Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

June 23, 2015

MINUTES

The Martin County Commissioners convened in regular session Tuesday, June 23, 2015 in the Commissioners’ Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Commissioners attending were President Paul R. George, Dan J. Gregory and Kevin R. Boyd. Others in attendance were Auditor January Roush, County Attorney J. David Lett, Sheriff Travis Roush, Surveyor Nathan Hoffman, Kathy Collins, Community Corrections Director; Rhonda Hardwick, Community Corrections Road Crew Supervisor; Julia Albright, Health Department; Leo Padgett, Highway Superintendent; Terri Alcorn, Highway Clerk; Andy Ringwald and Monty Wolf, Civil Defense/EMA; Dave Sutton, Eva Neeley, Josh Hughett, Martin County Humane Society; Courtney Hughett, Martin County Journal and Jill Albright, Loogootee Tribune.

President George called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 6:00 pm.

The minutes from the regular meeting of June 9, 2015 were approved with a correction to the second paragraph by Commissioner Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Gregory. The sentence should read President George called the meeting to order not Commissioner Gregory. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Claims and Allowances were approved as submitted with the motion by Commissioner Gregory and seconded by Commissioner Boyd. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Kathy Collins, Community Corrections Director and Nathan Hoffman, Surveyor came before the Commissioners to discuss Green Cemetery in Lost River Township. Director Collins introduced Rhonda Hardwick as the new Part-Time Road Crew Supervisor. According to Surveyor Hoffman, he believes Green Cemetery is the only cemetery owned by the county. Director Collins and her Road Crew have been doing the upkeep on Green Cemetery. There are several stones on the ground that Director Collins would like to erect. She has spoken with the Genealogy Society and both feel it is a project that needs to be done. As land owners, Director Collins requested permission from the Commissioners to begin this project. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to allow the Community Corrections Road Crew to begin erecting the stones at Green Cemetery. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed. President George advised Director Collins to check with the Department of Natural Resources before proceeding.

Director Collins gave an update on the purchase of a Community Corrections Building.

Courtney and Josh Hughett, Martin County Humane Society came before the Board to request funding for 2016. They requested $10,000 for Humane Society to be included in the Commissioners budget for 2016. Due to the rising cat population, the Humane Society is in need of cat cages. Commissioner Gregory advised the Hughett’s to apply for a Community Foundation Grant and the REMC Operation Round-Up. Hughett also gave the quarterly report. There have been 118 adoptions in 2015.

Julia Albright, Health Department, came before the Commissioners requesting approval to increase the fee schedule. Albright submitted the price list for services. The increase of fees is due to the cost increase to the Health Department. The Board of Health approved the fee schedule at their June 2, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Boyd made a motion to approve the increase to the fee schedule. Commissioner Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Monty Wolf, Civil Defense/EMA, update the Board on his department happenings.

Sheriff Travis Roush gave his department update. There are currently 52 inmates in the Security Center. Sheriff Roush informed the Commissioners that the roof at the Security Center is leaking. He believes the roof could be patched for another 1-2 years. The Commissioners advised Sheriff Roush to check on the warranty.

Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins advised the Commissioners that Judge Lynn Ellis was unable to attend the meeting due to a family obligation.

Director Collins received notice from the Department of Corrections that her grant was awarded for the 2015-2016 grant cycle. She will receive $122,600 in funding with an advance of 25% to come soon. The grant amounts are based on sight assessments. The last 3 years the department has increased from a 70/100 to a 92.87/100. Director Collins commended her staff for the hard work.

Sheriff Roush updated the Commissioners on the Reserve Deputy Program. There should be two in uniform by the end of July.

Director Collins advised the Commissioners that the new K9 Virka was involved in her first sweep of a residence. Sheriff Roush stated that Virka graduated from training a day ahead of schedule and is on active duty.

Leo Padgett, Highway Superintendent, submitted his two-week work schedule. Superintendent Padgett updated the Commissioners on several pieces of equipment. Commissioner Gregory suggested contracting the mowing out. Dust Control was to begin last week but due to mechanical issues and the weather it was delayed. They are hoping to start next week. Superintendent Padgett updated the Commissioners on Witt Road. Witt Road was closed on Tuesday morning from State Road 450 to Lundy Road to replace a culvert. The county roads coming into Shoals will be mowed before the Catfish Festival.

Dave Sutton pleaded to the Commissioners to chip-n-seal 200 South. He also does not want them to mow because the grass catches some of the dust. Superintendent Padgett plans on chip-n-sealing in front of the houses on 200 South.

President George questioned Attorney Dave Lett on the process to change a speed limit in an area of a road. The Commissioners will have to pass an ordinance. Attorney Lett will draw up an ordinance for the specific area. The current speed limit on all county roads is 35 mph unless otherwise posted. Sheriff Roush suggested a speeding campaign to slow down drivers on county roads.

Dave Redman, Extension Agent, updated the Commissioners on the 4-H Camps and Fair. He informed the Commissioners of a few changes at the Extension Office. Going forward, he will be the administrator and Jonathan Stevens will be the Youth Educator.

Attorney Lett and Commissioner Gregory met with Steve McClure, Knox County EMS regarding the Ambulance proposal he submitted. Knox County EMS was the only proposal received by the county. Attorney Lett and Commissioner Gregory negotiated a contract. Attorney Lett recommended the Commissioners approve the contract but not to sign until Knox County EMS has approved. The 4-year contract will be for $210,000 per year with the option to renew. The contract also includes Paramedic Level service 24-hours a day. Knox County EMS is also looking for space to have an on-call ambulance stationed in Shoals. There were also several equipment upgrades. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the contract with Knox County EMS for $210,000 per year for 4 years with the option to renew, Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed. The new contract will begin July 1, 2015. Once Knox County approves the contract, he will have the contract available for the Commissioners to sign before July 1, 2015.

Auditor Roush informed the Commissioners that the Surplus Sale Notice was advertised. Bids are due July 8, 2015.

Commissioner Boyd made a motion to close the Courthouse on Thursday, July 2, 2015 due to the Catfish Festival. Commissioner Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A conversation transpired on the employee handbook. Commissioner Boyd would like it done as soon as possible.

President George explained to those in attendance the remainder of the meeting was going to be used to examine items for the 2016 Commissioners budgets. All patrons were welcomed to stay.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm with a motion by Commissioner Gregory and seconded by President George. All were in favor and the motion passed. The next Commissioners meeting will be Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 6:00pm.

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Paul R. George Dan Gregory

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Kevin R. Boyd

ATTEST:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

January L. Roush, Martin County Auditor