

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD September 11, 2017**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 A.M. on the 11th day of September, 2017, 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
Steve Garbacz, KPC Media
Steve Hook, GIS Coordinator
Tina Lough, Health Department
Norm Lortie, Building Inspector
Mick Newton, EMA Director
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer

Gary Leatherman, Commissioners President, brought the meeting to order at approximately 9:00AM.

HIGHWAY

Zack Smith, Noble County Highway Engineer, is present to update the commissioners on the following highway business:

- Zack reported that all in-house construction projects slated for this year have now been completed.
- Bridge 16 – the approach was completed last week and the bridge should be open by the end of this week. At that time the contractor will move to Bridge 24.
- The state is currently working on the new railroad bridge in Brimfield on state road 6. The official detour will be State Road 3 to State Road 8 and then State Road 9, however the local traffic will be County Road 150 E to County Road 600 N. Zack advised that he has a meeting set up with the state to inspect these roads prior to the shut down and then another inspection will be done when the job is complete. The state will reimburse for any excessive damage done to the county roads.
- Bridge 147 – Zack has LPA vouchers for the bridgework. Dave Abbott moved to approve both vouchers for this job. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Ligonier interlocal agreement – Zack also provided an interlocal agreement with Ligonier concerning the construction of Bridge 147. Ligonier would like to install a 6” line rather than the 4” required line. This will be done with this agreement which will increase the line from 4 to 6 with the condition that the added expense will be Ligonier’s responsibility. Dave Abbott moved to approve the interlocal agreement for signature. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge inspection – This process has been completed by United Consulting and Zack reported that there are no new issues with the county’s infrastructure. A full report from United should be arriving sometime within the next month.
- Bridge 136 – Zack reported that the consulting contract has been sent to the state and he is awaiting their approval and the state’s contract to proceed.
- The Baseline Rd safety project is moving forward with the contract for this project being returned as approved.
- Community Crossing Grants – this was to be awarded by the end of August, but the number of applications for the grant money was overwhelming and so Zack indicated that we may know something by the end of September.
- Concrete Recycling – this project is underway and should be complete within the next couple of weeks.
- Striping – this project was started last week – but due to rain was delayed by 2 or 3 days.

- Dump Trucks – Zack reported that the budgets presented to the council had been approved and is asking permission from the commissioners to get a couple of new trucks ordered. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the ordering of the vehicles. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Zack again reviewed the ordinance allowing purchasing within his department. The commissioners would like to include the surveyor's office and the sheriff's department in this amendment. This will amend the Surveyor and Sheriff to a ceiling of \$2,500.00 without prior approval and allow the highway department to purchase up to \$5,000.00 without prior approval. Zack will finalize the document and return to the commissioners for their approval.
- Spill site- Zack reported that the spill site created by a Pierceton trucking mishap has been cleaned up according to IDEM specification. Zack has monitored the manpower hours as well as the equipment and sand that was hauled to the site by the county. This expense is thought to be in the area of \$1,000.00 and will be reimbursed to the county from Pierceton Trucking. Zack has also drawn up a "hold harmless" agreement to be signed by outside contractors in the event that one of our drivers is driving a vehicle in which a mishap that just took place would happen again while we were driving.
- Zack had a request from a home to put up a bus sign at their location. This is a special needs bus stop. The department visited the site and there is clearly – at least – 1000 ft. of site distance. The commissioners advised that we not put up signs unless it is justified by site distance or some other incident that it was deemed necessary.

