

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD June 22, 2015**

Comes now the hour of 8:35 A.M. on the 22th day of June, 2015, 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
David J. (Dave) Dolezal, Vice President
Chad Kline, Member

ALSO PRESENT were:

Jacqueline L. Knafel, County Coordinator
Tonya L. Marks, Noble County Auditor
Dennis Graft, County Attorney
and Bill Etzler, Engineering Resources
Doug Harp, Noble County Sheriff
Judy Fox, LEPC
Jason Pippenger, Health Department Sanitarian
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer
Norm Lortie, Building Inspector
Dennis Ringler, resident
Nathan Miller, Plan Commission
Jarrod Ramer, Black & Ramer Insurance
CJ Miller – MDS Insurance
Patton Cox – MDS Insurance
Steve Hook – GIS Director

SHERIFF

- Doug Harp, Noble County Sheriff, was present to discuss the WW Williams service agreement and the possibility of lesser amount of a 3 year agreement than a one year agreement. Doug had not gotten a quote back as of this morning from the company. Commissioners will wait for the amount prior to a decision.
- Doug also discussed a claim that had been denied concerning an expense that Brandon Chordas had incurred with a lock out of car in Indianapolis. It was a claim for \$145.00 to a locksmith. The commissioners said that they thought this should be out of garage and other and would be accepted as an expense from that account. Doug is giving permission to change the account number and we will then process.
- Doug called back later this morning with the information about the WW Williams agreement. If the county extends the agreement for 3 years the cost will be the same but it will lock in that cost for the next 3 years. With that information, Chad Kline made a motion to sign the service agreement on the generator at the jail with WW Williams for a 3 year period. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

LANDFILL

Bill Etzler, Engineering Resources, is present to discuss the following:

- Bill has discussed the possibility of only testing GP 1 on a semi-annual bases due to the finding on the probes across the road from the landfill. IDEM is considering this proposal which will save us money.
- Bill told the commissioners that the target date of closure for the landfill is 2021 – and hopefully sooner than that.
- Leachate is being hauled every day and is under control
- GP 27 still has issues and they are working to correct the problem to enable good reading at this probe.
- Bill will arrange a meeting with Jackie next week to discuss landfill budget for 2016.

LEPC PURCHASE

Judy Fox is present to ask permission to spend over \$500.00 for a trailer and equipment. This will be a purchase from the LEPC budget. Chad Kline moved to approve the purchase. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Jason Pippenger, Health Department Sanitarian, is present to discuss the counties drug ordinance. He indicated that there is some confusion in the cities and towns about their involvement with meth properties. They are wondering if they need to also adopt ordinances in relationship to the counties for enforcement purposes. Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney, said that once the health department posts the no entry sticker that the enforcement is then covered under state law. Discussion continued as to how best handle these situation and the notification of law enforcement agencies throughout the county. Jason will review the policies.

HIGHWAY

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, is present to discuss the following information:

- Construction is beginning on 300 S and Mark Goodrich is overseeing this project
- Chip sealing also continues

In engineering business

- Bridge 147 – no updates
- LPA Bridges – the 3 bridges that have been discussed in the past are on the bridge inspection draft report as needing immediate attention so these remain top priority when LPA projects open up.
- Sign Study – work in progressing
- Bridge Plan – Zack is working to get estimates for design alternatives.
- West Main St project. – Zack and Gary Leatherman met with the town of Albion last week and Zack reported that this was a good meeting and the county should be expecting an interlocal agreement very soon from the town.
- 2016 Budgets – Zack is continuing to work on the 2016 budgets. He told the commissioners that he would be setting some money aside for an ADA project as he needed to have this scoped and ready to go for a LPA project.
- Zack presented a LPA voucher for bridge inspector for the commissioner's review. Motion to sign the voucher came from Chad Kline and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
- Zack also discussed the requests for special signage. Highway will charge for some of the initial costs for this signage request and then it is up to the requestor to maintain the sign beyond the placement.

CLAIMS

Twelve pages of claims totaling \$614,689.20 were reviewed and approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL

Payroll dated 06/25/15 for the weeks of 05/29/15 through 06/11/15 were reviewed. Chad Kline made a motion to approve the payroll with a second coming from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

Minutes of the May 26, 2015 and June 8, 2015 meetings were read and approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

UNSAFE BUILDING

- Norm Lortie, Building Inspector, is present to discuss 4 quotes that he was able to get from area contractor in reference to the demolition of a property deemed unsafe through his department. Quotes were received from Forker Excavating in the amount \$5,938.00, from Todd Wise Sand & Gravel in the amount of \$6,530.00, from Kreager Group in the amount of \$6,700.00 and from Caskey Trucking in the amount of \$6,900.00. After all were reviewed, Dave Dolezal made a motion to accept the \$5,938.00 from Forker Excavating. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Norm indicated that

the work would be done as soon as the weather would allow. He is planning to monitor the weather situation and notify Forkers to proceed when conditions were favorable.

