

RE: Employee Handbook
Newport Bridge
EOC
Newport Covered Bridge
Health Insurance
Bridge 70
Perfection Group
LCC
Court case management system
Reassessment bids
Speed limit ordinance in Hillsdale on old 63

Minutes-Vermillion County Commissioners March 3, 2009

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 Phyllis Orman and First Deputy Amy Tolbert.

Crossley made a motion to accept the minutes of the prior meeting, seconded by Hawkins.

Employee Handbook. Spurr said no one had asked for any changes and that it can be signed whenever the commissioners want to do it.

Newport Bridge washout-Gaine's property. Clark reported that he met with an engineer at the bridge and the engineer said that the bridge was put in property and could not be causing the washout on Gaine's property. He said it would happen whether the bridge was there or not. Clark said the engineer did not offer any suggestions for stopping the washout. The commissioners agreed that it was not the county's responsibility. Hawkins said he has lost a lot of property but it's not because of the bridge. Wilson said there are several people all over the county that have lost property due to a river changing course. Gaines told the commissioners that their decision would affect a lot of people and that they would be sorry someday. He said that he felt that they were not interested in his situation. Hawkins asked if he realized what it cost the taxpayers to have it looked at and that they could contact another engineer to have it looked at if they wanted

to. Gaines asked the commissioners if he realized how much property he was losing. He said there was no point in dealing with them at all. Wilson suggested he talk to the Town of Newport about it and Gaines said it was not their issue, the bridge belonged to the county and the bridge was causing the problems. The commissioners determined that the matter had been settled.

EOC. The commissioners announced that they had appointed Mark O'Heir as EOC Director. O'Heir informed the commissioners last night that he has a number of bills which need to be paid. He explained that many of them will be reimbursed by the state once they are paid from EOC funds. He said there is a total of about \$130,000 in bills, of which \$110,000 will be reimbursed, leaving about \$20,000 for which the county will be responsible. He said the City of Clinton needs to be paid as soon as possible for the lease. Wilson told him he would need to talk to the county council about that matter. Hawkins asked him how much he would need to operate the EOC and O'Heir said that it depends on what he is responsible to pay for. He said there are about 15 telephone lines in the EOC that have not been identified and that he is working with AT&T to figure it out. He said there was a DSL router installed in November and they cannot find the router. O'Heir also stated that the courthouse people need to quit calling McAllister because there is no money to pay them and he has instructed them not to take any service calls.

Covered Bridge outside of Newport. Clark said the repair work should start sometime around the week of the 9th.

Pierre Fox-insurance. Fox said that a decision had been made, after a discussion with the council, to change the employee contributions. He said he would hold open enrollment by the 1st of April and that the changed would take effect for the first pay in May.

Bridge 70. Orman said they received a change letter from Clark Dietz, changing the price from \$213,000 to \$251,000. Wilson made a motion to allow, seconded by Crossley.

Perfection Group, Inc. Mark Falahee and Ryan Dillard spoke to the commissioners about their company, which works to improve energy efficiency in buildings. Falahee said the company could do an initial evaluation of county buildings for free, and would only make money if their recommendations were followed by the commissioners. The commissioners agreed to allow them to do the evaluation for free of the courthouse and the jail.

LCC Mini Grant. Elaine Pastore from the LCC was present to give the commissioner a copy of their proposed budget and to ask their permission for a mini-grant for \$815, which would allow the state police to purchase tasers.

Court Case Management System. Judge Stengel spoke to the commissioners about a new record keeping system for the court. He explained that records are kept of everything that happens with a case, and with some, this can add up to hundreds of entries. He said the Supreme Court has set standards to make counties systems compatible with each other and he was notified in December that the current system will no longer be supported by the state at the end of 09. Judge Stengel said he spoke with a representative of Computer Systems Inc, and Indiana based company which has provided systems to 49 of the state's 92 counties. He said this company would offer interest free financing for 10 years. He said the total cost is \$36,000. Judge Stengel said that \$2 or \$3 of every filing fee collected by the court goes into a fund that can be used to pay these costs, meaning the impact to the general fund should be minimal. He also said that this new system is an improvement over the current one. He said that his company agreed that if the state made their system obsolete in the future the county would no longer owe them the balance due. Crossley made a motion to allow, seconded by Hawkins.

Reassessment Bids. Pat Richey said she received 4 bids for the 2010 reassessment. The commissioners open the sealed bids. They were from Appraisal Research Corp in the amount of \$257,270; Indiana Assessing Service in the amount of \$321,750; Advelorum Solutions in the amount of \$331,258; and CLT Appraisal and Tax Solutions in the amount of \$284,784. Richey and Spurr will reviews the bids and make a recommendation at the April meeting.

Hawkins asked the commissioners to consider adopting an ordinance for old 63 coming out of Hillsdale. This is where they are doing the pipeline work and residents is complaining of speeding cars. Spurr will type and ordinance and the commissioners can adopt it at the next meeting.

Wilson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Crossley

Adjourn

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 7th day of April 2009.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Kim Hawkins

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor