

June 16th, 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 Kent Danford absent, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY GRANT

Sheriff Cowen submitted an approved \$398,247 federal grant for equipment and technology. The commissioners asked him to let them know when the money comes in.

IN RE: MINUTES, CLAIMS & PAYROLL

Mark Milo moved to approve the May 19th minutes, seconded by Kevin Kroft with two ayes.

Mark Milo moved to approve the June 2nd minutes, seconded by Kevin Kroft with two ayes.

Mark Milo moved to approve the payroll, seconded by Kevin Kroft with two ayes.

Mark Milo moved to approve the claims, seconded by Kevin Kroft with two ayes.

IN RE: BASS LAKE BEACH

The commissioners received proof of insurance from Callahan Co., LLC for the beach. The commissioners should be named as additional insured. Mark Milo moved to have Martin Bedrock, County Attorney, check the contract and have Callahan add the county. Kevin Kroft seconded the motion and it passed with two ayes.

IN RE: CONTRACT RENEWAL

The company that accepts the county's credit card payments has changed names. Mark Milo moved to approve the new contract under the name of AME Group. Kevin Kroft seconded the motion and it passed with two ayes.

IN RE: EMPLOYEE DRUG TESTING

Mike Williams with Indiana Testing submitted information regarding drug & alcohol testing for county highway department and sheriff's department employees, or any employee who drives a county vehicle. It would be \$45 for DOT testing, \$42 for Non DOT testing & \$35 for random testing.

IN RE: INDOT & IDEM

Michael McPhillips with INDOT, Michael Aylesworth with IDEM & Ron McAhron with the DNR all appeared before the commissioners as part of the annual outreach to allow the commissioners to voice any concerns or ask any questions and to fill the commissioners in on what the DNR & INDOT are doing. The commissioners asked what could be done about the Yellow River. Mr. McAhron said it probably needs to be dredged, as there is sediment build up. He also said the KRBC needs to become more active in this.

Mark Milo said we are losing beach area into the lake. The county would like to reclaim this and they are trying to get a permit from the DNR for this.

Mark also asked if the Indiana State Road 8 & US 35 intersection was going to be widened and when. County officials were under the impression that this was an “urgent project” about a year ago. Mr. McPhillips said he would look into it.

IN RE: E.R.S.

Phil Kile with ERS submitted three quotes regarding the communication problems between the “emergency” agencies. (On file in Auditor’s office)

Mark Milo moved to execute the repairs at \$8,457.60, seconded by Kevin Kroft subject to council approval of funds. It passed with two ayes. The commissioners want all three advertised for an additional out of the E-911 fund.

IN RE: PROBATION DEPT. COPY MACHINE

Eric Fritz, County Chief Probation Officer, requested approval for a new copier lease contract with IKON. It is a savings of over \$92 a month and will be paid from the same line as the previous contract. Mark Milo moved to approve, seconded by Kevin Kroft, with two ayes.

IN RE: PLANNING COMMISSION EMPLOYEE VACATIONS

Bruce Williams told the commissioners that his clerk, Pam will be on vacation, but the county floater will be busy in the treasurer’s office for taxes. The commissioners told him to post something immediately, stating that there will not be definite hours in that office that week. They also want him to post his county cell phone number so that when he has to be out of the office, people can call him. They also want the county floater to be in the Planning Commission for a few hours two days that week.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

John Norris, Interim Highway Superintendent, reported that he met with FEMA and it looks like the Toto Road project is approved. He said he will know more tomorrow.

On the 24th of June, they are planning to run pug. Eight miles will take 180,000 gallons of oil totaling \$244,980. Some wedging will have to be done.

Mark Milo said that his wife commented that whoever mowed their road did a great job.

IN RE: JAIL BASEMENT OSHA COMPLIANCE

Kent Danford reported through Mark Milo that the asbestos checks are all in the “OK” category.

IN RE: N.I.P.S.C.O. DAMAGES

Martin Bedrock talked to Gary King with NIPSCO and told him that NIPSCO had marked in error. He is planning to get in touch with the lady who originally sent the claim to verify it was mismarked. Gary’s documentation said it was “probably mismarked”. Martin asked what NIPSCO would settle for and Gary said he wasn’t authorized to make that decision. Martin asked the commissioners what they would be willing to give to settle it. Mark Milo moved to approve an offer of half of the claim, seconded by Kevin Kroft with two ayes.

IN RE: FLOOD PLAIN

Martin talked to the woman regarding the flood plain and she said we have to have the Flood Plain Insurance. Violations to the flood plain resolution could result in fines from \$0-\$1,000. Bruce Williams, Planning Commission Director, would be in charge and the commissioners would have to pass an ordinance. The ordinance, per the state, has to be passed by June 30, 2008. Martin made the necessary changes to adapt to Starke County. Mark Milo moved to approve, seconded by Kevin Kroft with two ayes.

IN RE: COUNTY EMPLOYEE PARKING

The commissioners would like a memo sent to the county employees telling them they would appreciate the employees not parking on the south side of the courthouse to allow parking for the businesses located across from the courthouse as senior citizens have a hard time getting into the businesses. This is a request and is not mandatory.

There being no further business to come before the board at this time, the commissioners, Mark Milo moved to adjourn, seconded by Kevin Kroft, with two ayes.

Kevin Kroft, President

ABSENT
Kent Danford, Vice President

Mark Milo, Member

Michaelene J Houston, Auditor