

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD February 9, 2015**

Comes now the hour of 8:35 A.M. on the 9th day of February, 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
Nicole Noe, Deputy Auditor
Bill Etzler - Engineering Resources
Gregg Parker – Council on Aging
Jim Abbs – Public Defender
Eric Blackman, Prosecutor
Mick Newton, EMA Director
Randy Sexton, Surveyor
Doug Harp, Sheriff
Norm Lortie, Building Department
Stacey Beam and Danyel Wagner, Probation Department

LANDFILL

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

- Methane remediation project- The 3 new gas probes have been installed at the Noble County Landfill
- Change Order – IDEM is requiring another change which will be addressed by Engineering Resources
- Bill is suggesting the Elements be contacted to test probes 1,24,25,26 and gas vents as soon as possible.
- Site Survey - Bill feels that we need to accurately locate wells, probes, vents & leachate collection systems, Dave Dolezal thought that we had this information currently and will contact the surveyor as well as Steve Hook to see if this information is available currently.
- Bill is also recommending soil sampling be done to determine waste mass.
- Groundwater monitoring/ analysis should be done on an annual bases and Bill feels that we need a contract to do this service updated.
- Leachate collection update – will eventually have to address this more thoroughly but for now the methane issue is top priority.
- Bill is inviting the commissioners to meet with Engineering Resources at Purdue Road School in March for the evening.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Gregg Parker, Council on Aging, is present to present the quarterly report for the year ending 2014. Motion to sign the report came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Jim Abbs, Chief Public Defender, is present to request an appointment to the public defender board. Jim is requesting Steve Hagan as that appointment. Dave Dolezal made a motion to appoint Steve Hagan to this board. Chad Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jim is also discussing new carpeting and painting at his facility – this is a rented facility and the department has a fund which he can pay for improvements but the commissioners would rather that the owner of the building be contacted prior to any decision being made.

PROSECUTOR

- Eric Blackman, Noble County Prosecutor, informed the commissioners that he has hired a new legal secretary as well as a receptionist. Andrea Ladig has been hired as the new Criminal secretary and Laura Stump is the new IV-D receptionist.
- Eric was also present to discuss the Diversion & Deferral Program Ordinance 2015-01 was approved with a motion from Chad Kline and seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0. Ordinance will be advertised within 30 days of adoption.
- Eric is discussing his web site update with the commissioners and is asking for permission to spend over \$500.00 from deferral money. Discussion continued about an entire Noble County website update which should be overseen by the IT department possibly rather than every department paying a high amount for each website. Jim Abbs and Mick Newton also commented on this topic.
- Eric indicated that he would also like to use some of the deferral money to update some of the furniture at the prosecutor's office but would hold off if a new building is going to be coming in the near future.
- Eric invited the commissioners to stop by the Prosecutors office at any time to visit

GRANT - EMA

Mick Newton is present to discuss the possibility of purchasing a Noble County Siren System. This is expected to cost around \$125,000.00 and Mick is hoping to locate grants to pay for the costs. Chad Kline moved to allow to Mick to explore the grant possibilities for this project. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

SURVEYOR

Randy Sexton brought before the commissioners an application for logjam removal through the Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) program. If approved this will pay 80% of the cost involved in the project. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the application with a second coming from Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Mark Goodrich is present and reported that his crews have had 4 days of overtime related to snow. Mark also reported that he had many compliments from the area schools on the job that had been done with snow removal on a timely bases. Mark reported that 4 trucks were down due to repair but for the majority of the time the trucks have been on the road.

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

- Bridge #147 – notice to proceed has been issued
- Bridge Inspection – that notice to proceed was issued last week
- LPA Call for projects has been pushed out until possibly April
- CSX negotiations – Still corresponding with CSX to come to an agreement.
- Sign Study – Zack reported he hoped to have this project completed yet this month
- Equipment Maintenance – Zack had some final numbers for the purchase of the 3 pieces of equipment he hoped to purchase yet this year – that number being \$495,000.00. Chad Kline made a motion to amend the CEDIT plan to pay for the equipment at the highway. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Zack announced that Andy Steffey had been chosen to replace Wayne Baker as sign foreman.
- Zack has a form letter that will be sent to property owners who are habitual offenders in plowing snow into the road from their driveways. The discussion of a possible ordinance came up but there is an IC code to refer to and therefore the commissioners feel that there is no need for an ordinance.
- The replacement of mailboxes that are knocked down during snow removal was discussed. Zack will get the standard mailbox replacement costs and then the commissioner will set a replacement policy with a maximum amount to be reimbursed to individuals with the installation to be the responsibility of the owner.
- Rob Hakey is present to request a driveway variance. Zack indicated that the driveway plans are 82 feet short of the required site distance however traffic count in this area is low and speed is lower in this area and therefore Zack did not see a problem with the commissioners granting this variance. Dave Dolezal moved to allow the driveway variance with a second coming from Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

