

May 6, 2011

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session at 11:30am in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: BRIDGE 156 PROJECT

Steve Siddall, County Highway Department Superintendent, appeared before the Board. A discussion followed regarding the bridge repair and if the bridge is on the State's list of historical bridges. Commissioner Norem stated she sees the process for the bridge repair as:

1. Declare the bridge repair to be an emergency.
2. Hire a consultant.
3. Apply for the DNR permit.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to declare the repair to Bridge # 156 an emergency situation. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. Marty Lucas stated it wasn't that there was a lack of planning, but just that the county's plan failed. Beam, Longest, & Neff had been hired to start the federal process. Steve urged the Board to hire someone else to do the engineering on the bridge project. Federal funding can't be transferred from one project to another, if it is decided that the county does not go with the federal grant. Commissioner Norem stated that Beam, Longest, & Neff would have to be paid for the work they completed. A discussion followed regarding who should complete the next step, which engineering company. Three companies were considered for the engineering work: Lee Nagai's, Heritage Engineering and Butler, Fairman & Seufert. Commissioner Norem made a motion to retain butler for Bridge 156. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. Ken Minett, from B, F & S advised he would do the consulting work and complete the DNR approval process. The Board agreed to review the project after the response from the DNR. Commissioner Bridegroom noted for the record, that Lee Nagai is to receive consideration for the bridge construction since he has been most helpful to the county. The Board decided it would be premature to order materials for the bridge. Bridges 9 & 62 are officially on hold for now.

IN RE: ANNEX BUILDING CARPETING

James Coad appeared before the Board with estimates from Fletcher's Carpet on the replacement of carpet in the Assessor/Treasurer's Office & the meeting room. The proposal for carpet replacement is \$ 6,232.97 while the quote for replacing the carpeting with carpet tiles for those rooms is \$8,093.80. A discussion followed regarding the timeframe for completing the work, Community Corrections assisting in moving the office furniture, and that only the Assessor/Treasurer's office was on emergency repair. Commissioner Norem stated that Judge Jeanene Calabrese's court room carpeting also needs to be replaced. In addition to being carpeting that was installed in the 70's, it also has bubbles and waves where it is coming up and could also be a tripping hazard. Commissioner Davis made a motion to accept the quote from Fletcher's Carpet for carpet tile and installation in the Assessor/Treasurer's office only. Commissioner Norem stated she would not second the motion. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed. Jim then stated that only 7 of the 22 security light bulbs are working in the Annex Building, and need to be replaced. They advised Jim to bring it to the next meeting and also contact the same company that checks the fire alarm equipment at the jail, to check out the equipment at the Annex building.

Commissioner Bridegroom stated that the Callahans at Bass Lake should be ready for a walk through next week.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the draft of the minutes from the April 18th meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bridegroom. The motion passed and the draft of the minutes was signed.

A discussion was held regarding the hiring process in Starke County. Commissioner Bridegroom stated they need to address the issue of nepotism in the hiring of employees.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norem. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm.

May 6, 2011

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

Jennifer Davis

Katherine Chaffins, Starke County
Auditor & Secretary to the Commissioners