

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY
THE COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

November 30, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in **special** session at 11:00 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, Mark Milo was not present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

INSURANCE MEETING WITH THE HEALY GROUP

IN RE: ATTENDANCE

Those present were commissioners Dan Bridegroom and Kathy Norem; Dona Hoban, Auditor pro tem; and Charlie Bushkill and Tony Nyers with the Healy Group.

IN RE: INSURANCE

Renewal rates for 2010 were discussed. Kathy Norem stated that the commissioners will make a decision on insurance by their December 21st, 2009, commissioner meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

NOT PRESENT

Mark Milo, Member

Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem

December 4, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in **executive** session at 9:25 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

I, Dona M. Hoban, Deputy Auditor and Auditor Pro Tem, do hereby certify that nothing other than personnel was discussed.

Witness my hand this 4th day of December, 2009.

Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem

December 4, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in **special** session at 10:15 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: ATTENDANCE

Those in attendance were commissioners Dan Bridegroom, Kathy Norem and Mark Milo; Dona Hoban, Deputy Auditor and Auditor Pro Tem; Martin Lucas, County Attorney; and Brian Liechty and Dan Hovanec.

IN RE: INSURANCE

The Starke County Commissioners met with Brian Liechty of T.C.U. Insurance and Dan Hovanec from Business Distribution Systems to discuss renewal rates for the county insurance for 2010

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

Mark Milo, Member

Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

December 7, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: MINUTES

Kathy Norem moved to approve the minutes of the November 11th and November 16th, 2009, meetings seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes.

IN RE: VENDOR AND PAYROLL CLAIMS

Kathy Norem moved to approve the payroll claims seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes (MM with reservations).

Kathy Norem had a question about the \$800 plus that was invoiced for highway shirts. Per the I.R.S. this is considered income. There was much discussion between the commissioners and attorney Martin Lucas. Kathy Norem moved to pay this claim and approve all the claims seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes. Martin Lucas advised that they need to draft a resolution to cover this decision.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

Steve Siddall asked the commissioners to approve Kyle Radtke as a new employee of the highway department with a starting date of 12-8-09. Mark Milo moved to approve seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

Steve informed the commissioners that Jim Coldiron will be off on F.M.L.A. for 10 to 12 weeks for open heart surgery beginning 12-9-09.

Steve told the commissioners that Starke County Community Corrections has requested a key to the gate for the gas pumps. The commissioners authorized this and Mark Milo advised them to notify the sheriff and E.M.S. regarding their two cars that will be using the key.

Steve also informed the commissioners that he has been unable to obtain a V.I.N. from the sheriff's department for their inventory. Kathy Norem stated that she will take care of this.

NOTE: Later in the meeting Sheriff Oscar Cowen came in and stated that he would take care of this.

Steve stated that the LaPorte Highway Department is buying a paint striping truck. Bob Young told Steve that they would be willing to let Starke County use the truck at no charge. We would supply our own paint and any leftover will be given to LaPorte. Steve and Bob Young will have a meeting at a later date and one of the commissioners will attend with him. Mark Milo stated he has a company interested in submitting a quote to us for a paint striping truck and will send it to the highway.

Steve informed the commissioners that all stop signs must be changed to high intensity by 2013. They are replacing them now as needed with the new ones. All information signs must be high intensity by 2015. The radios will change from wide band to narrow by 2013.

IN RE: BASS LAKE MANHOLES

Clyde Haniford asked Steve Siddall what they are doing about the manholes at CR 625 and CR 210. Steve told Mr. Haniford that he needed to call the sewer district as the highway did not do that work.

IN RE: E.M.S./E.M.A.

Mary Lynn Ritchie presented the delinquent writes offs for \$4079.05 and \$964.29. Kathy Norem moved to approve seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

Kathy Norem advised Randy Abbey, in regard to the E.M.S. committee forming with the Starke County and LaPorte Hospitals along with the fire and police, that she would like Lisa Kaiser to participate from the E.M.S. with Randy.

IN RE: REASSESSMENT CONTRACTS

Rhonda Milner, County Assessor, presented the annual D.L.G.F. maintenance and adjustment contracts that need to be signed by the commissioners. County Attorney Martin Lucas had already approved the contracts. Kathy Norem moved to sign the contracts seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

IN RE: STARKE COUNTY LANDFILL

Sammy Sirhan and Lisa Doan from Superior Environmental appeared before the commissioners regarding the Starke County Landfill. Mr. Sirhan advised the commissioners that he recommends closures of the landfill within the next two years before I.D.E.M. imposes any more restrictions, etc. and the commissioners agreed.

County Attorney Martin Lucas had talked to the attorney of the present landowner who refuses any inspection of the landfill property that he now owns.

They want a written plan submitted from Superior Environmental. The county is committed but the owner refuses cooperation. Mr. Sirhan is to send a letter within the next 15 days to I.D.E.M. with copies to the landowner, his attorney, Martin Lucas and the commissioners.

IN RE: OREGON TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANT REQUEST

Edwin Buswell and Mark Allen appeared for the Oregon Twp. fire department. They are requesting commissioner support and approval to sponsor a grant for a new fire truck at no expense to the county. It would be a community focus fund grant of \$150,000. The county can have three grants open at one time and the planning grant will be one of the three along with the fire truck grant.

IN RE: KOONTZ LAKE REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

Kenny Jones with Whitman Petry appeared before the commissioners requesting approval of the P.U.D. for the K.L.R.S.D. He had submitted all the information to the commissioners prior to the meeting.

Mr. Jones had attended a meeting with the Planning Commission. He explained the details of the clean water plant plans at 1175 E on a 4.99 acre parcel that they they have an option to purchase submitted on. He asked the commissioners to approve the P.U.D. vs changing zoning.

