

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2017

8:15a.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. Call to order. The Commissioners convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday August 8, 2017 at 8:15 a.m.
- II. Roll call. Members present were President Tim Wilson, Harry Crossley, Tim Yocum, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson and County Attorney Jon Spurr.
- III. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2017 Special Joint Council and Commissioners meeting, July 21, 2017 Special Commissioners meeting, July 25, 2017 Commissioners meeting and July 31, 2017 Special Commissioners meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Claims and Payroll. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum to approve the claims and payroll for release on August 11, 2017. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report. Tim Wilson acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report.
- VI. Open Issues
 - a. Vermillion Rise. Bob Grewe gave an update on the happenings at Vermillion Rise. He said they are continuing negotiations with Southern Power. He stated that last week they met with Duke Energy and their Economic Development team brought in a consultant to help take a fresh look at the Mega Park and shell building. They will be providing them with some recommendations that Grewe said he would share with the Commissioners sometime in October. He also said they have meetings set up with real estate developers and they are still working on the CSX Select Site project. He said they have one more parcel that they need to obtain the land swap or land option on.
 - b. County Cleanup Day. Penney Barton said the County Cleanup Day will be in April 2018.
 - c. Walking Trail. Les Zimmerman said there was nothing new to report at this time, and they are moving ahead on several fronts. He said there is a meeting today at 1:30 p.m. at the Newport Vermillion County Library in the Soil and Water Conservation office and everyone is welcome.
 - d. Jail Water. Tim Yocum said this needs to be taken off the agenda. He said that's on hold until some decision is made as to build on or build a new jail.
 - e. Ambulance. Tim Wilson said the Ambulance contract is pending Council approval for funding and the Council meeting is August 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse.
 - f. EAS Technology – IT Support. Mike Phelps said he has worked with EAS Technology and they are currently doing work with the fire wall. He recommended the Commissioners approve them for the County IT Support. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum to approve EAS Technology for the County IT Support. All in favor, motion carried.
 - g. LIT (Local Income Tax). Tim Wilson said that is up for a vote at the Special Council meeting on August 24, 2017.
- VII. New Business
 - a. Downtown Revitalization Study Grant for Dana. Roxanne Scott spoke on behalf of the Dana Boosters, she said Lindsey Bishop is the president of the Dana

Booster but was unable to make the meeting. She stated they are going to apply for a downtown revitalization grant. Scott asked about a building that has been in several tax sales on who would give permission for it to be included to participate in the grant. The commissioners said they would sign the certificate over to the town but Scott said she didn't know if they were ready for that. Wilson said to find out and if they want the building and they would have a resolution done to sign the certificate over to them.

- b. Vacate Alley – William and Jacqueline Jackson. The Jackson's presented a petition to the commissioners requesting to vacate an alley. Crossley said that the Jackson's own the property on both sides of the alley. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Wilson to approve the petition to vacate an alley. All in favor, motion carried.
- c. Bridge Bid. The commissioners opened two bids for Bridge 122. The bid from Conexco, Inc. was for \$40,652.00 and the bid from Halverson Construction Co. Inc. was for \$89,939.99. The commissioners said they are going to take the bids under advisement and award the contract at the next meeting.
- d. Bridge Inspection Contract – Clark Dietz. The commissioners discussed the bridge inspection supplemental agreement #2. Kevin Loiselle from Clark Dietz said this is to stay in compliance with the state. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and second by Tim Wilson to sign the supplemental agreement #2. All in favor, motion carried.
- e. Unemployment. Commissioner Tim Yocum stated that Vermillion County is number one in unemployment and he asked what the Economic Development Council is doing to change that. Roxanne Scott from the Economic Development Council said she has only been on the Council a short time, but that the Council is working on developing a strategic plan that will be used to guide its efforts going forward. Tom Milligan, also an Economic Development Council member said that plan will serve as a road map for the Council's efforts. Scott said they are working to try to improve local communities and get people to move here and take the jobs that are here. Yocum stated that he would like to see a monthly report of how many calls are made to companies about bringing more jobs to Vermillion County. Milligan said there may be other factors contributing to local unemployment besides a lack of jobs. Milligan said in his visits with employers they like to hire Vermillion County workers but if they can't find anybody who can work they go out of the county. He added that's why part of our program is workforce development, to make sure people are qualified for the jobs that are out there and also to make the communities more desirable so that people will want to come to Vermillion County. He said he wished it was as simple as just talking to employers. Yocum said that he would like someone from the Economic Development Council to provide a monthly report at the commissioners meetings. Milligan said that in the ordinance which was created, the Council had been expanded to allow one of the commissioners to serve on the Economic Development Council, but the commissioners had opted to appoint a representative instead. Milligan went on to say it should be one of the commissioners; it was designed for one of the commissioners to be at every meeting. There was some discussion on the commissioner's appointment to the economic development board. The commissioners agreed to discuss the appointment at their next meeting.

VIII. Adjourn. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Yocum to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 22th day of August, 2017.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest:_____
Amy Tolbert, Auditor