

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD April 10, 2017**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 A.M. on the April 10, 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:

Dave Abbott, Member  
Dave Dolezal, Vice President  
Gary Leatherman - arrived around 10:00AM

Also present were:

Jacqueline L. Knafel, County Coordinator  
Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney  
Steve Garbacz, KPC Media  
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer  
Mark Goodrich, Highway Supervisor  
Shelley Mawhorter, Clerk

Eric Blackman, Noble County Prosecutor, was in first thing to supply copies of the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for 2016 and 2017 as Gary Leatherman's signature was electronically submitted.

Dave Dolezal, Commissioners Vice President, brought the meeting to order at approximately 8:30AM.

CLERK

Shelley Mawhorter, Noble County Clerk, is requesting permission for a painting project for the courthouse. First quote is for window frames, cathedral etc. in the amount of \$2,875.00, The second quote is for baseboards throughout the courthouse. That quote was \$3,100.00. Jackie had also received a quote for painting the bathrooms at the prosecutor's office in the amount of \$750.00. Dave Abbott moved to table the decision for this until Gary Leatherman returns. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

MINUTES

Minutes of the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved as written with a motion from Dave Abbott. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.  
Minutes of the executive session dated March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 were also approved with a motion from Dave Abbott. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Metzger Dairy Confined Feeding Operation – approval notice from IDEM
- Haines Bulldozing – landfill leachate report – duly entered - copy scanned and sent to Wilcox Environmental
- Courthouse Security – monthly report –duly entered
- Noble County Sheriff's report of collection – duly entered
- Creative Woods designs – air permit IDEM
- Wysong – confined feeding operation – approval from IDEM
- Wilcox - methane monitoring report for the week of 03/29/17 – duly entered
- Information letter from Gene Stratton Porter – duly entered
- Plan Commission – April 19, 2017 notice to interested parties for Hixon Sand & Gravel

HIGHWAY

Mark Goodrich, Highway Superintendent, was present to discuss the following:

- Mark has quotes from 2 different sources for a post hole driver: one for \$3,216.00 and the other for \$3,835. Mark is asking permission to purchase the more expensive one as it is a more commercial level of equipment and feels that would better fulfill the needs of the department. Dave Abbott moved to approve the purchase of the post hole driver in the amount of \$3,835.00. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

- Mark discussed a recent drainage issue with the commissioners. This for a Merrill property on Diamond Lake. Although this is not a county drain at this time, Mark feels that the county could address some of the issue by capping off a culvert and rerouting some of the water issues in another direction. This would be a cost to the county and is speaking with the county surveyor, they could go through the process of making this a county maintained drain with annual assessments. The commissioners will follow up with this issue during the drainage board meeting at 11:00AM this morning.
- Mark also filed the following utility permits with the commissioners:
  1. AEP
  2. QC Communications
  3. Frontier Communications

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, had the following engineering business to bring before the commissioners:

- Equipment bids - the commissioners were furnished a spreadsheet with the information received earlier with the opening of bids. Zack and Mark are suggesting buying one Volvo and one Western Star to run side by side to see which one meets our needs for the power train issues and then make the determination for future purchases. WA Jones had low bid on the truck bodies and the county has always like the work that they have provided in the past would like to stay with them. The Chip Spreader sole bid came from Southeastern so that will go to them. Zack reported that monies to fund these purchases was in place and with that Dave Abbott moved to proceed with ordering. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.
- Zack had a LPA Voucher for bridge 147. Zack reported that they are now in the right of way purchasing phase of this project. Dave Abbott moved to approve the voucher with a second coming from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 2-0
- Highway Garage – the new construction is nearing completion however now AEP has informed Zack that the full power hook up could be delayed another 4 -5 weeks. The final walk through cannot happen until they have full power. Zack has reached out to I & M for an explanation as to why the wait and has not yet got an answer. Dave Dolezal told Zack that if he can get a meeting scheduled he would also attend.
- Bridge inspection – We are in phase 2 of the Bridge Inspection and everything should be done by the end of this month with a report to be expected in late May.
- Bridge 136 and baseline - the scoring that was completed has been sent to INDOT for review, however, approval is pending due to vacations at that level. Zack was going to reach out to them today to see where this is at.
- Bridge 6 – the package is being compiled and will be bid out within the next couple of weeks.
- Community crossing grant – as to the funding of this grant – it is still being discussed but grant submission is still on target for this summer.
- Conflict of interest – Zack presented the commissioners with a draft of the conflict of interest policy setting the threshold at \$100.00. This policy is similar to Elkhart County’s and will due until such time as there is more direction from the State. Dave Abbott moved to adopt the proposed conflict of interest policy as presented. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.
- Legislative – no real updates on legislation but hopefully when they go back into conference the group will go back to some legislation that will be more in the county’s interest.
- Road Ratings – Zack reported that the road ratings for 2017 were complete and the plan will be updated accordingly with these findings.
- Shop Supervisor – Zack had been in contact with the individual that the department was hoping to hire but unfortunately our salary offer could not compete with his current employer. Zack would like permission to advertise this position along with a mechanic position and an operator position that will be opening up soon due to a retirement in the department. Advertising is quite expensive and Zack will reach out to the papers for the exact cost.
- Wolf Lake will be the sidewalk project for 2017 and will be our proposed project for ADA Compliance. Zack will be sending out the Request for quotes.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Cherish Smith, Executive Director, was present to get a signature for the IDOT contract invoice voucher. She also presented the quarterly report for the commissioner's review. Motion to sign the report came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

