

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD March 26, 2018**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 A.M. on the 26th day of March, 2018, in the Commissioners Court in the Noble County Courthouse, Albion, Indiana, being the time, date and place set for a regular session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County, Indiana.

Present were:

Gary Leatherman, President  
Dave Abbott, Member  
Dave Dolezal, Vice President

Also present were:

Jacqueline L Knafel, County Coordinator  
Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney  
Matt Getts from KPC Media  
Judge Kramer, Circuit Court Judge  
Eric Blackman, Noble County Prosecutor  
Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent  
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer  
Kenneth Hughes, Plan Director  
Charles Bowen, New Warden Chain O Lakes  
Mick Newton, EMA Director

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- IDEM – Graphic Packaging International – air permit
- Clerk of the court – monthly report – duly entered
- Letter requesting extension for Council on Aging – letter was signed with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0. Letter returned to Matt Brinkman.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The request from the Order of Eastern Star to do bingo on the courthouse lawn during the Chain O Lakes festival was again discussed. Dennis recommended that we check with them to ensure that they had liability insurance and had licensing for Bingo. Jessica from OES will get back with us with this information.

**PAYROLL**

Payroll for the time period of 03/02/18 – 03/15/18 and dated 03/29/18 were approved as presented with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0

**COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Judge Kramer was present to request funds to help pay for the opening of the fountain and the flowers around the fountain. Judge Kramer indicated that the committee had little money but had no estimate of the costs involved. He did indicate that Doc's Hardware had offered the flowers to the county at cost. Judge Kramer was asked to get costs and more information prior to the commissioners deciding what they will pay for the project.

**WEATHER PROCLAMATION**

The flood weather proclamation was canceled and a proclamation doing so was signed by the commissioners with a motion from Dave Abbott and a second from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

**RIECKE PAINTING**

There was additional painting that Shelley Mawhorter would like to see done. A quote for an additional \$4300.00. This was approved with a motion from Dave Abbott and a second from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

## KONE

The chair lifts at the prosecutor's office was again discussed and Eric Blackman was called over to have his assurance that the cost of the inspection and maintenance would be coming from his IV-D incentive money. Eric told the commissioners that it was always his intention to pay for the cost of the expense in getting it inspected at least for the duration of the recovery of one of his child support office deputies. The commissioners signed the contract for the maintenance of the one of the chairlifts with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## HIGHWAY

Richard Rogers, Highway Superintendent, was present to provide construction updates for the Highway department:

- Richard is asking for a driveway variance for a property for an owner to have two drives on the same parcel. Richard indicated that the highway department had no issues with the request – there were no issues with the site distance. Motion to approve the variance was made by Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
- Another driveway variance was requested for a resident on 600 S. This has issues with site distance being 200 feet short of what is needed. There is not enough road frontage to put it in any other location and the building permit was issued in Allen County even though the road is a Noble County Road. There is a driveway already directly across the road from where this drive will be located. With no other options available to the commissioners the variance was approved with a motion from Dave Abbott. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Richard had a request from the DOC about putting a sign on the back of the trailer when the crew was out working for the Highway department that mentioned that the county was working with the DOC in providing labor for brush crews etc... which was tax dollars being spent wisely. Richard indicated that it would be very little expense to make these signs. The commissioners had no problem with this request.
- Richard reported that J & K Trucking had damaged the salt shed this winter and would be fixing the damage at their cost. The repair will be completed within the next couple of weeks.
- Richard also reported that the county has submitted \$33,000.00 in expenses to recover for the recent flooding event in Noble County. Richard told the commissioners there is no guarantee that we will recover any or all of the funds but it has been submitted.
- Richard has begun the road inspections and ratings and thought that it would be complete within the next couple of weeks.
- As the department is gearing up for the 2018 construction season, Richard reported that the county has 10,000 ton of recycled concrete to be used in Swan township to improve 7.5 miles of roadway, and 10,000 ton of dura berm to be used in Green Township.
- The two new Western Star dump truck are in and being used with the warranty now in place.
- The sign truck needed a new transmission. The shop had a quote on a transmission but would not be able to get it for at least 2 more weeks. Max Platt had one in stock and was able to do it for \$4500.00.
- The commissioners were asked about the SOP and Richard had a couple of changes as well. Final review will be at the next commissioners meeting.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, was here for the engineering part of the meeting:

- Zack is asking permission to make a purchase over \$5000.00. This will be for tires and is in the amount of \$9961.68. Motion to approve came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge inspection – Zack presented a LPA voucher for bridge inspection in which our payment would be \$700.00. Motion to sign came from Dave Abbott. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 147 – the utility relocation meeting for the bridge replacement was held last week and according to Zack everything was worked and in place for the project.
- Zack briefly talked to the commissioners about replacement of the pumps. During the quoting of the project it was found that the underground tanks are only single walled and are approximately 29 years old. The typical life span are about 30 years but to replace them along with all of the other work it would almost double the cost of the project making