PROBATION

Stacy Beam and Danyel Wagner from the Probation Department were present to request a waiver of the 10% in wages for the 6 month probationary period. Heather Lock started last Monday and is showing great progress in this position. After some discussion, the board indicated that would like Stacey to monitor the employee performance for at least another month and if Stacey still feels that she would like the waiver of the 10% to come back to the commissioners and request again. Discussion also was brought up about the wiring at the Court Services. They now have 7 employees at this location and the wiring is substandard. Dave Baum was also present and indicated that when a wiring project was done in house his estimate of cost was around \$500.00 a drop. This building – however – is not owned by the county and neither Dave nor Stacey were sure that this cost should be on the county rather than the owner of the building. The commissioners would like some true costs including any equipment that might be needed prior to any decision being made. Dave will try to gather some cost quotes and report back to the commissioners.

FLOOD ORDINANCE

Norm Lortie is present to inform the commissioners that the flood ordinance will need to be re-advertised. The ordinance was sent to the state and they made some additional changes to the ordinance and now the county will have to readvertise and readopt the ordinance. Norm also reported that the Ringler, Gries, Coffey and Panyard properties all have their own unique issues and that he feels that the best way to handle these blighted homes is to waiver them so that Kendallville will be able to proceed with their projects. The commissioners agreed stating the need not to hold up Kendallville. Norm also reported on the Ott property and will contact the owners one last time and report back.

SHERIFF

Doug Harp is present to request a signature on the Equitable Sharing agreement and certification. Chad Kline made a motion to allow the president of the commissioners to sign. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Doug also had his official bond for signature. Chad Kline moved to sign the bond and a second came from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0. Doug also wanted to give the commissioners a heads up for some purchases that would be coming. Doug reported the need to replace 4 of the serving trays for the jail which would cost around \$1,700.00 apiece.

CLAIMS

Claims in the amount of \$202,404.07 and containing 12 pages were reviewed for payment. Chad Kline moved to approve the claim to be paid 02/09/15 with the exception of a meal claim for \$16.94. Total claims to be paid will be \$202,387.13. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

SICK TIME DONATION

Kim Miller is requesting sick time donation for one of her employees whose husband was hurt in a recent fall. The fall is requiring transportation back and forth for therapy and the employee will need to have at least one week off of work. Her anniversary date is coming up in March and she has no time to take at this point. Chad Kline moved to allow the donation of time as needed. Gary Leatherman seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-1 with Dave Dolezal voting against the motion.

PAYROLL

Payroll for the time period of 01/09/15 -01/22/15 for payment 02/05/15 was reviewed. Payroll totaled \$341,717.05 and contained 5 pages of review. Motion to approve the payroll came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected. Motion came from Dave Dolezal and was seconded by Chad Kline. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Courthouse Security – January monthly report- duly entered
- Sheriff Report of Collections – duly entered
- Karr Tuckpointing – duly entered
- Strawser Auction Group – duly entered
- IDEM – Methane remediation project – duly entered

- IDEM – Structural Composites of Indiana - duly entered
- IDEM – Precision Tank & equipment – duly entered

KONE

Information had been received from Kone Elevators concerning new required testing. After some discussion, it was decided to gather more information and address the issue at the February 23, 2015.

COVERED BRIDGE

The covered bridge certification was received from the state to be completed. Chad Kline moved to certify that Noble County has no covered bridges. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NOBLE COUNTY PARK BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Noble County Commissioners have been contacted to appoint a member to the Noble County Park Board. John Metzger has served on this board and the board is asking for John to be re-appointed. A motion from Chad Kline will reappoint John Metzger to serve on this board until 2017. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMON WAGE CONSTRUCTION

Dave Dolezal made a motion to appoint Chad Kline to the Kendallville Common Wage Construction. Gary Leatherman seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

INSURANCE QUESTIONNAIRES

EMC Insurance has sent their annual insurance questionnaires to be completed. The questionnaire were completed by the Noble County Sheriff, Bill Etzler, Engineering Resources for the Landfill and by Jackie Knafel, for the financial part of the questionnaire. These forms were signed with a motion from Chad Kline and a second from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 11:10 A.M. recessed from day to day until the 23rd day of February, 2015.

Gary D. Leatherman, President

David J. Dolezal, Vice President

Chad Kline, Member

ATTESTED: _____
Tonya L. Marks, Auditor