He also addressed concerns that were presented at the Planning Commission meeting in November.

Martin Lucas, Starke County Attorney, was concerned as well as Kathy Norem with P.U.D. vs straight rezoning that would set future present.

Jim Klevenger appeared on behalf of the K.L.R.S.D. and Steve Dodge for the Planning Commission. There was much discussion from the public disagreeing with the site chosen for various reasons. Many people spoke for and against this site and what they feel is happening without notifying the public of changes or of public meeting dates.

Mark Milo stated that the decision to build this sewage treatment plan was over three years ago and that the public meetings were held then. The issue today is whether or not to approve the P.U.D. vs rezoning. He understands that there are pros and cons, but that is not the issue before the board today.

Dan Bridegroom moved to approve the P.U.D. along with the Starke County Planning Commission's recommendations as presented except for the driveway is not to be paved seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

The commissioners feel that any future P.U.D.s will be reviewed and scrutinized individually.

IN RE: COUNTY DOG PROBLEM

Sheriff Oscar Cowen appeared before the commissioners regarding the dog problem. Mark Milo stated that he continually gets calls from residents telling him that the sheriff's department tell them to call the commissioners and that they have no authority where dogs are running loose and barking 24/7. The sheriff further stated that the prosecutor refuses to follow up on citations issued. They feel that the statutes are for livestock not dog problems. Kathy Norem or Dan Bridegroom will speak to Julianne Havens, Prosecutor, about this issue. An ordinance was before the commissioners in past years and died for lack of support.

IN RE: SHERIFF'S REQUEST FOR KEYS TO ANNEX AND COURTHOUSE

Sheriff Cowen had asked the commissioners for keys to the annex and the courthouse in case of an emergency when court is in session after 4 pm or a need arises again to have access for placement of prisoners for a short time if evacuation of the jail is needed until transport is available. Kathy Norem moved to give the keys to the sheriff seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

IN RE: SHERIFF VEHICLE I.D. FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Cowen informed the commissioners that all V.I.N. numbers for current vehicles need to be provided to the highway department for the new software system that tracks repairs of all county vehicles. He will take care of this.

IN RE: DOG KENNEL ORDINANCE

Bruce Williams appeared to present a dog kennel ordinance. The commissioners have problems with the ordinance for the following reasons:

1. No definition of dog kennel
2. Kennel management
3. Hobby breeder vs commercial breeder vs puppy mill
4. Type and size of fence
5. Type and size of dog for different kennels
6. Who the authoritative source would be
7. Maximum number of dogs in or out of the kennel
8. Temperature control
9. Who will perform inspections
10. Who will enforce the ordinance
11. Why they don't just follow House Bill 1468
12. Noise issues need to be addressed

Mark Milo moved to table the decision until further consideration by the planning commission seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

IN RE: TWO-MILE CITY JURISDICTION

Bruce Williams, Planning Commission Director, stated that he gets calls about problems within the two-mile jurisdiction between the city limits and the county. He gets complaints that the city tells the complainants that the city can't help them. Dan Bridegroom will contact Greg Matt, City Planning Director, about the problem.

IN RE: TRINITY SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITIES

Dan Bridegroom advised the rest of the board that Trinity Senior Living Communities, who own the former Our Lady of Holy Cross Nursing Center in San Pierre, has sent a letter that they will begin deconstructing the building shortly and the new one will be completed during the first quarter of 2010. They wanted to advise the board that they will still allow access to the water town for the San Pierre Fire Department but are looking into finding a long term solution for that access.

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

Dan stated that the antenna for the E.M.S./Fire located on top of the building must be moved, possibly to the water tower. The commissioners are concerned who will be responsible for maintenance on the water tower and pump station.

IN RE: COMMISSIONER OFFICE HOURS

The commissioners discussed office hours on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. The consensus was to cancel the 4 pm hours as no one comes at that time. This month Dan will do the 9 am session on December 9th and the session on the 23rd will be cancelled. Hours will resume in January, 2010, but both Wednesday sessions will be at 9 am with no afternoon hours.

IN RE: JOINT COMMISSIONER/COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mark Milo made the suggestion that the council attend one commissioner meeting a month in 2010 as the commissioners attended one council meeting a month in 2009. Kathy Norem and Dan Bridegroom both agreed.

IN RE: COMPLAINT ABOUT PURCHASING PROPERTY AT A COMMISSIONERS' SALE

William Julian appeared to complain that he has been trying to buy commissioner property since 1995. (The property in question was not in the commissioners' name until 1999.) He stated that no one in the auditor's office knows the tax sale dates, nor does the treasurer's office. Mark Milo advised Mr. Julian that he knows the auditor and the treasurer both know the dates. Mr. Julian also complained that he can't get advertisements of the tax sales as they only appear in the Knox Leader. Kathy Norem advised him that she knows they sell the Leader at the store in Koontz Lake. Mr. Julian was instructed to call the auditor's office in January for the commissioners' sale date, which will probably be in March of 2010.

There being no further business to come before the board, Kathy Norem moved to adjourn seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

Mark Milo, Member

Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem

December 16, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in **special** session at 10:50 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Mark Milo no present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE

Commissioners Kathy Norem and Dan Bridegroom along with Dona Hoban, Deputy Auditor, met with Brian Liechty of T.C.U. Insurance.

Brian gave the commissioners the final figures for the Consumer's Life and Anthem, along with information on changes they were interested in making for 2010. Brian was advised that the commissioners will make a decision at their meeting on 12-21-09.

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

Mark Milo, Member

Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem