

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

Comes now the hour of A.M. on the 8th day of February, 2016 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
David Abbott, Member

Also present were:

Jacqueline L Knafel, County Coordinator
Dennis Graft, County Attorney
and Steve Garbacz, KPC Media
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer
Mark Goodrich, Highway Superintendent
Doug Harp, Noble County Sheriff

Gary Leatherman, Commissioner President, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05AM.

HIGHWAY

Mark Goodrich, Highway Superintendent, was present with the following requests:

- Mark is requesting permission to purchase sign posts. The purchase would be for 200 sign posts costing approximately \$5,240.00. Mark had gotten two other quotes but they in excess of \$6,000.00. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the purchase with a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.
- Mark also indicated that he is looking into a spraying program, having current employees get certified etc.. Mark will be gathering more information over the next couple months.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, is present for the following engineering business:

- LPA Voucher for Bridge inspection. Dave Dolezal made a motion to sign the voucher with a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.
- Zack also had a LPA voucher for Bridge 147 to be signed. Zack report that he had a quarterly meeting on this bridge and all is going well. Dave Abbott moved to approve the signing of the voucher. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Zack reported the Bridge 82 will be done in house. He estimated the cost of the 3 sided design 8X 28 structure to cost around \$150,000 whereas a traditional bridge would be around \$285,000.00.
- Bridge 16 – Zack has sent out request for proposals. This bridge is on 500 S near LaOtto. The commissioners will review the proposals in March.
- Bridge 6 – Zack is proposing that a box culvert be put in place of a bridge. The inspector and others will review this project.
- The federal surplus piece of machinery that Zack had spoken to the commissioners about at an earlier meeting was discussed. Zack has sent in our information and hopes to hear back soon. He is estimating the cost to be between \$5,000.00 and \$10,000.00.
- Utility Ordinance was available for commissioner's review. Dave Dolezal made a motion to approve the advertisement of the ordinance prior to adoption. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- New Highway Garage - Construction preparation continues and because of utility relocation issues, Zack is looking at a Utility Location Service which will deal with all utility matters. The cost would be in the range of \$6,900.00. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the hiring of this service with a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.
- GPS units have been installed on 12 units and training will begin shortly.

- Zack also reported that the grading system put into place recently on the county roads would now focus on subdivision road. This would scale them from bad to good and put into place priorities.
- Zack reported that we need to upgrade some of the surveying equipment that is used at the highway department. Dave Dolezal moved to purchase the necessary equipment with a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.
- Zack updated the commissioners on the ADA Transition Plan. This is required any time federal funding is received. Zack has worked on this and is suggesting a Wawaka Sidewalk upgrade. He is estimating the cost to be in the \$28,000.00 range which will fit into the \$50,000.00 budget that is available. Dave Dolezal made a motion to proceed with the plan. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

REZONING

Nathan Miller, Plan Director and Scott Zeigler, Surveyor, is present to review the following rezonings with the commissioners:

- Max Hill who is selling property to Ned Ragan is requesting that the property on 500 E be rezoned from A1 to RE. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the rezoning which was approved by the plan commission pending the submission of the Administrative Sub Division paperwork. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Calvin Schmucker is represented by his father-in-law Mr. Bontrager in his request to rezone a property on 1000N from RE to A1. This will enable Mr. Schmucker to keep horses – possible other limited livestock for meat on his property. Dave Abbott moved to allow the rezoning pending submission of the Administrative subdivision paperwork. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Jay Wysong is present to request a rezoning on State Road 6 east of County Road 500E to A-3 to enable a 1200 head sow operation. Nathan reported that no one came to the public hearing that was held and there were no cards of disapproval received back from surrounding property owners. Dave Dolezal moved to approve this rezoning. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Scott Zeigler is the owner of this piece of property and is requesting a rezoning from A1 to LR. This will be enable him to sell this land to an adjacent property owner who wished to build a garage. Dave Dolezal moved to allow the rezoning with the condition of receipt of the administrative sub division paperwork. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Nathan Miller and Ryan Weber are present for the last rezoning. Ryan is representing his clients Jim and Deb Freeman

- This request is to increase property from 1 acre to 2 ½ acres on county road 400E so rezoning is required. Dave Dolezal made a motion to allow the rezoning from RE to A-1 with the condition that the administrative subdivision paperwork be received. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

SURVEYOR

Randy Sexton, Noble County Surveyor, is present to review the LARE grants he most recently applied for. One is for logjams on the Elkhart River with the other one being a Melvin drain project draining into Skinner Lake. Both projects – if awarded – would cost the county approximately \$12,500.00. Skinner Lake Home Owners Association would share some of the costs on the 2nd project. Dave Dolezal made a motion to proceed with the grant proposal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

EMS

Gary Atkins, CEO of Parkview Noble, and Tom Shoemaker, EMS Director, were both present to present the revised Parkview EMS Contract to the commissioners. Such topics such as fuel, maintenance and repair were added as Parkview responsibilities as well as a clause stating that in the event that the hospital would choose not to renew this agreement without cause, the hospital agrees to transfer ownership of all ambulance vehicles in use to Noble County. Dave Dolezal moved to approve the contract as presented. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Tom also discussed the car that had been given to the EMS department. The car was a 2003 retired sheriff's car. Tom has had it looked over and the repair for the car would exceed its' value and is asking permission to scrap the car. Jackie indicated that she had no title for the car. Tom will get the VIN number to Jackie to begin the process of getting a title so that the car can be scrapped.

