

MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 6:00PM in the Annex Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Kathy Norem and Donald Binkley present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Vice-President Don Binkley at 6:30PM. Commissioner President Kent Danford was absent.

BRIDGE 78, BIDS OPENING

County Attorney Marty Lucas opened and read the Bridge 78 bids that were received.

JCI Bridge Group, LaPorte, IN: \$332,303.80

Northern Indiana Construction, Mishawaka, IN: \$ 282,863.50

Reith Riley, Gary, IN: \$ 485,934.50

LaPorte Construction, LaPorte, IN: \$ 283,302.00

Highway Superintendent, Rik Ritzler, advised the two lower bids that were received were \$35,000.00 lower than the engineer estimates for that bridge. He will take his committee and review the bids and get back to the Board prior to the end of the meeting.

FIBER CABLE PRICE QUOTES REVIEWED

IT Director, Brian Pinson, appeared before the Board to discuss the two price quotes he had received for fiber cable. He advised the price quotes were from CenturyLink and Mediacom. He stated there was a vast difference between the two quotes as CenturyLink would only be bringing the cable to the road and then a third party would need to run the cable up to the server room. Mediacom however will run the cable directly to the server room. He advised both companies were comparing the monthly price of the same product so it was easier to compare the costs. He noted Mediacom had the best pricing with a \$10,000.00 cost to install the cable and then a monthly fee of \$1,050.00. He stated he currently is paying \$600.00 for internet service which will be replaced by the \$1,050.00. Director Pinson stated the agreement is for 60 months and at the end of that they could go elsewhere for the service. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the agreement as long as Attorney Lucas approves the contract for the Mediacom Service. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem advised the \$10,000.00 fee could be paid from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and the IT Director advised he is currently paying for the internet fee out of his County General Fund Budget.

AUDITOR'S BUSINESS: MINUTES, PAYROLL CLAIM, VENDOR CLAIMS

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the payment of the Weaver Consultants Group invoice in the amount of \$ 1,301.88 for the last inspection and testing of gas leaks at the old County landfill. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 5th meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the payroll claim for the pay period ending on July 2nd, with a pay date of July 8th, in the total gross amount of \$ 214,851.48. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. In regard to the vendor claims docket, Commissioner Norem stated they would drop the invoice for the purchase of the 2016 Jeep from Grieger Motors in the amount of \$ 23,115.00 but it would be replaced by an invoice from Cambe Chevrolet for the purchase of a 2016 Equinox in the amount of \$23,414.78. The gross total amount of the claims docket was \$250,238.65. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley noted Starke County Community Corrections was buying the vehicle out right without a trade-in. Commissioner Norem noted the purpose of changing the purchase was to buy locally whenever possible. The new invoice was within the 10% allowed by the Board in order to purchase within the county.

APPROVAL OF BRIDGE BID

Highway Superintendent Rik Ritzler returned to the Board and advised they had reviewed the bids received and they were all in order. He noted there was only a difference of \$438.50 between the two lowest bids. He advised the lowest bid was received by Northern Indiana Construction, Mishawaka, IN, for Bridge 78 located on CR250W just south of Toto Road in the total amount of \$282,863.50. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve Northern Indiana Construction Company's bid for Bridge 78, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

A Campground Inspection Report from the Indiana State Department of Health and a memo from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management were presented to the Board for their review. Both reports were inspecting the Bass Lake Beach and they have until the end of the month to repair the items listed. Commissioner Norem stated they were duly noted. She also advised Commissioner Binkley and herself had attended the last annual meeting of the Bass Lake Property Owner's meeting which was held on the 2nd Saturday of the month of July. She advised she was given a picture booklet of what they would like the Bass Lake Beach to look like. She noted the booklet was pictures of the Silver Beach in Michigan. Debbie Mix of the County's Park Board was in attendance for the Commissioner meeting and noted at their last Park Board meeting someone had stated they would like six 10 mph signs be posted within the Beach and Campground. Commissioner Norem stated they would need to contact the Highway Department. Ms. Mix also stated the Beach has some ash trees that have beetles and they would like those trees removed. Commissioner Norem also stated they should talk to the Highway Department about the tree removal. There would be a cost for the tree removal but she noted the County pays less to the Highway Department than they would to any other tree removal company.

Commissioner Norem reminded the Park Board that KIRPC has a grant available to help the Park Board create a 5 Year Plan. There would be a small County Match which they would contribute. Attorney Lucas stated the Park Board would need to make a motion at their meeting to move ahead with this grant. Attorney Lucas also noted there has some discussion in regard to the removal of the fence at the Bass Lake Beach. He stated it doesn't make sense to remove the fence. There is a purpose

as to why a fence was installed. Ms. Mix stated they have Chris Lawrence of the Park Board working on the 5 Year Plan. Commissioner Norem stated if the Park Board choses they could have Edwin from KIRPC attend the next Commissioner Board Meeting to get them started on that project.

Commissioner Norem noted she had received a phone call from a lady who advised she had a family member who needed the services of the County's EMS last weekend. The lady advised she was very appreciative of the services and attitude of the EMS Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kenny Wallace inquired if the building at Bass Lake Beach that is closed off and marked as dangerous would be torn down any time soon. Ms. Mix stated she believed it will be.

There being no further public comment and no further business, Commissioner Norem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:05PM.

JULY 18, 2016

ABSENT _____
Kent Danford, President

Donald Binkley, Vice President

Kathy Norem

Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners