

RE: 2010 Budget
Employee Handbook
Covered Bridge repairs
Speed limit ordinance
Ambulance Service contract
Driving on unimproved roads ordinance
Bridge Settlement
Police retirement policy
EOC
Highway/D. Brown pay
Parke-Vermillion Community Health Center
Recorders Form Resolution
GIS data application
Examination of claims
Dana Sewer
Sycamore trails

Minutes-Vermillion County Commissioners July 7th, 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 from the prior meetings, seconded by Hawkins.

The commissioners received the 2010 budget requests and Salary requests for review.

Employee handbook. Spurr read a list of changes that the commissioners had discussed at previous meetings. The commissioners decided that any employee fulfilling the duties of the elected official or department head should not receive comp time for working extra hours if the office holder is not present. Hawkins said an employee should not be able to assign themselves overtime. It was noted that employees are paid for seven hours per day with an 8 am to 4 pm workday which allows for breaks and a lunch. It was decided to let the individual office

holder decide what was best for their offices. The commissioners said the handbook must state that highway employees must obtain a CDL license within 60 days of being hired. It was decided to remove the holiday schedule and distribute it separately. They changed the vacation days to read 5 instead of 7. It was decided that employees would receive their vacation on their anniversary date and then have 1 year to use it. They decided that part-time employees only get paid for the hours they work, so if a work day falls on a Holiday, they have to work a different day or do not get paid. They discussed getting paid vacation, comp and sick time if a person, quit, was fired or retired. Attorney Scott Craig said that by law they have to pay vacation and comp but not sick. Employees who retire will get payment for sick days. The commissioners decided that employees will only be allowed to smoke on the south side of the courthouse. The commissioners wanted to remove the nepotism policy from the handbook. Steve Burrows said he felt it was a bad idea. Spurr said elected officials can run their office as they choose, so the policy only directly affects those employees who report to the commissioners. The commissioners decided to leave the policy as is, which discourages hiring of family members.

Covered Bridge Repairs. Clark said he spoke with King and they were supposed to start last Thursday but still hadn't show up. Hawkins asked how much it would cost and Clark said about \$2500-\$3000. Hawkins suggested having someone else do it. Clark said King can match the original wood and he isn't sure if anyone else can. Hawkins said this has been going on for over a year. Crossley said to re-advertise and get someone else to fix it. Hawkins made a motion to re-advertise, seconded by Crossley. Spurr said the amount is so small that it does not have to be advertised. Wilson said to just get someone to fix it.

Speed Limit ordinance. An ordinance establishing a speed limit for county road 360 East north of Highway 36 in Hillsdale was discussed. The ordinance had previously been tabled. Hawkins said there are numerous county roads with signs that are not supported by an ordinance and would like them all to be included in this ordinance. Phelps said there are no signs on the road in question and since it passes through a residential area the speed limit would be 30 mph by state statute. The commissioners asked Spurr to look into it before taking any action.

Ambulance service contract. Spurr asked the commissioners if they wanted to make any more changes to the contract and they said no.

Driving on unimproved roads ordinance. The ordinance which was discussed at the last three meetings would impose a \$500 fine for driving on an unimproved right of way. There was some question as to enforcement and Spence said he had not problem enforcing it. Hawkins said that if we pass it then every person who built a garage on an unimproved road is going to get a ticket. The commissioners asked Spurr to change the language and tabled it until the next meeting.

Crossley made a motion to accept a \$10,000 settlement for fire damage to a county bridge. The county had paid out \$132,000 to replace the bridge, but the insurance paid \$10,000. The commissioners had originally stated that they would not sign the agreement but Wilson reported that he was informed by the county's agent, Dave Marietta, that the damage could not be proven to be arson and that the insurance in question does not insure bridges so the \$10,000 is all the county can collect.

Police Retirement policy that was tabled at the last meeting. Spence said it was just informational and the issue did not need to be discussed.

Emergency Operations Center Director Mark O'Heir presented the commissioners with copies of a document that the state had asked them to sign but encouraged them not to do so. He said that the document lists dates that paperwork should have been submitted in 2008 that were not done on time and that it would create a lot of problems if it was signed. The document was referred to Spurr to address the issues with the state and try to correct the dates to match when things were actually done.

Wilson made a motion to pay former Highway employee Donnie Brown for vacation and comp time in accordance to the employee handbook. Crossley seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Elizabeth Burrows from the Parke-Vermillion Community Health Center told the commissioners that the center is pursuing grant money for a new facility and that a letter of support is needed from the commissioners. Hawkins made a motion to sign the letter, seconded by Crossley. All were in favor.

Recorder Lori Porter asked the commissioners to sign the resolution and letter to the state board of accounts which would allow her to use the forms in the CSI recorders program. Crossley motion to allow, seconded by Hawkins. All were in favor.

The commissioners received a GIS data application. E. Scott Little with First American Spatial Solutions is requesting electronic data from WTH. The Commissioners signed the agreement.

Examination of Claims. Crossley made a motion to allow, seconded by Wilson. All were in favor.

Scott Craig was present on behalf of the Dana Sewer project. He told the commissioners that Dana is in the process of putting in a sewer system and that concerns have been raised about a 2,000 foot section of a ditch that will be part of the drainage system. The section of the ditch is badly overgrown and needs cleaned out. Clark informed Craig that the ditch is not a county one, but that he

believed it was turned over to the association of farmers. Wilson suggested he talk to the county surveyor to verify this.

Amanda Bailey spoke on behalf of Sycamore Trails. She asked that the commissioners allow a Purdue University Professor have one of his students prepare a management plan for the county farm property as a class credit. This is at no cost to the county. Hawkins motion to allow, seconded by Crossley. All were in favor.

Wilson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Crossley.

Adjourn

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 4th day of August 2009.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Kim Hawkins

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor