K. Hawkins story about the kid on the dirt bike. Crouch asked if it was in town and K. Hawkins said yes. He said well we live in the country for a reason, for peace and quiet. K. Hawkins said they didn't know this was coming; he is just as surprised as everyone else. He said someone called him and asked him what was going on and he didn't know. He immediately called Smith and she didn't know either. K. Hawkins said there is not going to be a decision made tonight; it's going to have to go through the BZA. Crouch said they are coming back right here because they think they have a leg to stand on. K. Hawkins said they need to go through zoning first. Wilson said Crouch called him and he told him to come to the meeting to voice his opinion. Crouch said he appreciated it and had spoke with Wilson as well as Crossley and got good feelings. He said he didn't want to drag this thing out but one more issue is that he heard Cox is going to expand. He is going to have a skeet shooting range. He already has the long-range rifle bench rest set up. If you drive along 63 you will see the white tape, it is right there. It will be shooting to the west. Crouch said this is another very serious issue. What happens when someone is mushroom hunting on the next property over and someone blows your leg off, because you have people in from who knows where. Most of us have grown up with guns around this area. We are all aware, we know hunter safety. He said he is not saying other people from out of town don't but he would not invite them to go hunting with him not knowing his background. Crouch said there are posts out in the woods with tape going around them, no fence, just tape. Who's to say whether it is right or wrong? There is no survey, no pins driven; there is no actual survey. Bussey apologized and said he comes off sometimes in a bad light and he doesn't aim to, it's a passionate issue. Wilson said this is your place to speak. Wilson said there should be a paper trail, he said he drove by it 2 weeks ago and saw the sign and called Smith. Nelson said he doesn't understand how zoning works in this county. He said when he first decided to put a business in on his property he was told he had to build his pole barn 25 feet from the center of the road, he was told he couldn't have the doors the way he wanted it built, it was not a zoning issue. A guy said he had pretty good ideas and the next thing he knew, he went to Cayuga and built a greenhouse just like his ideas. Wilson said Cayuga doesn't have zoning. Wilson said if Cox is a business, then the state fire Marshall and building inspector should have records where the inspected it. Smith said the state inspector came to the county today to make final inspections on commercial buildings and he was going to stop at Cox's. Smith said he had a permit to build a pole barn and she doesn't know if it would be considered a class one structure or not. Diana Crouch, who lives in Hillsdale, said what she is getting out of all this is somebody let this character slip in the back door in the dark of night. All of these people who are directly affected, its no big deal, just forget about it. Most of them are lifetime residents. Crouch said they have been there almost 37 years and its quiet. She said she has 14 grandchildren and she is worried about the bad element that is going to come in from all over. What is going to happen? Child abduction? She asked, are any of you directly affected? Is that fair. She said she doesn't think it is fair. K. Hawkins said it's a risk we all could face. Crouch said we should have to, this shouldn't even be an issue. This should never have happened. Bussey told K. Hawkins that he supported him for years and is asking K. Hawkins to support him one time. K. Hawkins said he has never met Cox and he doesn't have any idea and this guy is