FLOOD AREA HOME

Rod Renkenberger and Mick Newton were present to discuss the home buyout program with the commissioners. Mick had received a call from two of the homeowners in the West Lakes area indicating interest in selling their homes to FEMA. These two homes are located in the flood area that has had significant flood damage the last few years. In the FEMA program – ownership of the homes would go to the local government agency and they would hold ownership for eternity. Ownership could never be transferred to another person or entity. There is no building on the sites and maintenance and liability would be the responsibility of the County. Rod did indicate that a park area could be developed. After some thought and discussion, the commissioners all agreed that they did not want to get into land ownership. The question was asked if the St Joseph River Basin has the ability to own land such as this. Rod was going to look further into that question. Mick will get back with the two property owners with the decision of the Commissioners.

The Commissioners recessed at approximately 11:15am for drainage board meeting.

Back in session 1:35PM

PAYROLL

Payroll dated 01/21/16 for the period of 12/25/15 – 01/07/16 containing 6 pages and totaling \$344,215.63; payroll dated 02/04/16 for the period of 01/08/16 – 01/21/16 containing 6 pages totaling \$347,352.18; and payroll dated 02/18/16 for the time period of 01/22/16 – 02/04/16 containing 6 pages and totaling \$349,208.97 were approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Nicole Noe, Deputy Auditor, was present to provide information for claims dated 02/08/16. After review the commissioners approved the 12 pages of claims totaling \$250,761.36 with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

UTILITY CLAIMS

Utility Claims were also reviewed. This report contained 2 pages and totaled \$629,916.35. Dave Abbott moved to approve these claims with a second coming from Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Town of Albion – leachate report for December and January – duly entered
- Noble County Court Security Report for the month of January – duly entered
- IDEM – Aluminum Recovery Tech Title V Amendment – duly entered
- Clerk of the Circuit Court monthly report – duly entered.

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 25, 2016 meeting were read and approved as written with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Gary Leatherman. Motion carried 2-0 with Dave Abbott not voting as he was not a member of the board at that time.

SICK TIME DONATIONS

The commissioners had brought examples of sick time policies in an attempt to adopt a policy for Noble County. The tabled Superior I requested from last meeting was again tabled to further explore policy changes.

APPOINTMENTS

Dave Abbott was appointed to the following boards with a motion from Dave Dolezal:

- Council on Aging
- Noble County EDC
- Noble County Plan Commission
- We Care Clinic Board

Gary Leatherman will be on the board for the E-911 which was part of Dave's motion.

Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The town of Rome City has a request for commissioner's reappointments. Dave Dolezal moved to appoint Barbara Tatmann to the BZA Board and Nita Dodd to the Rome City Plan Commission. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

IDEM

The commissioners reviewed a letter from IDEM concerning the high readings at the landfill and the need for a Methane monitoring plan. Gary had contacted Wilcox as we needed an immediate retesting as the state only gave us until 2/20/16 to respond. Derek Faulk at Wilcox conducted the tests as requested and had submitted the findings. All reading were down and within the measured guideline. After a phone conversation with Wilcox, the commissioners asked that they do the testing again on the 11th of this month and again on the 18th and then Derek will come to the meeting on the 22th to advise what the next course of action would be.

LANDFILL BIDS

2 bids were received for the engineering and testing at the Noble County Landfill. A bid from Wilcox as well as SES was opening and reviewed for completeness and costs. Dave Dolezal made a motion to take these under advisement and tabled the decision until the February 22, 2016 meeting.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ORDINANCE

The Community Corrections Ordinance in connection with Work Release was adopted with a motion from Dave Dolezal and a second from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

PLAN COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

After receiving interest from two individuals – Matt Young and Brian Fortman – for the vacancy on the Noble County Plan Commission Board and making certain the qualifications for the board member were met, Dave Abbott made a motion to appoint Matt Young to the position. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 4:30 P.M. recessed from day to day until the 8th day of February, 2016.

Gary D. Leatherman, President

David J. Dolezal, Vice President

David H. Abbott, Member

ATTESTED: _____
Tonya L. Marks, Auditor

