

Vermillion County Commissioners Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Monday November 2, 2015

6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** The Vermillion County Commissioner's convened in a regular meeting on Monday, November 02, 2015
- II. **ROLL CALL.** Members present were President Tim Wilson, Vice-President Harry Crossley, Tim Yocum, Auditor Phyllis Orman, First Deputy Amy Tolbert, and Attorney Jon Spurr.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** The minutes from October 20th, 2015 and a joint meeting on October 13, 2015 were approved on a motion made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum. The motion carried.
- IV. **EXAMINATION OF CLAIMS.** After reviewing the claims docket, the claims were approved for release on November 6, 2015 on a motion by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum. The motion carried.
- V. **EXAMINATION OF PAYROLL.** After reviewing the payroll docket, the payroll was approved for release on November 6, 2015 on a motion by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum. The motion carried.
- VI. **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT.** Wilson acknowledged receipt of the monthly financial report.
- VII. **OPEN ISSUES:**
 - Feasibility Study. Kevin Meyer said the study is near completion and a presentation should be ready by mid-December.
 - Vermillion County Community Foundation money from Rainy Day. Remove from agenda.
 - Claims for overtime. Spurr said he has forwarded everything to the State Board of Accounts.
 - Drainage Project Proposals. 3 bids were received from Eric Smith for \$17,500, Drennan Excavating for \$20,295 and Kanizer Excavating for \$24,700.00. Wilson made a motion to go with the low bid, Eric Smith for \$17,500.00 pending verification of insurance. Tim Yocum seconded the motion.
 - 2016 27th Pay. After much discussion Crossley made a motion to recommend that the council fund the 27th pay in 2016. This will be done by starting the New Year with the new pay rate and using money that Clerk Florinda Pruitt offered to pay the extra pay. Tim Yocum seconded the motion.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant Program. Terry Jones was present and asked the Commissioners to sign a letter showing their interest in this project. He stated they tried to get it last year but were not successful. Crossley made a motion to sign the letter, seconded by Wilson.
 - Walking/biking trail at the County Farm. Eric Shideler gave a presentation on a plan to develop a walking/biking trail at the old county farm. He said the first phase would be to create the trail along the existing railroad path and to put in a parking lot. He said they hope to fund the project with grants and donations at not tax money. He said the long ranges plans would extend the trail through Vermillion Rise. A third phase would connect the trail to Dana and Ernie Pyle museum. The fourth phase could connect to a walking bridge that will be developed between Hillsdale and Montezuma. The end result would be over 10 miles of trail. Crossley made a motion stating the Commissioners gave their approval for the first phase, seconded by Yocum.
 - NVHS State Championship Signs. There was discussion over placing signs on a 4 lane highway. It was noted that INDOT has sent papers that need to be completed

by the school superintendent. Dwayne Osborne is going to follow up and see if he can that paper work completed and sent back to INDOT.

- Vermillion Rise Mega Park. Roland Otte, President of Riverview Energy Corporation, gave a presentation regarding the company and its proposed development at Vermillion Rise. He said they have been working with Vermillion Rise for several years and have just recently filed for their air permits through IDEM. He said the documents are open to the public and can be viewed at the Newport or Clinton Public library. He said they hope to construct a direct coal hydrogenation plant out at Vermillion Rise. He said if the permits go through they could begin construction around 2019/2020. He said it is a \$2.5 million dollar investment that will employ 2,000 construction workers over a 3-year period. He said once in production it will employ around 225. He said it will be good paying jobs with good benefits and they will recruit local talent. He said this will be the first plant of its kind in the US. He said he will update the Commissioner's as more information becomes available.
- Newport Covered Bridge Repairs. A bid was received from Square and Level Construction in the amount of \$14,400.00 to repair the bridge. Crossley made a motion to allow, seconded by Yocum.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 17th day of November, 2015.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor