Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

October 28, 2014

MINUTES

The Martin County Commissioners convened in regular session Tuesday, October 28, 2014 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, J. David Lett, County Attorney; Judge Lynne E. Ellis, Sheriff Rob Street, Kathy Collins, Community Corrections Director; Leo Padgett, Highway Superintendent; Terri Alcorn, Highway Clerk; Andy Ringwald and Cameron Wolf, Civil Defense/EMA and Eva Neeley.

President George called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 6:01 pm.

The minutes from the regular meeting of October 14, 2014 were approved as submitted with the motion by Commissioner Boyd and seconded by 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, submitted a software renewal contract for approval. Community Corrections has been contracted with Paperless Business Solutions for several years. The renewal included an increase in monthly service fees. The contract is funded through the Community Corrections grant. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the renewal with Paperless Business Solutions for $154.50 per month. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Director Collins invited Judge Ellis and Sheriff Street to join her.  When a juvenile is placed in a juvenile detention center it costs the county $140 per pay. By placing a juvenile on an electronic monitoring system, Community Corrections charges $12-$15 depending on the type of devise being used and saves the county money.  When the client is unable to pay for this fee, Community Corrections bills the Commissioners.  Director Collins suggested County Attorney Lett draft a Memorandum of Understanding between Community Corrections and the Board of Commissioners.  Attorney Lett requested Director Collins to outline the information she would like to see in the Memorandum of Understanding.  Commissioner Gregory made a motion to establish a Memorandum of Understanding between Community Corrections and the Board of Commissioners to be effective January 1, 2015.  Commissioner Boyd made the second.  All were in favor and the motion passed.

Including Judge Ellis and Sheriff Street in the discussion, Director Collins went on to discuss the changes to the criminal code with regard to House Bill 1006 and the subsequent effects it may have on the county.  Director Collins, Judge Ellis, Sheriff Street and Deputy Prosecutor Larry Browder recently met to discuss options for the county regarding HB 1006.  A comparison chart of sentencing before and after HB 1006 became effective was presented by Judge Ellis.   Beginning July 1, 2014 Class A-D felonies will now be labeled as Level 1-6 felonies.  The chart compared the length of time served on a sentence in many cases has gone from 50% to 75%.  Effective January 1, 2015, counties are no longer able to send Level 6 felons to the Department of Corrections.  Therefore, after 2015 begins, Level 6 felons will be sentenced to local supervision, in either serving their sentence under Probation, Community Corrections - Home Detention or in the Security Center.  The group discussed a cost-savings plan to allow Level 6 felons, who meet eligibility requirements, be placed on Community Corrections Home Detention.  Auditor Roush and Director Collins had reviewed a previous years expenses incurred by the Security Center. A calculation was determined for an approximate daily cost with an average of 50 inmates.  The average daily security center cost of $55.00 versus the current fee of $12-$15 per day for Home Detention would be a cost savings to the County. The group and the Commissioners will take this information to the Council at their next meeting.

Sheriff Street updated the Commissioners on the new door control panels. The panels were constructed off site and the company will be at the Sheriff’s Department to install on November 10. A leak in the fire suppression system caused a pipe to be replaced.

Leo Padgett, Highway Superintendent, submitted the two-week work schedule. He will be attending an 811 Safety meeting and a Bridge 11 quarterly meeting next week. He updated the Commissioners on several road issues. Superintendent Padgett and President George will inspect the roads in question. The new dump trucks are not ready yet, but financing has been finalized.

Cameron Wolf, EMA/ Civil Defense, updated the Commissioners on recent activities. Haysville Fire Department gave the EMA/Civil Defense a brush truck. Director Wolf is in the process of getting license plates. An area fire department has expressed interest in the old rescue truck. The Commissioners will have to declare the truck surplus and then negotiate a price. The Commissioners requested he check with the local fire departments before starting the process.

Auditor Roush submitted a Martin County Tourism update from Jim Stoughton. She also presented information on the County Option Income Tax, Public Safety Local Income Tax and County Economic Development Income Tax distributions for 2015 and how they compared to 2014. Auditor Roush advised the Commissioners of an issue with compensation hours. Employees are only allowed to have a maximum of 240 compensation hours on the books.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm with a motion by Commissioner Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Gregory. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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Paul R. George Dan Gregory

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Kevin R. Boyd

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

January L. Roush, Martin County Auditor