

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD May 22, 2017**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 A.M. on the May 22, 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
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer
Mark Goodrich, Highway Supervisor
Stacey Beam, Chief Probation Officer
Kenneth Hughes, Plan Director
Cheryl Munson, Health Nurse

Gary Leatherman, Commissioner President, brought the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 A.M.

CORRESPONDENCE

- IDEM - Ashley Industrial Molding – Air Quality amendment
- IDEM - Town of Rome City – Eastgate Lift Station permit application
- Leachate – Town of Albion invoice for disposal
- IDEM – Structural Composite of Indiana
- Clerk – Monthly Report
- Methane Monitoring - Wilcox
- Treasurer – Monthly report

MINUTES

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

PAYROLL

Payroll for the time period of 04/28/17 through 05/11/17 to be paid 05/25/17 and containing 6 pages totaling \$354,652.24 was approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PROBATION

Stacey Beam, Chief Probation Officer, was present to discuss a need for a contract with a company to aid with a deaf probationer. This is at \$100.00 for a minimum of 2 hours. Gary Leatherman suggested that a local resident also be contacted to see what her rates are for this type of service. Dave Dolezal made a motion to approve the interpreting agreement with The League to use as needed for these language barriers. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PLAN COMMISSION

Kenneth Hughes, Plan Director, was present for the following discussions:

- Kenneth is asking that the temporary appointment of Linda Gray be now made permanent. Linda filled in for a time period but is doing a good job and is willing to make this a permanent appointment. Dave Abbott moved to appoint Linda Gray to fill this vacancy. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Kenneth is also asking permission to purchase a computer from the CEDIT plan for work on the comprehensive plan from home. His estimate of the cost was in the range of \$2,600.00 for all of the equipment he would need. Dave Dolezal moved to approve this purchase with a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, and Mark Goodrich, Highway Superintendent, are both present for the highway business.

- Bridge 6 bids were opened. LaPorte Construction Co. Inc. was the only bid received. The bid was in the amount of \$384,502.00. Dave Abbott moved to table the awarding of the bid until the bid has been review. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Mark Goodrich has the following construction information to review with the commissioners:

- AEP is requesting permission to go onto the county easement for the continuing new line from Fort Wayne. This is off the county right of way but on county property. Motion to approve this request came from Dave Abbott and was seconded by Dave Dolezal. Motion carried 3-0.
- Construction schedule has gone through many changes due to all of the rain that we have been getting. Mark has 6 days' vacation that need to be used by June 2 and will not get that done. He is requesting an extension of that time. Dave Dolezal moved to allow the extension of time through the end of August. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Mark provided a Construction schedule to the commissioners for all of the Chip and Seal and Reconstruction. Mark is hoping that the chip and seal portion should be done by July 25, 2017.
- Mark also had Utility permits for Noble REMC, AEP and Indiana and Michigan Power to file with the commissioners.

Zack Smith had the following engineering business as discussion points:

- Highway Garage – Zack reported that the permanent power supply was now complete and the final walk through and approval will begin.
- Bridge Inspection -Zack had a LPA Voucher for preliminary engineering for the bridge inspection from United Consulting. Dave Abbott moved to approve the voucher in the amount of \$11,440.00. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 6 – The bid received from LaPorte Construction was again reviewed and the county typically doesn't accept bids over 15% over engineering bids. The engineering estimate for this bridge was \$196,719.00. This bid was almost double that. Zack's recommendation was that the commissioners reject this bid and then the county will rebid the bridge next year. This bridge is located near a school and will only allow summer construction time. Dave Dolezal then moved to reject the LaPorte bid with the intention of moving construction to 2018. Dave Abbott seconded this motion. Motion carried 3-0
- Bridge 136 – no update
- Baseline Road – no update
- Bridge 147 - Zack presented a supplemental agreement for the commissioners to sign. This agreement will not increase the cost of the bridge. Dave Abbott moved to sign the agreement No. 2. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 16 & 24 – These two bridges will start construction soon. The field check is complete and the construction will start with the bridge on 500S then move to the second bridge.
- Community Crossing –the application process is now open with submission day is June 5, 2017
- Job Matrix – Zack has been updating the matrix for the LTC group and has based his information on neighboring counties. He provided the information to the commissioners on his findings and informed them that he would be presenting this information to the council at their next meeting.
- Shop Foreman – When asked about how the process for hiring a new shop foreman was coming, that was Zack's inspiration for upgrading the matrix. Zack told the commissioners that wages has been the hurdle in hiring a shop supervisor and this proposal, hopefully, will bring that in to perspective for all employees
- Paint Striping - A letter had been received from Progressive Insurance Company concerning one of their customers who had driven on a road that had just been striped and splattered paint on his boat. It was the recommendation of the county attorney to send this information on to our insurance company.
- Comp time – Zack was unable to attend the comp time discussion coming up this afternoon but wanted the commissioners to know his feeling on the matter. Zack would like to see