- it in the range of \$140,000.00. The commissioners would like a more accurate quote and will look into how a project of this size would be paid for.
- Bridge 136 – a LPA voucher for this bridge project was received for preliminary engineering. Motion to sign came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
  - Baseline Road project – a LPA voucher was received for this project as well for intersection improvement. Motion to sign the voucher came from Dave Abbott. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
  - County Road 400 N project – Zack has sent out the request for proposal and they are due back for the April 23, 2018 commissioners meeting
  - Bridge 139 – the county will be doing preventative maintenance on this bridge and once complete the bridge will be removed from the annual inspection portion of the bridge inspection report.
  - Bridge 55 – Zack had a contract for this bridge in which he will be using the annual bid on call services. The contract will be with Butler, Fairman and Seufert. Motion to sign the contract came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
  - Culvert Replacement – Zack had received a quote from RL McCoy for this culvert replacement on 600 S at Loon Lake. This will require dewatering. The quote was for \$37,500.00 and was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
  - Oversize load permit – this permit was again discussed with the commissioners and the only recommendation was that the permit clarify sunrise and sunset. Zack will make the changes and sent to Jackie for advertisement.
  - Riley road bridge replacement request- Zack had notified the homeowners association about their responsibility in the cost of replacement and has had no response to date.
  - Zack had the highways annual report to IDOT for the 2017 year for commissioner's signatures. Motion to sign the report came from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
  - Frontier Claim - Zack had a claim from Frontier for over \$13,000.00 for damage. Zack is still working on a resolution to this issue.
  - Bookkeeping consultant contract – Marc Fisher – the current bookkeeper at the highway department is willing to come back as a consultant to train or to do the seasonal budgets, reporting etc. after his retirement this year. Zack has drawn up a contract for these services. After review, the county attorney indicated that it looked good but suggested that an end date appear on the contract.

#### REZONING

Kenneth Hughes, Plan Director, was present along with Sandra North and her surveyor to request that 2 acres be rezoned from A1 to I2. This will allow her to store RV on the land. Kenneth informed the commissioners that the plan commission board originally voted the rezoning down with a 3-4 vote and then after further consideration voted unanimously to send the zoning request to the commissioners with a “no recommendation” consideration. After some discussion, the commissioners moved to approve the rezoning with the following restrictions: No more than a maximum of 75 RV's at one time and that 1200 N will be the only route traveled. Dave Dolezal made the motion. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The ordinance will be redrafted to specify those restrictions.

In other business, Kenneth discussed the social media concept for the county. Kenneth reported that he had met with Jackie and Dave Abbott and discussed the program, the rules for posting and the content managers. The outline described the acceptable uses of the county's Facebook page and will come with the direction to county employees not to engage in negative conversations. The Commissioners are willing to give this proposal a try and would like a report from Kenneth within 2 to 3 months after the program start.

Kenneth also talked with the commissioners about the Broadband Ready Communities. There were concerns at the state level that the lack of good internet service and HB 1065 was written to address these issues. Having good high-speed internet service is a must with schools in the area implementing e-learning days and to improve the quality of life in general. It is the hope that since the state is involved that it will provide some funding to allow all communities to be

broadband ready. Dave Abbott moved to approve the moving forward on this project. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Charles Bowen was present to introduce himself as the new warden at the Chain O Lakes facility. Charles has been with the department for over 20 years and is currently working with the South Bend facility as well. He reported that he will be spending at least 2 or 3 days a week here at Chain O Lakes to get this facility up to speed and therefore changes will be made. He shared his interest in the continuation of the work crew agreements that the county and DOC has and would like to get advertising out to let the community know that tax dollars are being spent wisely with this arrangement.

#### EMA

Mick Newton, EMA Director, was present concerning the repeater that was damaged because of water. The damage was reported to insurance and a check has not been received. This will pay for the repeater which is a back up to the 800-radio system that all responders use. Mick is also wanting to purchase a protective box to keep this from happening again. This will require another \$2517.67. The commissioners talked about funding options and Jackie suggested the use of the Public Safety funds to accomplish this. Jackie will transfer some of the funding to allow the purchase of the protective box. Dave Abbott made a motion to allow the entire purchase of the equipment and protective box with a second from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

#### RECESS FOR DRAINAGE 11:10 AM

#### BACK IN SESSION 1:00PM

#### REGULAR CLAIMS

- Regular claims were reviewed along with Nicole Noe from the auditor's office. This report contained 12 pages and totaled \$521,078.00. Motion to approve the claims came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.
- Court Claims – Court claims were reviewed and approved with a motion from Dave Abbott. This report contained 6 pages and totaled \$40278.85. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Credit Card Claims were also reviewed and approved with a motion from Dave Abbott and a second from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0. Three pages totaled \$58916.74.

#### LAWN CARE BIDS

Only one lawn care bid was received. That was only bid received and that was accepted as presented with a motion from Dave Abbott and a second from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

#### WINDOW TREATMENTS

Courthouse Security along with the Probation department had secured a bid for a film for the North, South, East and West entrances to the courthouse. These are not bullet-proof films but is a film that prevents the glass from shattering. For tinted film this would be at a cost of \$3,003.00. The probation would also like to have that film put on all of their windows. This would NOT have a tint to allow uniformity to the courthouse and would cost \$4,290.00. After some discussion, the commissioners chose to give this topic more thought and table it until next meeting.

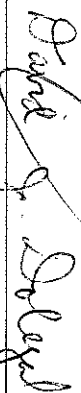
#### COMP TIME


The commissioners discussed comp time and time cards. The discussed having a 40-hour maximum comp time for the Sheriffs deputies, jailers and dispatch, a 24-hour maximum at the highway for the outside workers and then have no comp time accumulation for all other county employees. Jackie will formulate a draft of these discussion topics and sent to the commissioners for review and revisions.

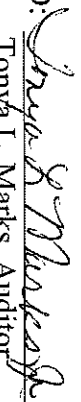
#### ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 5:00PM recessed from day to day until April 9, 2018.

  
Gary P. Leacherman, President

  
David J. Dolezal, Vice President

  
David Abbott, Member

ATTESTED:   
Tonya L. Marks, Auditor