UNSAFE HOUSING

Norm Lortie, Building Inspector, is present for the following issues:

- A home in Wolf Lake owned by Fred Colen has been empty for a number of years. Norm reported that he is sure the roof leaks but has not been inside the home as the owner could not locate the keys the last time they met which was in May. Norm feels that there is significant structural damage and would like permission to proceed with condemnation of the property. Dave Dolezal moved to allow the process to proceed and send notification to Mr. Colen with a hearing date of October 23, 2017 at 10:00AM. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Glen Borders in Wawaka is another of the same situation. Mr. Borders is now deceased, however, his son has met with Norm and is in agreement that the home needs to come down. He has not made any attempt to do this on his own. Dave Abbott moved to condemn this property also and notify the heir of the property. The hearing time will also be set for 10:00AM on October 23, 2017. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Norm also has 3 homes that he would like to set public hearings for to begin the condemnation process. Those being Rocky on the south side of Knapp Lake, and 2 properties at Waldron Lake both of which have been through two flooding events and nothing has been done with them. One of them is owned by HUD and is on the tax sale listing for 2017, the other is owned by Middleton. These hearing will be set for 9:30AM on September 25, 2017.

EMA

Mick Newton is present for the following items:

- Mick has a Promulgation letter for the commissioners to sign. This is just a letter of support for the comprehensive emergency management plan and is required by the state. Motion to sign the letter is made by Dave Abbott and seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
- Mick is also asking permission to spend over \$500.00 with the purchase of a remote lighting system that can be taken to emergency scenes after dark. Motion to allow the purchase came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

HEALTH

Tina Lough, Health Department Secretary, was present to request permission to purchase a hand held device that will immediately report the location of septic tanks. The process used now requires uploads etc. done by the GIS departments and delays the process considerably. This new device will immediately send the information to the program. Steve Hook was also present and indicated that this would considerably speed up the process. This will be purchased from the

Tobacco Master Grant. Motion to allow the purchase came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- FEMA – Flood Hazard report – home located at 5093 E 850 N is determined to NOT be in the flood hazard area.
- Clerk of the Court – monthly report – duly entered
- Plan Commission – agenda and notice of interested parties for North rezoning.
- Court Security – monthly report
- IDEM – Confined Feeding Operation approval renewal for Guyas
- Noble County Landfill – leachate report

MINUTES

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

QUOTE

The commissioners have received a quote from Leatherman Construction in reference to the leak about the Circuit Court room. Motion to approve the work to begin came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL

Payroll dated 09/14/17 for the time period of 08/18/17 through 08/31/17 was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. This was a 6 page report totaling \$364,765.61.

RECESSED FOR DRAINAGE – 11:10AM

BACK IN SESSION 3:10PM

CLAIMS

Nicole Noe, Deputy Auditor, was present for claims review for 9 pages of claims totaling \$421,709.18. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the claims dated 09/11/17. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Supplemental claims were also reviewed. This report contained 2 pages and totaled \$16,343,486.06 which included a \$16,000,000.00 investment. Dave Dolezal moved to approve these claims and Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

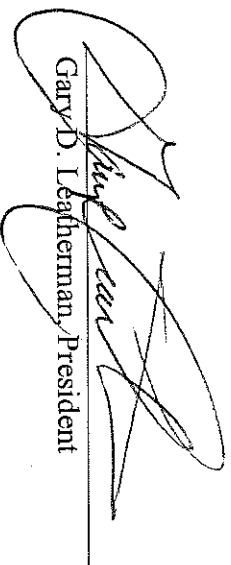
Utility claims were reviewed and approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0. The total of these 2 pages was \$128,086.52.

VEHICLES

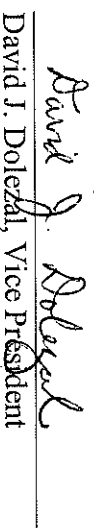
The commissioners discussed the purchase of vehicles for the county once again and weighted the options of leasing vs buying outright. Gary had spoken with Chad Willett at the sheriff's department and Chad had gotten a Government Leasing option from the Dodge dealer that he works with when buying Sheriff's vehicles. All of the commissioners found this option very appealing as it gives 3 years to pay and the \$1.00 buyout at the end of 3 years. Gary will be looking at other dealers to see if they have similar options. This may be of great help to get our aging fleet up to speed.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 4:20P.M. recessed from day to day until September 25, 2017.



Gary D. Leatherman, President



David J. Dolezal, Vice President


David Abbott, Member

ATTESTED 
Tonya L. Marks, Auditor