going to pick up the paper and see everyone calling him this and that. He has his rights too and the Commissioners are here to represent everybody's rights. You can never make everybody happy. Yoho said zoning came about because Eli Lilly's wanted it when they built the plant in 1967 but all the incorporated towns opted out of it because they didn't like it. Wilson asked Smith if she could get her board together by next Tuesday night to be here for a meeting, these people can come back, we can get Cox here and go over all of this. Smith asked if it would be easier if everyone came to their meeting next Thursday. K. Hawkins thought it would affect the appeal process. Smith said if zoning passes it, it would then go to circuit court; it doesn't come back to you. K. Hawkins questioned the ethanol plant and Smith said that was rezoning. If Cox were to submit an application for rezoning the APC would send it to you and you would act upon it. He hasn't done that. Smith said in an agricultural area, for a business, you are allowed to have a roadside stand in which all the produce is raised on the property. You can have a home occupation in which you are not selling a product. Smith said the agricultural district is not set up for a business. The zoning ordinance is weak. Traditionally in this county if someone wanted to run a business in an agricultural area, they have to either change the zoning or get a special exception. That has always been the case. It didn't happen this time because they didn't know anything about it. Smith said she is not saying she is making any decisions, she is just saying the way it has been. She said David Ellis, who has pumpkin patch, ran that for year and he could do that because he raised the pumpkins on his property. When he decided he was going to have a campground and build a pole barn and have campers and have a recreation area, he had to get the zoning changed because he was going to charge admission for the recreations. Smith said these people do have a legitimate concern. The procedure was not followed. She said on the other hand, John Koma had a perfect right; it was part of his job description to make a call. Larry Beard said he thought it was presented to Koma as just a pole barn. Koma told Beard that Cox would be getting a hold of him. Beard wondered why he would want to see him if it was just a pole barn. Smith said that Koma sent Beard a fax in October stating that there was a bathroom in his pole barn. Beard said out of blue, Cox calls him from Texas and said he had a problem. Cox said its more than a pole barn, he was going to put restaurant in it. Beard told him he had to abide by the state and local rules as far as sanitation. Beard faxed him the paperwork and then he installed his septic system. Beard said for a long period of time it was just a pole barn. It turned in to something different prior to the last zoning meeting. Smith said Cox called the day before the last zoning meeting. Beard said he proceeded to apply the laws of the septic system. He said he agrees with these people but it's not his business to say anything applicable to zoning. All he knows is the sanitation and Cox got that in quick. Beard said he could see a pattern where he was telling Koma one thing and then when he made an inspection he would call him and say something else has happened. Smith said Koma was a good zoning administrator, he did a good job. He was right on the money most of the time and she doesn't think he would of approved Mule Ridge because he was planning on being here and he knew what would happen. Smith said she doesn't think he knew the whole story. K. Hawkins asked what was in the pole barn. Someone said it does have a concrete floor. There is supposed to be riding apparel and things of that nature for sale. He doesn't know if there is ATV's for sale or not. He said Spurr keeps referring them to legal council, saying they have legal rights. He said the group has retained a lawyer. Mike Craig said he appreciates all these folks up here addressing their public officials. He said he doesn't know much about their issue except that he has seen the operation. He said K. Hawkins used his name tonight in regards to the zoning issue. Craig said these folks are going to have to go along way to get this issue challenged and turned around. Craig said he hopes that a lot of people realize that zoning is broke. He has said it publicly and privately. It is broke and needs fixed. He suggested ordinances to keep people honest. You need well written, case law proven ordinances to protect the people. On the ethanol plant someone stated that it was going to smell like apple. Just in case it turns out to smell like a cow pie, there is nothing that we have in this county to protect anybody from anything. It is broken. It is not well understood by the people in the system or the citizens. It's broken and needs to be fixed. The ordinances would protect the people. Smith said she agrees with Craig. Betty Nelson said she would like to invite everyone to come over to her house or one of the neighbors on Saturday so you can see what is going on. Someone said Cox has a whole line to ATV's with red flags on them all lined up. She doesn't know if he is selling them or renting them or what. Crouch asked the Commissioners if their only recourse is to file and actual appeal with the zoning board? Wilson said we will discuss at

the meeting on Tuesday, the BZA and APC will be present. Spurr said he didn't know they were going to discuss it tonight so he didn't bring his file but his notes say: Wrote letter to Smith, Got form back from Koma, filled out form, submitted it, got the form back, faxed it to Cox, (Smith said for the vacation of the subdivision) and then it says client received a fax that stated he could operate under the existing zoning, doesn't need anymore work done and that is the end of notes. Someone asked if it said ATV Recreation Park? Spurr said he called up the building inspector and told him what Cox wanted to do, what do we need. He received a fax of the agricultural zoning and read that a recreational park is ok. Someone said it wasn't recorded. Spurr said it would not of been recorded. What they did was file the form to take it from lots back to acreage. Britton asked Spurr if there were plans for a restaurant and Spurr said no, it was an ATV Park. Spurr said he remembers from the start that it was an ATV park because he talked about the one up an Attica. Michael Tindera, who lives in Botany Woods, said their group spoke with the APC and BZA asking them to hear a petition and the petition was to specific to us what was a matter of record, so everyone who attended that meeting had no knowledge of Spurr making any decision, any administrative decision recognizing this... Spurr said he doesn't make those decisions. Tindera said he was saying there is no record of Koma or anyone else making a record of an administrative decision recognizing that area as a recreational area. There is no record of it, so that needs to be very clear. There is plenty of record of the property being vacated but there is no record of an administrative decision being made and we are hot about that because it appears to us, that Cox has flown under everything, opened a business, which he clearly intends it to be as big as the Attica business. It is going to affect people, it's going to affect Botany Woods, it's going to affect to the East and to the North. Tindera said we are organized and we will remember how this is dealt with and we intend to be a big group. There is no record whatsoever of an administrative decision being made and if one comes up, our attorney will deal with it. Spurr said that he never said there was a written record, he said that he filled out the form that he was sent, filled it out and turned it in. Smith just said that it wouldn't be done. Smith said there is a written record of the vacation of the subdivision. Spurr said that is all he was hired to do, was to vacate a subdivision. Spurr said he was never asked to zone anything or do anything else. Tindera said that is not his point. His point is that there is nothing of record that recognizes that area as suitable as a recreational park, no record. Britton said they don't want business done with a wink and nod. It is 2007, lets get a written record, lets get a decision, and hopefully you people will side with us, you are our recourse. Tindera said they have great concern in regards to EMS and Fire Departments. If there are going to people who are in those ravines and hurt they are going to narrow angle rescues and they are going to be expensive. The experience as you have heard of Attica is that the ambulance service has gotten stuck because they people come from out of state, runs that will cost from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00 and tie up the EMS for 4 hours. The second issue is that the reason that you have this meeting scheduled is because of the limited highway access. Tindera said that is a fact, go to 36 & 63, crest that hill and just imagine what it is like having 3 trailers lined up in the passing lane. Cox can pay for that improvement if you are going to give him the business zoning to operate. Tindera said aside from the Bridgewater's issues of impact of their wells, watching people pee next to their property already and the fact that there is a flood plane there, the fact that there is a gas line going through, we are exploring all those issues and we will bring them to you. The most important thing is that this has not been handled appropriately from the zoning standpoint. It's an insult to the public. It's an insult to us as neighbors. It's an insult and we wont forget it. Wilson said rest assured, the Commissioners knew about it the same way everyone else did. Smith asked Wilson if he wanted her to advertise a meeting for Tuesday night at 7:30. (It was later changed to Monday the 7th at 7:30 because the Courthouse was closed Tuesday for Election Day) Wilson asked Smith to have the APC and BZA present that the meeting and Smith said she would contact Cox. Britton asked if Spurr would be representing Cox on this issue and Spurr said that no he represents the Commissioners. He said the Commissioners will probably want to seek a second opinion. Spurr said he thinks Smith has already explained it, if they don't get satisfaction from the BZA then the case goes up stairs to the circuit court, it doesn't come back to the commissioners. If you go to zoning and you don't get an answer that your happy with then the case doesn't come here to the Commissioners, it goes upstairs to Judge Stengel's court so there would never be a situation where I would tell the Commissioners how to rule on this case. If something did come up the Spurr would make sure they aware there is a conflict on interest.