- Dennis Ringler, owner of a property that was determined to be unsafe, was also present to report on the progress he is making on his property. Norm reported that upon his last visit that most of the refuse had been removed and the lean-tos had been taken down. The original structure had be enclosed. Norm said that all indications are that Mr. Ringler is not making rapid progress but progress none the less. Norm feels that the property is no longer a "health risk" but still has more work needed to bring into complete compliance. Commissioners have set August 24, 2015 at 9:30AM for another review of the property. This motion was made by Dave Dolezal and seconded by Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

REZONINGS

The following properties were reviewed for rezonings:

- Weimer, Michael J & April are requesting a rezoning from RE to A1 in Elkhart township. The Plan Commission has reviewed and approved. Motion to approve the rezoning came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.
- Altimus, Skip and Shirley are requesting rezoning from RE to A1 in Orange township. This has also been through the plan commission and is approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.
- Troyer, Glenn O & Vera E are requesting a rezoning from A1 to A3 in Elkhart Township. The plan commission has approved the rezoning and a motion from Dave Dolezal has given approval from the commissioners. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bontrager, Ervin Ray & Lorene K are requesting that a property in Perry Township be rezoned from RE to A1. With plan commissioner approval the commissioners approved the rezoning with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ROAD RIGHT OF WAYS

- The commissioners reviewed and approved a dedication of road right of way for Depew with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.
- Dave Dolezal also moved to approve a dedication of road right of way for Cunningham on 800 W. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- A minor sub division on Clarks Landing on Loon Lake is requesting road right of way. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the dedication. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

VACATION OF ROAD

Larry and Kathleen Meroney are coming before the commissioners requesting that a road be vacated. This would be a portion of Rochester Road from the railroad to Morton St. Meroney's own ground on both sides of this portion of road and the railroad crossing was closed several years ago. Mrs. Meroney provided a copy of the notice that appeared in the paper as well as copies of the certified notices that were sent to adjacent property owners. Chad Kline moved to accept the vacation request with a second coming from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

ASSESSOR

Dee Schlotterback, Deputy Assessor, is present to discuss hiring a firm to evaluate personal property assessment forms. Larry Brandon and John Shelton, representatives from Tax Management Associates were also present to discuss this service. The company would randomly select tax assessments for audit. They are present in many counties and were able to show the additional AV figures brought into the county from these audits. The commissioners will take this information under advisement.

VACATION

Diane Miller, Attorney representing Marrs/Hill property owners has asked for a continuance in the vacation request. This has been rescheduled for July 27th, 2015 at 9:30AM.

ANIMAL PROTECTION

Debbie Snyder had scheduled an appointment with the Noble County Commissioners but did not show up for the meeting. Three representatives from the Noble County Fair Board were present to hear what Ms. Snyder had to say but no meeting took place.

TAX SALE

Sheri Auld, Deputy Auditor, was present to discuss tax sale properties with the commissioners. Sheri informed the commissioners that on a Meyer property letters had been sent to the adjacent property owners and the owner to the east is the only one to respond. Once tax deeds are prepared the commissioners will need to sign the deeds. Sheri also had the SRI contract for the commissioner's consideration. SRI does the tax sale for Noble County each year and this is the contract for the 2015 sale. Chad Kline made a motion to approve the contract with a second coming from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Town of Albion – leachate report for May – duly entered
- DNR – Cromwell Historical District – Jefferson St between Second & Orange St Cromwell, Indiana – duly entered
- May monthly report from the Clerk of the Circuit Court for CSI and Gavel – duly entered
- May monthly report from the Treasurer - duly entered
- Letter from Gloom, Gates & Whiteleather concerning a commissioner appointment to the Knapp Lake Conservancy District. A recommendation of Christine Dudlak was suggested to fill the vacancy of Cindy Kennedy. Dave Dolezal moved to approve Christine Dudlak as the commissioner's appointment to the Knapp Lake Conservancy District. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership information – duly entered

RECESS

Motion to recess until 1:00PM was made by Dave Dolezal and seconded by Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

INSURANCE

Jarrold Ramer, Black & Ramer Insurance, along with Patton Cox and CJ Mills, from Marketing Diversified Services, Inc. were present to discuss health insurance with the commissioners. They presented a handout and presentation to the commissioners concerning their product and benefits. All information will be taken under advisement as the commissioners have other companies to speak with.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The 2016 Holiday schedule was discussed and Chad Kline indicated that he would like to see some holidays on the schedule eliminated such as Martin Luther King, President's Day and Veterans Day. Jackie was asked to contact some other agency to get an idea of what their holiday schedules are and report back to the commissioners.

RESTRICTED ADDRESSES

Steve Hook, GIS Director, is present to discuss new legislation which will allow judges, police officers, victims of Domestic Violence, and Public Officials to request that their addresses be eliminated from the public website. Steve has come up with a policy and application form for this request. After some discussion it was decided that this needs to be in the form of an ordinance and that the county will charge \$100.00 per address restricted. The ordinance – once complete and approved by the county attorney – will be advertised and adopted at the public hearing of the Noble County Commissioners.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 3:40 P.M. recessed from day to day until the 13th day of July, 2015.

Gary D. Leatherman, President

David J. Dolezal, Vice President

Chad Kline, Member

ATTESTED: _____
Tonya L. Marks, Auditor