

RE: Examination of Claims  
PTABOA Appointment  
Health Insurance  
Police Car Grant  
Humane Society concrete work  
PTABOA appeal  
Small Claims suit for Clinton Twp Trustee and Spangler Cemetery

**Minutes**  
**Vermillion County Board of Commissioners**  
**March 2, 2010**  
**Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana**

President, Tim Wilson called the meeting to order 6:30 pm and declared a quorum of Commissioner Tim Wilson, Commissioner Harry Crossley, and Commissioner Kim Hawkins.

Also present were: Attorney Jon Spurr, Auditor Phyllis Orman and First Deputy Amy Tolbert

Wilson led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Crossley motion to accept the prior meeting minutes, seconded by Hawkins.  
Crossley motion to accept the claims, seconded by Hawkins.

PTABOA appointment. Assessor Richey stated that she had two more applicants interested in the position and that she was in favor of both applicants. Janet Hughes and Joanie Doane. The commissioners need to appoint one more as well as the Council. Wilson made a motion to appoint Janet Hughes, seconded by Crossley.

Health Insurance. Pierre Fox with Miles & Finch Insurance presented renewal information for the health insurance. The county will see a 9% increase in premiums if not changes are made. Fox stated that the increase could be reduced to 6.5% if the county opted to raise its minimum deductible from \$750 to \$1000 or as low as 3% by cutting other benefits from the plan. Hawkins said the employees have not received a raise in two years, and recommended that the renewal be sent to the council as is, with no changes in benefits or employee costs. Hawkins put that into a motion, with a second from Crossley. Fox agreed to hold a meeting with employees to discuss any issues they may have.

Grant for police car purchase. Deputy Chad Hennis with the Vermillion County Sheriff's Department was present to ask the Commissioners permission to pursue a grant for the purchase of police cars. Under the grant the county would be required to pay 65 percent of the cost of the cars, with the grant covering 35 percent. Based on the budget, this would allow the department to purchase three cars. Wilson added that if the council would agree to a \$16,000 additional, they could purchase 4 cars. Crossley made a motion to allow the Sheriff's Department to pursue this grant, seconded by Wilson.

Concrete work at Humane Society. Melissa Wible was present to ask permission for the society to pursue a grant that would allow them to pour cement kennel pads behind their building in a place where a concrete foundation is currently located. New sidewalks will also be poured if enough money can be obtained through the grant. Wible also mentioned that the concrete from the old foundation will need to be removed and asked if the commissioners would give them permission to dump it over the ravine. Wilson told her that the highway department would pick up the old cement to use for fill, he also said that they do not need Commissioner approval to pursue the grant. Wible also mentioned that the well that supplies the water to the shelter runs out frequently and asked for suggested. Wilson suggested they contact Hillsdale first to see if they can hook into their system and then look into the cost of drilling a new well.

Assessor Richey asked the commissioners to approve the agreement with Attorney Marilyn Meighen. She explained that the PTABOA had denied an appeal which had in turn been appealed to the state level, and could end up in tax court, under a go back statute passed by the Indiana General Assembly last year, which allows certain non-profits to seek exemption. Richey said she thought the matter would be settled before ever going to court but wanted to be prepared. If it did not get settled then it could end up costing the county \$135,000.00. Hawkins made a motion to allow, seconded by Crossley.

Attorney Jon Spurr said he had been approached by Clinton Twp trustee Ron Ellis about an accident which had resulted in damage to graves in Spangler Cemetery. Spurr explained that a driver had run off the road, causing damage to several graves and headstones, and the driver had no insurance. Ellis asked Spurr to file a small claims suit against the driver on behalf of the Township Trustee, in order to cover the cost or repairs to the graves and stones. Spurr said he was hoping he would be charged with driving without insurance and it could be handled as restitution but Alexander is not going to file it. Spurr said he will send a letter first and then file small claims if necessary.

Wilson motion to adjourn.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 6th day of April 2010.

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Tim Wilson

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Harry Crossley

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Kim Hawkins

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis Orman, Auditor