There was some discussion on the new business going into the building on 63 near Cinergy. Res-Care is the name and Wilson heard it was for adults who had been in trouble but isn't sure.

Sherrie Koma said they have requested an extension on the taxes because they have not received the tax rates.

Yoho asked what the total cost was for the new Highway Garage. K. Hawkins said \$138,629.95. Yoho thought the original cost was ½ that. It was said that the building is done and they would be moving in Thursday and Friday.

K. Hawkins was told that county employees who were off for whatever reason and missed holiday pay, which they should be paid for it. Spurr said there is a discrepancy on what we do and what the handbook says to do. The Personnel manual says that that kind of pay accrues through the year but common practice has been that on January 1st people get all their vacation and holidays. He suggested we don't change the way we have done it in the past but you may want to let everyone know that next year the handbook will be changed to what we do or what we do to what the handbook says. K. Hawkins said they are also going to look at who does and does not receive overtime. It's another issue that the State Board of Accounts brought up. Wilson said we should take the suggestions from the State Board of Accounts and discuss them with the officer holders and then change the handbook. One thing he had in mind is the lunch hour, some allow an hour and others allow a half an hour. That needs to be equal. Treasurer Phyllis Orman asked if this was going to be enforced and K. Hawkins said he thinks they are going to re-write the handbook. Orman said that it was in the past that the Commissioners couldn't tell the office holders what to do. Wilson said this is how the State explained it to him. They can't tell the office holders what to do but they set policy. If the State comes in and finds out your violating that policy, the State can come in and penalize you and make your employees pay it back. Orman said you need to make it clear. K. Hawkins said his issue is that he doesn't think an office holder should get overtime. He doesn't think someone who is appointed and makes decisions should receive overtime. All they need to do is write these things down. K. Hawkins said no one has been violating that but it needs addressed. Orman said she just didn't understand how it was going to be enforced. Orman said the State went and talked to all the offices. Wilson said it will be up to the state to decide whether the policy has been violated or not. Orman asked who in the county gets paid overtime besides the deputies. Wilson said he thought just the deputies did. K. Hawkins said he could only speak for when he was at the jail and the deputies and jail staff got paid over time, nobody appointed or anyone else. The Sheriff, the Matron, the Chief Deputy did not get paid overtime. The officer holder and first deputy should not be paid overtime. The employees, it breaks down to exempt and non-exempt people and he thinks the exempt makes the decision, they are not entitled to special privileges. A non-exempt person, the worker, is entitled to it. Orman asked who was exempt in her office. Koma said basically if your salary your exempt. Orman said everyone is salary. Beard said full-timers get 40 hours pay (someone said 35 hours), and part-timers work 20 hours per week. What is the deal there? Are we supposed to put in half the time and work 16 hours? K. Hawkins said that is why they are going to re-do the handbook. Beard said because when you're talking about over time, it would be different. K. Hawkins said he didn't think anyone was abusing anything, he just thinks there is nothing written down. There is nothing saying who gets what. Wilson said that the State Board of Accounts, Jane Coon, went around to all of the office holders and there is really nothing she could do because the handbook is not clear. The state will look at it and see if the office holders are violating the policy set by the Commissioners. Wilson said everyone needs to have the same rules. Orman said she thought everyone did. Spurr said the last time he looked into it, what he understood is that the Commissioners set a handbook, that is policy for anyone the Commissioners directly employee, and then each office holder could write their own separate policy just for their office if they wanted to. If they did and a question came up with the State, they are going to look at the countywide policy. Porter said when the handbook came out, every employee had to sign for it. Wouldn't that mean you had to abide by those rules. Orman said she just wants to abide by the rules the Commissioners set. K. Hawkins said, as an office holder, if you wanted to close down for lunch you could and they can't write a policy that says every office has to stay open for lunch.

