

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2018

8:15a.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** South Vermillion Senior Matthew Panagouleas assisted the Commissioners' in calling the meeting to order.
- II. **Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.**
- III. **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.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2018 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Approval of Claims and Payroll.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to approve the claims and payroll for March 23, 2018. All in favor, motion carried.
- VI. **Open Issues**
 - a. **Vermillion Rise.** Executive Director Bob Grewe stated that Vermillion Rise is preparing to change natural gas providers to cut costs. Grewe also stated they are meeting requirements set forth by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management regarding concerns about phosphorous in the wastewater treatment system at Vermillion Rise. Yocum asked about the status of the wells, as concerns had been raised about their possible exposure to surface water. Grewe stated the wells had been pumped for two weeks and tested, as required, and there was no evidence found of any organic material from surface water. Grewe also said that if the amount of water pumped from the wells is increased significantly, they will have to be tested again. Yocum also asked why Vermillion Rise was moving the administrative offices out of Building 7700. Grewe told the Commissioners that the building is 30,000 square foot, single-block construction, with no insulation, which makes utility and maintenance costs very high. Grewe said offices could be relocated to a modular building at about one-fourth of the cost.

Penney Barton asked about land that was recently offered for sale at Vermillion Rise, and Grewe said it did not sell, as there were no competitive bids. Barton said she had heard that an offer of \$7,900 per acre was made. Grewe and Wilson both stated that this was not true. Barton asked if they had to pay the realtor, Grewe said the realtor is only paid upon sale of the land.

Wilson also told Grewe he was working to arrange a meeting between the commissioners, the county council and Vermillion Rise, to make sure we are on the same page and see what we can do to help you out at Vermillion Rise. Wilson also stated that Vermillion Rise should not hire any more consultants or attorneys until that meeting is held. Wilson asked Spurr to write a letter to Vermillion Rise stating this. Yocum also asked about the strategy for bringing jobs to Vermillion Rise, and Grewe said the property is being listed and marketed on a number of real estate listing outlets as well as on LoopNet, which Grewe said is the premier commercial real estate listing site. Grewe also stated that marketing is also being carried out through the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and through targeted mailings to companies about the property and the shell building. Grewe stated that he would be going to New York to a conference to promote Vermillion Rise and the shell building.

Yocum asked Grewe about the potable water to the jail. Grewe stated there has been no change, they are working on it.
 - b. **Walking Trail.** Les Zimmerman stated the Vermillion Trails Alliance will be having an open house tonight at the Vermillion County Fairgrounds. Zimmerman also stated they will begin construction on Saturday on the trailhead. Zimmerman also thanked Elanco for their donation of \$3,000 to help them get started on the trailhead.
 - c. **Courthouse Security Ordinance.** Spurr said to remove this from the agenda until further notice.

- d. **Southern Power – Economic Development Agreement.** Removed from agenda until further notice.
- e. **Southern Power – Waterline Right-of-Way.** Removed from agenda until further notice.
- f. **County Wide Cleanup Day.** Jessica Brown and Jamie Edwardson presented a check to the Commissioners for \$500 for two dumpster for the County Wide Cleanup Days April 20 thru April 22. Yocum stated that donations had also been received from International Paper for \$500, Duke Energy for \$250, White Construction for \$250 and Scott Oil/Hoosier Suds for \$250. Yocum said International Paper also donated 50 safety vest that can be worn by volunteers cleaning county roads.
Barton said dumpsters will be placed at each of the three highway garages for trash, roadside trash and appliances. She said electronics will be accepted, and the only items for which there will be a fee will be the older, CRT-type televisions (non-flat screen televisions). Barton said the only items that cannot be accepted are hazardous waste items including car batteries and paint.
Yocum said he is hoping to see more businesses and organizations commit to cleaning up specific stretches of roads as part of the event as well. Melissa Wible said that there are 395 miles of roads in the county, not counting highways, and there are at least 395 groups in the county that could take on cleaning up a section of road.
Yocum stated that a total of \$1750 of the total \$6000 cost of the event has been raised. Yocum also stated that donations are still being sought to cover the rest.
- g. **Community Crossings Grant – Grant Writer.** The Commissioners discussed paying Melissa Wible to be the grant writer for the Community Crossings Grant. They are requesting an additional of \$3750 to pay Wible. Wible stated that her proposal includes any follow up paper work and any issues that may come up.
- h. **Health Insurance.** The Commissioners discussed a 10% decrease in premiums with Anthem which is a saving of \$136,000.00 to the county. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to accept the health insurance renewal from Anthem, the Dental insurance and the Vision insurance with USI Insurance as the county agent. All in favor, motion carried.
- i. **Easement NE of SR 36 and SR 63 – Resolution.** The Commissioners discussed an easement for Reginald Robinson’s property at 3328 E CR 600 S, in order for Duke Energy to connect power to the property. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the resolution for an easement for the property at 3328 E CR 600 S. All in favor, motion carried.

VII. New Business.

- a. **Sheriff’s Office Carpet Replacement.** Sheriff Mike Phelps stated they received a check from Travelers Insurance for \$5,575.01. He said they took off \$6,807.47 for depreciation and deductible. Phelps said he can cover the \$2,500.00 deductible but will need \$4,307.47. Tolbert said there is money budgeted in Cumulative Capital Development / Improvements that can cover this. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to allow the funds to come out of Cumulative Capital Development to cover the cost of the Sheriff’s Department carpet. All in favor, motion carried.
- b. **Original Plans for Courthouse.** Tolbert stated that original plans for the courthouse from 1923 or 1924 had been found, but she said they are very brittle and falling apart. Tolbert said they can be scanned and laminated for \$847.00. A motion was made by Yocum and seconded by Crossley to have the original courthouse plans scanned and laminated. All in favor, motion carried.
- c. **USS Indiana SSN 789 Commissioning.** Yocum stated that he is on the committee for the commissioning of the USS Indiana submarine, and that each county in the state has been asked to raise \$1,000.00 to provide a scholarship for a member of the Indiana’s crew. Yocum said he will have more details at the next meeting.
- d. **Highway Equipment Bids.** Crossley opened and read bids received for the advertised highway equipment. Following are the bids:
1988 tri-axle dump truck (does not run): Towland Trucking - \$2300; Mark Miller - \$800; Mecca Auto Salvage - \$800.
1988 Stake bed truck: Mark Miller - \$975; Mecca Auto Salvage \$650.

Warner Swasey Gradeall: Mecca Auto Salvage - \$1000.
Air Compressor (needs Reid valve): Mike Klyaic - \$51; Brian Russell - \$50; Mecca Auto Salvage - \$75.
1997 Excell pressure washer: Mecca Auto Salvage - \$25
1993 Wood Ditch mower: Lonnie Delp \$926; Sam Haun - \$100; Mark Miller - \$800; Mecca Auto Salvage - \$50.
1993 Massey Ferguson Tractor: Sam Haun - \$1000; Mark Miller - \$925; Mecca Auto Salvage - \$500.
Land Pride boom mower: Sam Haun - \$250; Mark Miller - \$1175; Mecca Auto Salvage - \$50.
1969 Jager air compressor: Lonnie Delp - \$110; Mecca Auto Salvage \$75.
Lonnie Delp submitted a combined bid of \$875 for both the Massey Ferguson tractor and the boom mower.
Crossley said the Commissioners will review the bids and notify the high bidders.

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

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 3rd day of April, 2018.

Tim Wilson, President

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest: _____
Amy Tolbert, Auditor