#### COURTHOUSE PAINTING

President Gary Leatherman had arrived and was brought up to speed on the proposed painting project. The commissioners again reviewed the quotes and moved to allow all quoted jobs to be done. Dave Dolezal made the motion which was seconded by Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

#### TOWN OF ALBION PICTURE

Jackie had been approached by Greg Cromer to buy an aerial photo of the Town of Albion. They reviewed the picture on the website but thought that this picture may be of more interest to the Town of Albion as the pictures here in the courthouse dealt mostly with the history of this building.

#### RECESS

Back in Session – 10:15AM

#### BLACK PINE ANIMAL SANCTUARY

Mr. Storer, Secretary of the Board of Directors with Black Pine Animal Sanctuary was present to discuss the possibility of the commissioners giving the property owned by the county and leased by Black Pine to the sanctuary. This is currently being used by 4-H activities also. Mr. Storer said that there are times when funding has become available and they are not eligible because they do not own the land. Black Pine currently has a 40 year lease with the county on the land that sits north of the open drain known as the J W Long drain. The commissioners are asking for time to consider this and have asked Mr. Storer to reach out to the 4-H department to get their input and ideas about this situation.

#### SHERIFF

Doug Harp, Noble County Sheriff, Shane Coney, Jail Commander, and Dave Baum, IT Director, are all present to discuss and provide information concerning bids received for the camera project at the jail. Dave provided a spreadsheet for the commissioners to review which hit the highlights of the proposal of all 10 bidders. Dave also indicated that there is more review to be done with all the information provided. Doug indicated that he has funding in place for this project which will cost in the neighborhood of \$230,000.00. The commissioners are giving the okay to proceed providing funding is in place for this project. This will give the sheriff the flexibility to explore grants etc.... if the okay is in place.

#### RECESS

BACK IN SESSION – 2:00PM

#### CLAIMS

The Utility, Credit Card and Regular claims were reviewed by the commissioners. Utility claims totaled \$320,890.34 and contained 2 pages of reporting. Credit Card claims spanned from January through March and totaled \$43,963.35 and regular claims totaled \$165,060.50 and contained 9 pages. Motion to approve all claims came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

#### PAYROLL

Payroll dated 04/13/17 for the pay period of 03/17/17 – 03/30/17 totaling \$356,699.83 and containing 6 pages was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

#### CAR RENTAL

Jackie indicated that she had approached by a department concerning car rental on the county's policy. Jackie had contacted the insurance company and this is not on our current policy. This can be added according to the insurance agent but is limited to the business day and has a diminishing clause which could still leave some liability on the county should something happen. The commissioners discussed the issue and felt that car rentals were not needed in most cases and because of it being limited in coverage would not add it to our policy.

PUBLIC SAFETY TAX

Jackie reminded the commissioners of the April 13, 2017 meeting concerning policy pension at the Noble County Sheriff's department. Immediately following that meeting the council and commissioners have set a time to discuss the usage of public safety money and she was asking them if there were any requests that they had concerning the use of the newly created tax. Putting the purchase of sheriff's cars was the item that they wanted moved from their CREDIT plan to enable them to address the needs of some of the other departments. The meeting Thursday will begin at 4:30P.M.

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 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary D. Leatherman, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Dolezal, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Abbott, Member

ATTESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tonya L. Marks, Auditor