

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Agenda

August 4, 2020

8:15a.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Commissioners convened in a regular meeting on August 4, 2020 in the Commissioner's Courtroom at 8:15 a.m.
- 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 July 21, 2020 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Approval of Claims.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to approve the claims for August 7, 2020. All in favor, motion carried
- VI. **Approval of Payroll.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to approve the payroll for August 7, 2020. All in favor, motion carried.
- VII. **Treasurer's Report / Investment Report.** No comments.
- VIII. **Open Issues**
 - a. **Covid-19 Update.** Wendy Farley from the Vermillion County Health Department gave an update. Farley stated that there have been 17 new cases since July 23rd and there are 5 cases pending results. Farley said that Dr. Albright stated that symptoms don't seem as severe as in the past. Farley said the Health Department has applied for a \$100,000.00 grant that will allow everyone in the county to be tested at no cost to them and that we will now have a testing site in our county. Farley stated you can get tested at the hospital with a referral from your doctor.
 1. **Sneeze Guard Ordinance.** There was some discussion on the sneeze guards being removed from some offices. Wilson said he thinks the sneeze guards should stay in place, he said taxpayers paid for them and they should stay for the protection of the employees as well as people doing business at the Courthouse. Assessor Paige Kilgore said everyone has to come back to her desk and she doesn't feel that her office needs to have the sneeze guard in place. Recorder Jennifer Peebles said that they are hard to hear people and most people coming into her office needs to come around them to use the computers in her office. Judge Jill Wesch stated that she now has a sliding window like at a doctor's office and no longer needs the sneeze guard and said if anyone needs one that they can take the one they no longer need. After more discussion the commissioners decided to look at each office after the meeting and make a decision at the next meeting. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Crossley to table until the next meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
 2. **Mask Ordinance.** It was stated that the Governor of Indiana has issued an executive order requiring that masks be worn in public when social distancing is not possible and the Commissioners have a duty to the citizens of Vermillion County and are creating an ordinance to require that masks be worn in the public areas of the Courthouse until further notice. A motion was made by

Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the Mask Ordinance.
All in favor, motion carried.

- b. **IT Update.** No comments
- c. **Courthouse Phone Update / RFP.** The Commissioners received proposals for the phone update. Yocum asked about the proposals, Tolbert said they were in the packet sent to him prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to table this until the next meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- d. **Jail Renovation.** Sheriff Mike Phelps was not present. Yocum said he is making a recommendation to have another jail committee meeting because of the cost of the renovation had gone up. It was stated that the agreement was signed at the last meeting.
- e. **Handbook.** Jon Spurr said he is still waiting on Council Attorney Scott Craig to get back with him.
- f. **Community Crossings Grant.** Crossley stated the money should be here in August and then they can begin the work.
- g. **Position of ERC.** Wilson stated that this is part of the Highway Office Manager's job. It was stated that this will be written into the job description for the Highway Office Manager.
- h. **Treasurer's Office Credit Card Agreement – Forte.** Treasurer Florinda Pruitt said she is still waiting on the agreement from Forte.
- i. **Restricted Address Policy.** Spurr said there is already a statue in place. There was discussion on charging a fee for this service and decided that no fee would be charged. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Yocum to approve the Restricted Address Policy and to not charge a fee for the restricted address request. All in favor, motion carried.
- j. **Courthouse Security Desk.** It was stated that Sheriff Mike Phelps was not present. No comments.
- k. **Courthouse Grounds.** There was discussion on removing some bushes and shrubs and maybe some trees from the courthouse lawn due to them covering the camera's view of the grounds. It was stated that Stutler's is going to come and look at the lawn and give some recommendations.

IX. New Business

- a. **Drainage Ordinance – Driveway Permits.** Crossley stated that when drive ways are put in by home owners that the proper materials are not used and the home owner has drainage issues and this ordinance will deal with requiring the proper procedures be followed. Crossley suggested that Zoning Administrator Penney Barton Carpenter take this to the Area Plan Commission. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to have Carpenter to this to the Area Plan Commission for their recommendation. All in favor, motion carried.
- b. **Vermillion County Drainage Standards.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to table the Vermillion County Drainage Standards.
- c. **Public Law 53 – Area Plan Commission.** Zoning Administrator Penney Barton Carpenter said that Public Law 53 that was passed early this year states that since Phil Cox does not live in Vermillion County, he will remain on the APV but not as a voting member. She said that they need to find someone involved with agriculture who wants to be a member and they will have the power to vote. She said this will need to be addressed by October 1, 2020. Wilson told Carpenter to get them a recommendation to fill the position on the APC.

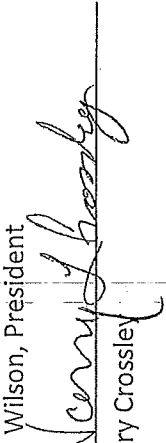
- d. **Regional Development Authority – Economic Development.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to table until the next meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- e. **Remote Hearing Equipment – Circuit Court.** Judge Jill Wesch spoke to the Commissioners about remote hearing equipment that the Circuit Court is required to be accessible at all times, including times of shut down. She said in order to be mindful of the safety of all litigants, attorneys and my staff, the Supreme Court of Indiana has required courts to allow for the use of remote hearings. In order to do this, we will be able to utilize the current recording system we have, but will need to purchase the licensing and some equipment. She said she will be able to utilize a grant that she received previously for the purchase of part of the equipment and licensing but will need additional funds for the remainder. She said she can utilize some of the money in her budget but will not have near enough for the cost. Wesch said she is requesting \$15,000.00 and she is still negotiating the total cost, but it will not be over this amount, hopefully closer to \$11,000.00. She said EAS is assisting in these negotiations. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the request to be sent to the Council. All in favor, motion carried.
- f. **SafeCheck Body Temperature Detector.** Deputy Chad Hennis presented information about various temperature sensing equipment that could be installed in the courthouse to screen people's temperature as they enter. Hennis presented several quotes with various options, and the Commissioners decided to go with TEquipment, this option is a temperature scanner and a metal detector. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the purchase of a SafeCheck body temperature and metal detector from TEquipment. All in favor, motion carried.
- g. **Wind Energy Presentation – Ted Hartke.** Hartke gave a lengthy presentation on the effects of wind energy on his family. Hartke stated that his family had to move and sell their home because of the noise and disruption this caused his family. After the presentation Economic Development Director Dylan Rikken stated that he hoped the Commissioners would give the same consideration to the company that would be at a future Commissioners meeting discussing wind energy as an option for Vermillion County.
- h. **Ernie Pyle Letter.** Wilson read a letter in support of the Ernie Pyle memorial. They are needing the letter to apply for a grant.
- i. **Health Department Appointment.** Tolbert stated that there is a vacancy the Health Board due to resignation of Dr. Bill Somerville. Wilson asked the Health Department to make some recommendations for the Commissioners to consider.

- X. **Adjourn.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 18th day of August, 2020.



Tim Wilson, President



Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest: 

Amy Tolbert, Auditor