

Vermillion County Commissioners Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Tuesday November 17, 2015

8:15 a.m.

Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** The Vermillion County Commissioner's convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 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 November 2, 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 20, 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 20, 2015 on a motion by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum. The motion carried.
- VI. **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT.** N/A
- VII. **OPEN ISSUES:**
 - Feasibility Study. Nothing new to report.
 - Claims for overtime. 2 people have filed a claim for overtime worked during lunch hours for the past 2 years, Recorder Marge Hennis, who was the first deputy at the time of the claims and Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector Penney Barton. The claims have been forwarded to the State Board of Accounts. There was some concern that if the Commissioner's would be liable to pay back the money if the State Board of Accounts found they were paid when they should not have been. Spurr said that is possible. It was also noted that the claims were adjusted as they could only go back 2 years per the statute of limitations. There were questions as to whether these 2 were eligible for the comp time. Orman stated that when she was out of the office while her husband was in the hospital her first deputy was not eligible to claim the time. She said the Treasurer was out sick for a long period of time and her first deputy was unable to claim the time as well. The Commissioner's decided to review the claims further and to wait for the recommendation from the State Board of Accounts. Tabled. Crossley addressed the comp time for Veteran's Service Officer Phil Hutson. He said his overtime is approved by Crossley and that Crossley will have him start keeping a log. Crossley will review and sign the log as needed.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Zoning Change 15-06 Winland. Zoning Administrator Penney Barton said everything was properly advertised and all adjoining neighbors were notified. She said the Board of Zoning Appeals gave a favorable recommendation. Crossley made a motion to allow, seconded by Yocum. Motion carried.
 - Vermillion Rise. Bill Laubeneds updated the commissioners on the transmission main that is expected to be completed in July 2016. He also spoke about the water rates. He said the law allows a separate rate study and ordinance to set the rates and that they have a hearing in December with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. He said currently the rates are set to help out the new businesses coming into the plant. He said they are also looking into selling water to the Town of Dana and some towns in Illinois. He said it would be wholesale and that town's would still operate their boards and set their rates. He explained that even though they are not making any revenue at this time that it is not the concern. He said

eventually they hope that the towns and new businesses at the base will allow them to break even and eventually make a profit. He also spoke about the spec building proposal. Mike Carty explained that they had received a letter from Barnes and Thornsburg law firm that explains that it is legal for the county to loan the money to the Reuse Authority who will in turn loan it to a developer. The Commissioner’s would need to request the funds from the council to proceed. It was noted that the money would be paid back to the county first before anything else. Carty said he can’t speak for the other council members but he believes most will be in favor. Crossley made a motion to proceed and request \$1.5 million dollars from County General. The request will go before the council on December 7, 2015. Yocum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Bicentennial Flag Ceremony. The Association of Indiana Counties gave every county a bicentennial flag. The flag and a proclamation ceremony is to be held on December 11, 2015 at Noon.
- North and South Vermillion High School Seniors. Yocum said that once a month at the commissioners day meeting he will be introducing a high school senior to County Government. He said they will alternate each month between the 2 schools. The student will sit in on the meeting and will also be given a tour of the county offices.
- Newport Covered Bridge. Yocum said work is to start soon and the bridge will be close for 1 to 2 days once started.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the1st day of December, 2015.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor