

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2017

8:15a.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. Call to Order. The Commissioners convened in a regular meeting on November 14, 2017 at 8:15 a.m.
- II. Roll Call. Members present were President Tim Wilson, Harry Crossley, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson and County Attorney Jon Spurr. Tim Yocum was absent.
- III. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Wilson to approve the minutes from the October 31, 2017 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Claims and Payroll. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Wilson to approve the claims and payroll for November 17, 2017. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. Open Issues
 - a. Vermillion Rise. Executive Director Bob Grewe gave the Commissioners an update on Vermillion Rise Mega Park. Grewe said they continue print and digital marketing of the shell building. Grewe said the shell building is listed on LoopNet, CoStar and Zoom Prospector. He said they are currently working with an active prospect. Grewe said they are working with a manufacturer to purchase a small parcel for a 15,000 sq. ft. building, Scott Pet has leased building 713, building 717 remains. He said they have entered into an agreement with Duke Energy for certain parcels to serve as a staging area for emergency electric system restoration. Grewe said they have purchased an advertisement in a site selection publication coordinated by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. He said they are pursuing land parcels associated with CSX Select Site program and AT&T is working on extending fiber to the Park. Grewe said they obtained a U.S. Small Business Development HUBZone designation and an Indiana Urban Enterprise Zone designation for the Park. Grewe said they continue to meet with site selectors, industrial realtors and they attend Department of Defense and Army related conference events. He said they are preparing DoD funding applications for 2018. He said they are working with Duke Energy and site selection consultant to obtain an assessment of the Park and target market recommendations.

Kody Zumwalt and Buddy Julick asked Grewe about the ownership of the Vermillion Rise Mega Park and whether the property would ever be opened for public use. Grewe explained that the property is owed by the Reuse Authority, as required by an Indiana statute governing the closing of military bases, and that the members of the Reuse Authority are appointed by the Commissioners. Grewe said there has been discussion about public access, but that the insurance carrier for Vermillion Rise has liability concerns due to the number of dilapidated building still in the property. Grewe also said the businesses currently located at Vermillion Rise like that the property is secured.
 - b. Walking Trail. No one was here to update the Commissioners on the walking trail. Auditor Amy Tolbert asked the Commissioners if they received the Affidavit from the Department of Natural Resources claiming no ownership interest in the abandoned rail road property that runs East and West and that lies to the East of the North and South rail road property through Fractional Section 2, Township

15 North, Range 9 West in Helt Township, Vermillion County, containing 2.33 acres, more or less. She said it was sent to the Assessor Paige Kilgore also, and she hasn't looked at it yet. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Wilson to table until the next meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

VI. New Business

- a. Drainage Ditch – Rileysburg. Property owners in the Rileysburg area were present to discuss the concerns of the drainage issues in the Rileysburg area and across the State line into Illinois. Farmers from Illinois expressed concern to the commissioners about a blocked ditch in the Rileysburg area that is preventing tile drain lines from properly draining water from their fields. The property owners in the Rileysburg area expressed concern that during heavy rains, their land already receives more water than it can handle, and that allowing more water to flow into the area from Illinois would cause greater flooding. After a lengthy discussion between the two groups, it was agreed that Surveyor Jared Dreher would try to gather as much information on the issues involved as possible in order to bring a recommendation to the county's drainage board. They agreed to meet with the property owners in the area at Brannin's Implement in Rileysburg on Saturday, December 2nd at 1:00 p.m. They said they are going to coordinate with the drainage district in Illinois to try to come up with a solution.
- b. Agreement for Tax Sale Legal Services – Buchanan & Bruggenschmidt, P.C. Alex Bruggenschmidt presented an agreement to the Commissioners to provide legal service to the Auditor's office and Treasurer's office for tax sale issues. This service would come at no cost to the county, as the firm would be paid through a fee added to each parcel sold during a tax sale. A motion was made by Tim Wilson and seconded by Harry Crossley to approve the agreement with Buchanan & Bruggenschmidt, P.C. All in favor, motion carried.
- c. Jail Expansion/Renovation. Harry Crossley stated a joint meeting was held Monday November 13, 2017 with the County Council to hear a presentation from RQAW on the jail expansion renovation. The recommendation was to expand and renovate the existing jail as opposed to building new. The Commissioners agreed that the county's best option was to move forward with expansion and renovation of the existing jail. The Commissioners asked Sheriff Mike Phelps to seek public input on the jail situation before any final decisions are made.
- d. Deadly Weapons Ordinance. The Commissioners decided to set up a meeting with office holders to discuss courthouse safety and the Deadly Weapons Ordinance.
- e. Clerk e-filing/Credit Card Payments. The Clerk, Amy Griffin explained that it is necessary to begin accepting credit card payments online for filing fees, which is necessary in order to begin allowing e-filing of the court documents. A motion was made by Tim Wilson and seconded by Harry Crossley to allow the Clerk's office to accept credit card payments. All in favor, motion carried.
- f. Road Cut Permit – Joink. This is for ongoing work being done in the county. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Wilson to approve the Joink Road Cut Permit. All in favor, motion carried.
- g. DeBaun Property. The commissioners had signed a deed in order to return property to the DeBaun's which was located near Old State Road 63 and had been taken by the state in the 1980s in order to have access to a bridge on that road. It had been agreed that if the state relinquished the property, it would go back to the county and then be deeded back to the property owner by the

county. Auditor Amy Tolbert explained that the deed signed by the commissioner had the wrong property description. A motion was made by Harry Crossley and seconded by Tim Wilson to sign the new deed with the correct property description. All in favor, motion carried.

- h. Dog Catcher. The commissioners discussed the need for a dog catcher to handle dog complaints around the county. Sheriff Mike Phelps said the Sheriff’s Department receives most calls regarding dogs, except for within the city of Clinton, which handles their own. He said he does not have anyone hired for animal control. Phelps said the Sheriff’s Department receives an average of two to three calls per day related to dogs and sometimes cats. The commissioners agreed to ask the council about funding for a part time dog catcher.
- i. Hamilton Center, Inc. Hans Eilbracht was here to update the Commissioners on the Hamilton Center and said he would be back after the first of the year to keep the Commissioners informed. He said in 2017 they have treated 519 clients from Vermillion County. He said their goal is to have better communication with the counties they serve.

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

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 28th day of November, 2017.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest:_____
Amy Tolbert, Auditor