comp time continue as it is a tool to help with budgets but feels that there is a need to closely monitor the time.

HEALTH

Cheryl Munson, Health Nurse, is present to request permission to spend in excess of \$500.00. This purchase will exceed \$9,000.00 and will be expended out of grant money. This will allow the health department to buy two new Pod box for storage in the trailer. Dave Abbott moved to approve the expenditure. Dave Dolezal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The second purchase would be for 5 laptops that can be taken to the field with employees of her department. These would be in the proximately of \$550.00 each. Dave Dolezal moved to allow this purchase with a second coming from Dave Abbott. Motion carried 3-0.

WALDRON LAKE

Sandra Guessner, Waldron Lake resident, was present to discuss the flooding on West Waldron Lake Dr. The commissioners explained that the issue which is in part due to the flooding, was log jams on the Elkhart River. This river is not maintained by the county and requires DNR approval for any type of work on this river. Sandra was directed to contact her representative and senator, Dave Ober and Sue Glick for aid with this issue. Sandra is aware of the restrictions that Noble County has but was hoping that the commissioners would also contact Dave and Sue about this lingering problem.

AEP

Tim Atkinson and another representative from AEP were here to discuss the easement for the landfill for the new lines. After the first discussion with AEP about a month ago and further investigation into project, AEP will set the tower outside of the landfill property. The plans are to set it on a property to the east of the landfill. Now the only thing that needs to be done within the landfill is the removal of the existing tower. The purpose is to remove the tower to ground level so as to not disturb any ground. AEP is asking for a supplemental easement for the removal and has agreed to pay for any damages that might occur while they are on site. Derek Faulk from Wilcox Engineering is also present for this discussion as he has had conversations with AEP throughout this process.

LANDFILL

Derek stayed after the discussion with AEP for the following landfill updates:

- The methane monitoring requirement has been lessened until such time as the trench is installed.
- Derek will start ordering the materials ordered for the trench and will contact Mike Haines who will dig the trench and the Highway department, who will be delivering the stone for this project. The cost of this project is still unknown but is expected to be in the range of \$25,000 to \$30,000.00.
- At the time the trench is complete another remediation plan will need to be completed.
- Discussion on how we can finally close this landfill was had and Derek had the following comments.... The process we are now engaged in will continue for at least 10 years. IDEM will only consider closure if we have 10 years of consistently good readings. Another option would be to dig up the entire landfill and haul it away. The cost of doing this is enormous but would eliminate the landfill expenditures over the next decade.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Cherish Smith, Council on Aging director, is present for a signature for a new van. Dave Abbott moved to approve the voucher in the amount of 27,549.00. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

RECESS for Drainage

2:10PM Back in Session

COMP TIME

The commissioners, Mike Toles, Council President and the county attorney had lengthy discussions about the handling of comp time. Discussions includes just completely doing away with it, limiting the number of hours to the employees, requiring department head prior written approval for the time and also the use of time clocks. A policy will be drawn up for further discussion and approval.

CEDIT

Jackie had a draft of the 2018-2019 CEDIT plan for the commissioners to review. The commissioners would like to speak with some of the recipients of CEDIT money to ensure that the need for the county support is still necessary.

CLAIMS

Nicole Noe, Deputy Auditor, was present to review the claims to be paid 05/22/17. 12 pages totaling \$442,610.39 were approved for payment with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Court claims were also reviewed. Five pages totaling \$30,946.99 was reviewed and approved with a motion from Dave Dolezal. Dave Abbott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 5:20 P.M. recessed from day to day until the 22nd day of May, 2017.

Gary D. Leatherman, President

David J. Dolezal, Vice President

David Abbott, Member

ATTESTED:

Tonya L. Marks, Auditor