

Minutes  
Claims  
Payroll Claims  
Monthly Financial Report  
Bridge 122  
Feasibility Study  
Property for walking trail  
Building Inspector job description  
Economic Development  
Election Equipment Agreement  
Voting  
Hog Slat Noise Complaint  
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration Contract

## ***Vermillion County Commissioners Meeting Agenda/Minutes***

Tuesday February 23, 2016

8:15 a.m.

Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** South Vermillion Senior, Tristin Maesch, assisted the Commissioners in calling the meeting to order on Tuesday, February 23, 2016.
- II. **ROLL CALL.** Members present were President Tim Wilson, Vice-President Harry Crossley, Tim Yocum, Auditor Phyllis Orman, Chief Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert and Attorney Jon Spurr.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** The minutes from February 9, 2016 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 February 26, 2016 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 February 26, 2016 on a motion by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum. The motion carried.
- VI. **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT.** N/A
- VII. **OPEN ISSUES:**
  - Bridge 122. Yocum said he met with Clark Dietz last week. He said he was trying to get CSX to help with the erosion on this bridge. He said he did get a little out of them, but not much. They will provide a flagman during construction, free of charge, whenever we or a contractor decides to do it. Clark Dietz Engineer, Kevin, said usually they charge \$200 per hour to have a flagman down there. CSX will do it for free to help out on the project. If the contractor can go across the railroad instead of the bottoms it will make a big difference. Yocum asked if this is the most expensive bridge in the County. Crossley said no, the Ann Wright Bridge is but this one would be second. Yocum asked if this bridge was assumed by the county from the state. Crossley said no, when Lonis Beard was commissioner he accepted that road and the old 36 portion. When the state was re-doing 63, they re-surfaced that road and then Beard accepted it. It was over 20 years ago. 63 to 36 and old 36 on the other side of 36 was accepted by the county. Yocum said we are trying to take care of an erosion problem at the bridge. Yocum said he wanted an Engineer involved because he wants to protect that bridge. Clark Dietz will submit the prints, oversee it, and send in all permits. Yocum said he wants to take care of the bridge and have a third party involved in it. The first thing they will do is replace the riff raff. He said again, they will oversee it for x amount of dollars, whether the county makes the repairs or a private contractor. The cost for the Engineer is \$6,340. The total project will cost around \$22,000 if

we have someone do it. Crossley made a motion to allow the hiring of an Engineer from Clark Dietz to oversee this project, seconded by Wilson. Motion carried. Wilson asked if it needs to go to the Council for approval. Orman said there is money already appropriated for bridge repair. If there is more money involved then more money would need to be appropriated. Yocum said the part that is costly is the painting and he is trying to get the state to help pay for that. He said they will call for projects in mid-April. Crossley said that would be the 80/20 projects and 80% is a lot of savings. Yocum said he is working with Clark Dietz so they can have that ready. Yocum said all I am trying to do is save the county money.

- Feasibility Study. Nothing new to report.
- Property for walking trail. Yocum said he talked to CSX about the railroad grade between Hillsdale and the Wabash River. He said the railroad bed property automatically reverts back to the property owners on each side. He said he received a copy of a deed stating who owns the property. Spurr said from that deeds legal description it looks like the piece of the property goes all the way to the north edge of the rail road grade. He said it appears that the southern property owner owns all the way to the north edge of the grade. Yocum said he talked to the property owner and he agreed to donate the railroad grade to the county if the county will accept it. Yocum said the old train trestle is owned by the DNR and they are in the process of getting funding for it so he suggested they let the state keep that. They are going to end up putting new concrete over that bridge. Yocum said it would be a great asset to acquire this property and later they can transfer it over to the DNR if they want. He said Parke County is on board with the project as well so maybe they can work on it together. He asked if the other commissioners were interested in taking ownership of the property. Crossley said they need the property to make the walking trail continuous. Penney Barton said there are two owners of the property. Yocum said he talked to Little and asked who the other guy was. Barton said he lives in Parke County. Yocum did not know there were two people involved. Yocum asked if anyone had any questions. Barton said if the commissioners, soil & water and the Wabash River Corridor Commission all worked together it would go faster. Crossley suggested Yocum speak to the other owner and then they will make their motion at the next meeting. Yocum agreed and said it is a very important link and the project won't move forward without it. Yocum asked what they need from the property owners to transfer it to the commissioners. Spurr said they would need a Quit Claim Deed.
- Building Inspector job description. Spurr had prepared a new job description. Barton said she has not reviewed it yet. Tabled.
- Economic Development. Yocum asked that Dylan Riggen from Economic Development attend a future meeting.

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Election Equipment Agreement. Clerk Florinda Pruitt said when they first started looking at new election equipment she approached it with the idea that what is the worst that could happen if they stayed with what they had and they will cut that price. That is what they did. The \$750 for touchscreen machines are now \$600. The optical scans for paper ballots were donated from White County so now own that equipment. We do have to pay to maintain it, \$105 for each machine. Yocum asked if she changed companies this year and Pruitt said no. Crossley made a motion, seconded by Yocum.
- Voting. Yocum asked if 17 year old voters will have to have a separate ballot this year and Pruitt said no, the laws have changed. Yocum said they are working with the schools to get everyone registered to vote. He said North Vermillion is about 100% registered. He asked what the cut-off date was to register and Pruitt said April 4<sup>th</sup>. Pruitt asked them that when they encourage people to register to vote to also encourage them to vote. She said a lot of people register but never vote. Yocum said he was trying to work with the state about a rewards card but the state said that is not allowed.
- Hog Slat noise complaint. Timothy Houser filed a complaint about the noise at Hog Slat. Spurr asked if the noise is increasing. Houser said it is louder now than it was 6 months ago. It depends on what they are making. He said last week the noise decimal level was 83. Spurr asked who was monitoring it and Houser said a

friend of his gave him a hand-held device to measure the noise levels. Houser said that was with them running with their doors shut. He said it is more intense in the summer time when the doors are left open. Houser said he spoke with the gentleman that is in charge of the operations and he stated they are running the place as they always have. Houser said he has been there fifteen years and he knows when they turn it up and turn it down. Houser said he accused him of harassing him. Houser said the more he calls, the worse it gets. Houser said he filed a complaint a few years ago and they agreed to keep the noise to a minimum and the doors shut but it only lasted for a few weeks. Crossley asked if Sheriff Phelps has received any complaints. Phelps said he knows several deputies have been out there. Houser said he has called Sheriff's Department several times and Tim Dispennet told him not to call anymore. Wilson asked if we could ask someone from Hog Slat to attend a meeting. Spurr said they can invite them but they are a private entity so they don't have to come. Spurr asked if anyone has spoken to zoning about the issue. Barton said the zoning change passed in 1999 and one was present to argue the change. Spurr said Houser could pursue a civil lawsuit. Barton said she will do some additional research. Houser said the noise is unbearable. Crossley asked if the noise was all day. Houser said it starts early and goes on and off all day. Crossley will go out to Houser's house to check the noise out and report back at the March 22<sup>nd</sup> 8:15 a.m. meeting.

- Indiana Family and Social Services Administration Contract. Orman has not received the original contract at this time. Tabled.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 8thday ofMarch, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Wilson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harry Crossley

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Yocum

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