

## **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 3:45 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Kevin Kroft absent, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

### **IN RE: E.M.S.**

Mary Lynn Ritchie with EMS reported \$273.50 & \$82.00 in small claims & \$352.49 in collections. The uncollectible elderly & deceased write offs were \$2,298.60. Mark Milo moved to approve, Kent Danford seconded and it passed with two ayes.

Randy Abbey, EMS director, reported that there was \$17,250 damage done to an ambulance and that the insurance company has decided to total it. Randy found a 1995 ambulance in New York that only has 45,000 miles on it and has just been taken out of use, for \$15,000. The commissioners asked him to look into it.

Mark Milo moved to approve Dr. Bartush & Dr Hasan as Co-Medical Directors for EMS. Kent Danford seconded and it passed with two ayes.

Randy told the commissioners that Starke County was added to the “disaster” list for individual assistance. He gave the commissioners information regarding this.

Randy said that \$65,380 will be submitted to FEMA for damages due to flooding.

### **IN RE: HIGHWAY**

There were several items not returned to the highway department after the death of the superintendent. As per State Board of Accounts and the county’s insurance company, a police report had to be filed, allowing a claim to be submitted to the insurance company.

There are several roads still closed due to flooding. Ten roads are closed and 15 more have high water signs.

The proposals for limestone were as follows:

Heise Trucking \$8.90/ton  
Schacht Farms \$6.25/ton  
Donald Sinn \$8.75/ton  
Brad Craig Trucking \$6.50/ton  
Morris Motor Service \$6.00/ton

Mark Milo moved to take the proposals under advisement, seconded by Kent Danford with two ayes.

Some parts were received for the pug mill. They got it put together, but needed to purchase a conveyor for it. Someone will need to go to Fort Wayne to pick that up.

### **IN RE: SYSCO & HAMLET INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE**

Van Janovic said there have been several prospective bidders interested in the water line and sewer line, but only two requests for the water tower specifications. Van said there are only a couple of companies that do water towers.

### **IN RE: COURTHOUSE ELEVATOR**

Carl Goodrich, Courthouse Custodian, told the commissioners that there was a lady in a wheelchair that did not use the elevator at the courthouse because she could not get the door open. She thought the elevator was shut off, but the door actually does not open if the elevator is on the other floor. The judge told her that they had been experiencing difficulty with the elevators. Carl said no one has reported any problems with the elevator to him and an elevator company who we contract to do that checks the elevator once a month. The commissioners would like a letter sent out stating if there are any problems with the elevator, Carl or the commissioners need to be contacted.

### **IN RE: BASS LAKE EASEMENT**

Leon Kipp appeared with attorney, Steve Dodge, again regarding the Zapfe property land between CR210 and the lake itself. He asked the commissioners to acknowledge a deed that the commissioners' attorney said had no force and effect, in order to enforce the restrictions on it. The commissioners requested that Martin Bedrock review the information Steve Dodge had on this and report back to them. Mark Milo made this motion and Kent Danford seconded it, with two ayes.

### **IN RE: BASS LAKE BEACH**

Rich Wieczorek & Jennie Carter reported on the open house at the beach. They asked if it needed to be advertised that the beach is "for lease". One proposal was submitted from Callahan Co., LLC. Brian Callahan spoke to the commissioners on behalf of the company.

Mark Milo moved to lease the Bass Lake Beach and Campground to Callahan Co., LLC, seconded by Kent Danford, with two ayes.

### **IN RE: COURTROOM SPEAKERS**

Judge Kim Hall requested approval for courtroom speakers above the jury boxes, to be funded through the Cumulative Capital Fund. He said he had received a quote for approximately \$1,800. Mark Milo moved to approve this, seconded by Kent Danford, with two ayes.

### **IN RE: COURTHOUSE SECURITY**

It was discussed that there needs to be a full time security guard at the courthouse to make sure everyone is safe and that the courthouse has been vacated if need be. The commissioners would like the department heads to be responsible for making sure the building is vacated.

### **IN RE: DOG ORDINANCE**

Elizabeth Chalifoux wanted to know the status of the dog ordinance. She told the commissioners that the state laws were not being upheld. She wants an ordinance passed for the dogs that have killed several of her animals. The prosecutor said she does not feel it is her job to enforce ordinances; it is her job to prosecute crimes. This was discussed at length and then it was decided that the prosecutor will talk to the sheriff to see how the two offices can work together. One suggestion about dog attack police reports, was to allow the Animal Control Officer to issue tickets to the owners of the offending dogs.

### **IN RE: STAIRS LEADING TO THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**

Julianne Havens, Starke County Prosecutor, brought pictures in of the stairs at the jail that lead to the prosecutor's office. She would like some signage put up warning people of the dangers. Mark Milo moved to declare this an emergency, seconded by Kent Danford, with two ayes.

### **IN RE: FIRE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

ERS submitted a study for the Starke County Fire Communications System (on file in Auditor's office). There was discussion between ERS and the Washington Township Firemen regarding fixing the communication problems.

**IN RE: ENVIRONMENTAL RESTRICTIVE COVENANT**

Scott Liggett with Superior Environmental submitted an Environmental Restrictive Covenant. If the state approves it, the covenant gets attached to the deed to the Highway Garage property. Mark Milo moved to sign the covenant, seconded by Kent Danford, with two ayes.

In the absence of the Commissioners' President, Kent Danford signed the covenant as Vice-President to the board.

**IN RE: CLAIMS, PAYROLL, AND MINUTES**

Kent Danford moved to approve claims and payroll, seconded by Mark Milo, with two ayes.

Kent Danford moved to approve the February 18<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Mark Milo, with two ayes.

There being no further business to come before the board Mark Milo moved to adjourn, seconded by Kent Danford, with two ayes.

<u>ABSENT</u>	
Kevin Kroft, President	Kent Danford, Vice President
Mark Milo, Member	Michaelene J Houston, Auditor