

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015

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 Kent Danford, Kathy Norem and Donald Binkley present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

Due to the County Council meeting running late, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner President Kent Danford, at 7:28PM.

RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PRICE QUOTES; TOTO ROAD DRAINAGE ISSUE

Superintendent Rik Ritzler advised he had prepared a spreadsheet of the price quotes received in regard to the purchase of a loader but at the last minute he had received an additional price quote that he would like to review prior to presenting them all to the Board. Commissioner Norem made a motion to table the price quotes discussion, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes. President Danford then addressed the issue of the drainage problem on Toto Road, just east of CR200E. He advised the problem with the drainage is off the roadway access. Commissioner Norem stated she believed the issue is a Drainage Board concern, and the Drainage Board would guide the installation of the culverts. In a previous year the Highway Department had provided some used culverts to be used in that same situation but presently the Highway Department does not have any used culverts. President Danford noted it is out of the Commissioners' right away. Commissioner Norem stated there was a possibility the Drainage Board would pay for the installation of the culverts from their Ditch Maintenance Fund, but would not purchase any culverts for that location. They advised Steve Dodge of the next Drainage Board meeting believed to be scheduled in December.

RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY ORDINANCES

County Attorney Marty Lucas advised of the 2nd reading of the two newly revised County Ordinances: Starke County Commissioners Ordinance 2015-1116, Drug Free Workplace; and Starke County Commissioners Ordinance 2015-1116A, Fair Housing Practices. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the adoption of both ordinances 2015-1116 and 2015-1116A. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. He advised the Public Hearing for the proposed Starke County Commissioners Ordinance 2015-12-7, Jail: Convicted Inmate Reimbursement of Costs of Incarceration will be held at the December 7th meeting. He noted the ordinance does not pertain to indigent inmates and does only apply to convicted inmates. Auditor Chaffins was asked to have the two newly adopted ordinances posted on the County's website.

Auditor Chaffins advised both Sheriff Dulin and IT Director Pinson had not been ready with their documentation in time for the meeting as per the posted agenda. Commissioner Norem made a motion to table both issues until their next meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

RE: RENEWAL OF COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE

Debbie Rykovich and Holly Horan from 1st Source Insurance appeared before the Board to discuss the renewal rates for the County's health insurance policy. They advised the proposed rate increase from Anthem was at 9.62% but they were able to negotiate a \$70,000.00 premium credit which would reduce the renewal rate to 3.79%. They noted in the industry that renewal rate is unheard of. The insurance representatives advised the dental insurance premium will remain the same but the vision coverage premium will increase by 50 cents per employee. They also noted they had asked for other company quotes but Aetna had refused to quote it. They also advised Anthem has just purchased the CIGNA Insurance Group so the field was shrinking in regard to obtaining quotes from other companies. Commissioner Norem made a motion, stating as long as the State would not have better coverage and costs, to approve the renewal of Anthem Health Insurance as the County's provider. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. Auditor Chaffins inquired if the cost for the employees would stay the same at 15% for employee only and 22% for the three other coverages; and was advised they would remain the same for 2016.

RE: REQUEST FROM COUNTY RECORDER

Recorder Lisa Minix appeared before the Board in regard to her vendor FIDLAR returning to work in her office. She advised now they will be scanning in the microfiche files and would like to have the capability to work 24/7. Commissioner Norem advised she had discussed this issue with Marshall County Commissioner Kevin Overmyer and he noted they have allowed this in Marshall County and never had any problems with it. Recorder Minix was advised to submit a list of names to the Maintenance Director, Jim Coad, as to who will have access to the building after hours and those will be the only ones to be given keys. Recorder Minix stated if the Commissioners do not allow the after hour work it would cost her department an additional \$3,500.00 to complete the work. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

