CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONER
NOVEMBER 7, 2016

The Cass County Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioner Hearing Room. Present were Jim Sailors, Ralph Anderson, Jeff LeDonne , Attorney Jeff Stanton and Auditor Vaneen Ide. Commissioner President Jim Sailors opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Ralph Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Jeff LeDonne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL

Jeff LeDonne made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as presented, Ralph Anderson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY

Jeff Smith appeared before the Commissioners and presented his monthly report. Work is underway on the CR 400S project in Clymers. Residents can expect to see clearing work and installation of drainage structures this fall and winter. Total road closure between SR 25 and CR 400W will not occur until at least March 1st. Access will be maintained for through traffic only.

Paving work has been occurring during the past two weeks. Just over 4 miles of hot mix asphalt has been applied to various locations, with a few more small segments to finish up later, weather permitting.

A culvert rehab has been finished and opened to traffic on 900 W south of 250N. CCHD crews have finished replacement of a structure on 350S east of 950 E. The access project at CR 600E and 175S has wrapped up, coming in at less than half of the originally projected budget. Total cost will be just over $102,000.00 and we will have about $144,000.00 of allocated CEDIT funds unspent at year end that will be returned to the CEDIT fund.

CASS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Christy Householder appeared before the Commissioners with her monthly report. Christy informed the Commissioners that her trip to Atlanta was very good and she made contact with a party who is possibly interested in pursuing an Ag related business in Indiana. Christy has been in contact and is pursuing this lead. Christy commented that many times individuals think of Indiana as a manufacturing state and overlook the agricultural opportunities that our state provides to our economy.

Christy will be sending out an email to the Commissioners and others in regards to a dinner to be held November 14th in Peru. This dinner will provide the participants a chance to give their input into how best to grow the surrounding counties economically.

PARK DEPARTMENT

Dana Hildebrand appeared before the Commissioners and presented the monthly Park report. The good weather has benefited the Park this fall. Revenue is up. The Sleepy Hollow event provided the park with additional revenue. Over 2,363 individuals took part in the hayride and other activities for Halloween at the park.

The Park staff have winterized the Concession Stand, Depot Store and some water spigots. The bathrooms and spigots in the modern camping area are still up and running at this time. Dana thinks the rest of the winterizing will take place this week. In the coming weeks more dead ash trees will be removed at the park.

SOIL AND WATER

Jim Miller appeared before the Commissioners. Jim represents the Soil and Water Board and requested that Soil and Water be approved to have a part-time person during the transition of the Administration Assistant/Education Coordinator's retirement in March. Ralph Anderson made a motion to approve the part-time position during the transition of the Administration Assistant/Education Coordinator's retirement, Jeff LeDonne seconded.

Jim Miller also requested permission to fill the full time position of the retiring director of Soil and Water in March. Ralph Anderson made a motion to approve the request to fill the full time position of the retiring director, Jeff LeDonne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PROSECUTOR

Lisa Swaim, Prosecutor, appeared before the Commissioners with a request to fill the vacancy of the Felony Prosecutor. The current Felony Prosecutor has left the position and taken other employment. Ralph Anderson made a motion to approve filling the position of Felony Prosecutor, Jeff LeDonne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

SECURITY DEPARTMENT

Phil Loos appeared before the Commissioners and requested permission to add an additional person to his part-time pool of employees. Ralph Anderson made a motion to allow the additional person to his part-time pool of employees, Jeff LeDonne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Phil Loos presented to the Commissioners a draft of an ordinance pertaining to cell phones in the Government Building. Ralph Anderson made a motion to table this issue until it can be researched further, Jeff LeDonne seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Arin Shaver appeared before the Commissioners and requested permission to replace the Deputy Zoning Administrator. The current deputy has taken a position in Dekalb County. Jeff LeDonne made a motion to allow the hiring of a Deputy Zoning Administrator, Ralph Anderson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

Jim Sailors made a motion to approve the joint appointment with the City of Logansport of Perry Gay to the Memorial Home Board, Ralph Anderson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Jim Sailors made a motion to make Mike Fincher the Commissioners appointment to the Memorial Home Board, Ralph Anderson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & ADJOURN

Sheriff Randy Pryor introduced two new officers to the Commissioners. Joseph Nies and Ryan Preston have joined the Sheriff's Department. Ryan comes from the Logansport Police Department with 7 years experience. Joe joins the force with 5 years experience with the Logansport Police Department; Joe also was a reserve officer for the Cass County Sheriff's department before joining LPD.

There were no other public comments. Jeff LeDonne made a motion to adjourn, Ralph Anderson seconded.

Jim Sailors, President

Ralph Anderson, Vice President

Jeff LeDonne, Member

ATTEST: _____

Vaneen M. Ide, Auditor