Wilson said we can open the Courthouse on Saturdays from 8 to noon, whether you open your office is your decision. K. Hawkins said a perfect policy and procedure would be that each time a new office holder comes in, they tell us how they plan on running their office, and we include that with policies and procedures and then we govern anything outside that.

Ann Smith said she has been dealing with the Mule Ridge issue for over the last month and the property owners have some legitimate concerns. Someone told her earlier that it sounded like she was against Mule Ridge and she said she wants to make it clear that she is not against Mule Ridge. Any growth is good for the county. What she is against is not following procedure and she believes firmly that everyone should be treated the same. She said she has been helping the property owners and would do the same for Cox if he needed help. Wilson said that is why they are having the special meeting, to give everyone a chance to voice their opinion. K. Hawkins asked if there was something we could of stopped on them on? We is there something we could file and injunction to stop them. Smith said it is not the Commissioners place to do that. Spurr said he wouldn't of taken Cox as a client in the first place if it was something that would come before the Commissioners because they are an existing client but because the BZA is represented by Thomas, I can accept a client and represent them in front of the BZA. Now that is causing a problem for the Commissioners, he told Cox to find another lawyer. Beard said he commends the Commissioners for listening to them but they are barking at the wrong tree. Wilson said Crouch called him and Wilson told him the best place is to come to a public meeting and air your opinion. Beard said people get confused because there are a whole lot of people shooting at the Health Department, they bring their dirty laundry here, and he was not here to defend himself. Beard takes offense to that. He said sometimes they yell at the wrong board and they need to bark to zoning not here. Beard said if they don't get any satisfaction there then they need to take it upstairs. We spent a lot of time here. K. Hawkins said we all know their reason for being here and no one is condemning them for the reason. No one would want to listen to that all day long. K. Hawkins said the thing is you can't categorize the people that are going to use that, there were a lot of things said that shouldn't of been said. Craig said he agreed there were a lot of personal things said and he thought it was inappropriate. Wilson agreed and stated that some comments were threatening.

Joanie Kanizer asked where we were at with the Intermediate EMT class. Wilson said they all passed the practicals, they have to take the written test. The state is stalling them off on that for some reason. They have to register on-line in order to take the test and there is something wrong with the site that will not allow them to register. Kanizer asked how many passed and Wilson thought it was around 13.

Larry Beard said he wanted to make a statement but didn't want it in the paper. He said he wanted to know why the county is subsidizing the ambulance service when they make a call and they get paid from insurance and Medicare and then they try to get 70 more dollars here. We are subsidizing. Wilson said that money is for start-up of the operation. Beard said he could understand a new company starting up but after 3 or 4 years they still get subsidized. Wilson said about 10 years ago he tried to get the county to take it and then at the last minute they decided not to. Beard said we are subsidizing a ¼ of a million dollars and his wife goes to the hospital and they bill us for about 30 miles from Fairview to West Central and then they claim Medicare and then they send me a bill for \$74.00. He doesn't like it a bit as a taxpayer. Spurr said part of it is that the bids come in at an x number of dollars, no one has come in and said they will do it just for the money they make off the runs. If someone did, he sure they would take it. Spurr said they go with lowest one. Beard said if your getting ¼ million dollars for a business, that's pretty good money. Spurr said they went with the low person each time. K. Hawkins said they do a good job though. Beard said he is not saying that. He said first responders get there before the ambulance gets there and they do the heavy lifting. Fairview has a very good group of First Responders. The ambulance comes and those guys stand around and let the rescue do all the work and then they charge \$350.00. Kanizer said we need to look at that and thank god because we have saved a life.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners & Council on the 5th day of June 2007.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Kim Hawkins

Attest: _____
Sherrie A. Koma, Auditor