

RE: LCC Mini-grants
Sheriff Cars
Mileage rates
Property taxes
Intermediate Ambulance Personnel

Minutes-Vermillion County Commissioners June 3, 2008

The Vermillion County Commissioners 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: Present were President Tim Wilson, Harry Crossley, and Kim Hawkins. Also present were Attorney Jon Spurr, Auditor Sherrie Koma and First Deputy Amy Tolbert.

Crossley made a motion to accept the May 08 minutes, seconded by Hawkins.

Crossley made a motion to reappoint Carol Samuelson to the Clinton Library Board, seconded by Hawkins.

Patty Spurr from the Local Coordinating Council asked the commissioners to approve two mini-grants. The first will be in the amount of \$1,000 to Hamilton Center, to assist patients with the cost of drug screenings. The second, in the amount of \$2,000 will go to West Central Community Corrections, to help purchase scanning material that will allow WCCC to keep better records for individuals on home detention. Spurr explained that the grants involve no tax money, and the money comes from countermeasure fees paid by those arrested and convicted on drug and alcohol charges. Wilson made a motion to allow, seconded by Crossley.

Sheriff Bob Spence informed the Commissioners that there is currently \$33,000 in the Commissioners Court budget for the purchase of a new sheriff's car, and asked them to approve such a purchase, due to the fact that, as a result of having two cars damaged in accidents, the department is short on cars. Spence said he expected to receive payment from the county's insurance carrier for the car driven

by Deputy Mike Holtkamp, which was struck by a drunk driver recently, which will help replenish the fund after the purchase. Attorney Spurr advised the commissioners that, due to the present situation, they had the authority to declare the vehicle an emergency purchase, which would allow Spence to find the best deal he can without going through the process of advertising for bids, and waiting until the July meeting for approval before a car can be purchased. Wilson made a motion to allow Spence to purchase a car, equip it and get it street ready as long as the cost is under \$33,000, seconded by Crossley.

Crossley made a statement that they are aware of all the problems with the roads due to the excessive rain and they are doing their best to get it all fixed in a timely manner.

Hawkins said he had heard from some employees who were concerned about the 34 cents per mile that the county currently pays for mileage, due to rising gas prices. It was explained that the county council sets mileage rates

Someone questioned when taxes would be due. Koma said the state currently has the county's proposed tax rates, and she is waiting to receive them back. She added that the State has not approved last year's budget for the county either.

Joanie Kanizer asked the commissioners about the progress of upgrading the county's ambulance service to the intermediate level. Wilson said he believes 3 employees have passed the required test but he was not for sure. Kanizer asked if a refresher course is needed for those who did not pass the test. Wilson explained that it costs \$125 per person to take the test and that the ambulance service has paid for the first time for each person, but they had to pay out of pocket to retake it. He suggested seeing if there are funds available to help with those costs. Wilson said he thought some of the funds from the sale of the hospital were supposed to have gone to cover those costs and Kanizer added that some were to have gone to set up scholarships for local students entering health care fields, to encourage them to stay in the area. It was explained that those funds could not be touched for 5 years. Crossley suggested the Ambulance Service Director Paul Lee be asked to attend the July meeting to provide an update on the progress of the intermediate class.

Crossley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Wilson.

Adjourn

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 1st day of July 2008.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Kim Hawkins

Attest: _____
Sherrie A. Koma, Auditor