RE: CORONER RADIO REQUEST

Coroner Danny Hoffer appeared before the Board to discuss his request for a radio. He stated in response to a comment from EMA Director Lippner that there are other counties in District 2 whose Coroner does not use an 800Mhz radio that St. Joe County still uses VHF since it would be too costly to convert all their radios over to 800Mhz, and Elkhart County doesn't want an 800Mhz radio. Commissioner Binkley inquired as to why the Coroner would have a need for an 800Mhz radio. Coroner Hoffer advised currently he receives his coroner call via his cell phone but if the cell phones go down he would need a radio. Also there is a need for his calls to be logged in with the specific times in the event the case would go to court. Commissioner Norem stated she is more comfortable with the Coroner having an 800Mzh radio in the Coroner's vehicle and not a handheld radio, and made a motion stating such. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem suggested purchasing the radio out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. The Coroner stated he had spoken with Officer Kenny Pfof who will be installing the radio in the vehicle. Commissioner Norem stated they want the Coroner to have the tools to do his job and noted EMA Director Jacob Lippner will need to order the radio and obtain the proper license. Coroner Hoffer advised he currently has a VHF radio from one of the local fire departments but the VHF radios are not monitored by Dispatch. Sheriff Bill Dulin, who was in attendance at the meeting, stated he was contacting Dispatch to verify that they do monitor VHF calls. He also stated he has a concern with who will be using the radio as there is a need for the correct radio etiquette as it will need to be valid through the FCC. The Coroner stated he would like to be advised of the correct verbiage. Coroner Hoffer stated "if they are going to monitor the VHF (frequency) I don't have a problem with the VHF (radio)". The Sheriff advised the call will be documented/logged through Dispatch. Commissioner Norem then rescinded her motion for the purchase of a mobile 800Mhz radio and made a motion to approve the purchase of a handheld VHF radio, and have the Coroner return after 60 days to advise how the radio is working. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Sheriff Dulin advised the Coroner that it is the Sheriff's Department who would call for an accident reconstruction and not the Coroner. Coroner Hoffer stated he was aware of that. Coroner Hoffer stated he was notified that evening that the hospital will not have a morgue in its new facility. Commissioner Norem stated his office will continue being in the garage area of the old County Jail.

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

President Danford advised they were presented a Claims Docket in the amount of \$9,458.46. Commissioner Norem noted the claims were for inmate medical claims and the information requested from the nursing company had not yet been provided. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the claims docket. The motion failed due to the lack of a second. President Danford advised he was not familiar with the issue in order for him to second the motion. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the vendor claims docket in the total amount of \$323,707.13. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the payroll claims docket for the payroll period ending on November 7th, with a pay date of November 13th, in the total gross amount of \$202,035.17. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 5th meeting, seconded by Commissioner Danford. The motion passed with two ayes. (Commissioner Norem was absent from that meeting.) Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the minutes of

the November 2nd meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norem. The motion passed with all ayes.

Auditor Chaffins stated she had provided price quotes for the replacement of the large copier/scanner/fax in the Auditor's Department, noting the present copier will soon be nine years old and they are beginning to experience issues with its performance. She noted her first choice would be the HP Bizhub227, with the PC113 cabinet for the amount of \$4,267.00.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the purchase of the new Bizhub227 copier and PC113 cabinet. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem advised the purchase should be from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

Attorney Lucas advised he has some questions with the proposed DLZ Agreement in regard to the remodeling of the County Courthouse and the former Jail Building. Commissioner Norem made a motion to table the issue until their next meeting so DLZ can be contacted.

Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Auditor Chaffins noted they have been experiencing a couple of incidents when workers compensation claims have not been reported on time. She advised the issue will be addressed by the Safety Committee at their meeting on November 19th. She noted the County has received a letter from the W/C Insurance Company stressing that any injury needs to be reported within five days. Attorney Lucas noted the problem is that some injuries don't always appear to be a claim when it occurs.

Following Attorney Lucas' recommendation, Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the Weaver Boos proposed agreement for monitoring at the old County Landfill site in 2016.

Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem noted they have seen some major progress at the landfill site.

In regard to filling the vacancy on the BZA Board which requires a political balance, Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the appointment of Don White to fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Nathan Marcum. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

The new Extension Officer, Julie Miller, appeared before the Board requesting approval of the 2016 Agreement with Purdue University. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

The Board reviewed the Performance Evaluation of Wallace Williams which was conducted by Health Department Head, Frank Lynch. Commissioner Norem made a motion, pending the Health Board approval, the employee could move ahead to the next pay increase. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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 8:39PM.

NOVEMBER 16, 2015

Kent Danford, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice President

Donald Binkley

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