

December 30th, 2010

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in executive session at 9:30 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order.

I, Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor of Starke County, do hereby certify that nothing was discussed other than what was posted pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1

Witness my hand this 30th day of December, 2010.

Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor

January 3, 2011

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 Dan Bridegroom, Kathy Norem, and Jennifer Davis present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: PAYROLL CLAIMS

The meeting was called to order at 9 am. The payroll docket dated 12/31/2010 in the amount of \$ 190,396.33 and the payroll docket dated 12/31/2010 in the amount of \$ 10,820.80 were presented for approval. It was explained by Mr. Bridegroom that there had been an error on the processing of the Highway Dept. pay claim and that is why there were two different dockets. It examination of the payroll, it was noted that a couple of the jail officers were over the \$ 2000.00 mark, and that they will check with the jail. Kathy Norem made the motion to approve the payroll docket claims and Jennifer Davis seconded the motion. The approval passed with three ayes.

IN RE: MINUTES

Kathy Norem moved to approve the draft of the minutes of the December 20, 2010 and the December 30, 2010 meeting, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with two ayes. Kathy Norem moved to approve the official minutes of the December 6, 2010 and December 10, 2010, seconded by Jennifer Davis, passing with two ayes.

IN RE: REORGANIZATION OF BOARD

Jennifer Davis made the motion of the officers of the Board of Commissioners to stay the same: Dan Bridegroom, President; Kathy Norem, Vice-President and Jennifer Davis, Member. Dan Bridegroom seconded the motion. The vote was two ayes and one no. Kathy Norem voted no.

The Commissioners appointed Board Members for 2011. They are appointed for a term of four years. They were as follows:

Starke County Airport Authority: Lionel Smead. Approval was tabled for now until can verify the experience of Mr. Smead. Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis.

Alcoholic Beverage Board: Marvin Peters, Republican and Kenneth Wallace, Democrat
Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis.

Community Corrections Advisory Board: Carol Johnson, Minority Lay Person; Lynda Draper, Lay Person; Annette Zupin, Education Administrator; Jack Garden, Mental Health Professional and LaDonna Bradley, ex-offender.

Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis

County Attorney: Martin Lucas Jennifer Davis made the motion, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Drainage Board: Ed Jernas (3 year term only) Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis

Starke County Health Board: Jennifer Davis and Bev Frain Mr. Bridegroom advised this board requires health field expertise. He made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis, followed by two ayes.

Starke County Hospital Board: Jerry Wilson and Dorothy Bau Jennifer Davis made the motion, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Starke County Planning Commission: Denise Marks Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis

PTABOA Board: Ed Hasnerl and Ronald Simoni Jennifer Davis made the motion, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Library Board: Michalene Houston (to fill unexpired remainder of term left by the resignation of Pat Zobrist) Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis

KIRPC: tabled for now Mr. Bridegroom is looking for someone, possibly from the west side of the county. Jennifer Davis made the motion to table, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Visitors Association Board: Tabled for now, applicants need to be party affiliate certified Mr. Bridegroom advised it is up to the applicants to obtain a letter of recommendation from their party chairman. Jennifer Davis made the motion to table the appointment, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Jackson Township Advisory Board: Tara Pitts and Michelle Hounshell, candidates Tabled for now until candidates can be verified Jennifer Davis made the motion to table, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Wage Commission: Sandra Santacaterina and Kenneth Wallace Jennifer Davis made the motion, seconded by Kathy Norem.

Veteran's Service Officer: Gordon Ritchie Kathy Norem made the motion, seconded by Jennifer Davis

IN RE: EMS REPORT

EMS Clerk, Mary Lynn Ritchie presented to the board copies of money that had been collected by the Starke County Clerk's Office and the collection attorney, John O'Hara. She stated revenues were down for the year, she speculated it was due from the smaller number of transfers.

EMS Director, Lisa Burger gave her report next. Her end of the year report has not been

completed, but she is in the process of completing it. She disagreed on the number of transfers being down since the number of transfers back and forth between Starke Memorial and the Laporte Hospital have increased. Also, the number of transfers between nursing homes have been consistent.

IN RE: STARKE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT. REPORT

Superintendent Steve Siddall came before the board and reported everything was fine at the county highway. Mr. Bridegroom inquired as to the situation with the plowing of snow at 2535 S 100W. Mr. Siddall advised that it is considered private property and they do not plow the snow on private property. The person has an eight foot gate and the eleven foot snow plows wouldn't be able to get through there anyway. He also advised it has never been plowed by the county in the last ten years. Mr. Bridegroom added if the owner of the property wishes to deed that part of his property to the county it would be maintained. Mr. Siddall added if it was he would have to follow the same rules as a subdivision. Kathy Norem recommended that the county highway snow plows don't block in anyone's driveways with the plowed snow.

IN RE: FITNESS FORUM

Patti Choquette and Mary Labrazinski appeared before the Board representing The Fitness Forum of Plymouth. They are promoting wellness to the county employees, at a discount. Mr. Bridgroom advised he would like to see employee involvement but it would be at their own cost. Mrs. Norem advised it would not be taxpayer money. She also said Greg Underwood should be granted the same opportunity to talk to employees. Mr. Bridgroom advised there are four sets of employees: county highway, county jail, county courthouse and county annex. He advised there was a possibility of meeting with the department heads. Ms. Davis will be the contact person for the Board.

IN RE: NEW EMPLOYEE KEYS

Dan Bridgroom advised of the application of new employees to receive keys to the Auditor's Office. They were Katherine Chaffins, Auditor, CarLa Thomas, Deputy Auditor and Suzanne McCarty, Deputy Auditor. Mr. Bridgroom noted there should also be a request from the Recorder's Office. Kathy Norem made the motion to approve the requests and Jennifer Davis seconded the motion.

IN RE: DAVIS TWP. FIRE TRUCK

Mr. Bridgroom advised they had paperwork to sign as the Commissioners on the grant for the Davis Twp. fire truck. He added the grant report ends on Jan. 8, 2012. The form goes to the Davis Twp. Trustee following the signatures.

IN RE: LETTER FROM MARY DALY

Mr. Bridgroom advised he received a letter from Mary Daly of San Pierre with questions regarding the county burn ordinance. She inquired as to if the county would be picking up her leaves and twigs since she will no longer be able to burn them. He advised he would visit with her and explain the burn ordinance to her.

IN RE: LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Dan Bridgroom advised he received a letter from the Secretary of State in regards to the creation of the PAU, the Prosecutor's Assisting Unit, which is dedicated to white collar crime. He advised the letter will be passed on to the Prosecutor's Office.

IN RE: ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Mr. Bridgroom advised he has the annual report from the Animal Control Officer. A total of \$ 62.80 was spent last year on animal control and \$ 97.00 on mileage. A total of two dogs were picked up, and zero cats. One call he received dealt with a dog having its mouth duct taped. Mr. Bridgroom advised possibly that was a call that should be handled by the Humane Society. The report does not state who reported the calls but should be added to the report in the future.

IN RE: KOONTZ LAKE DREDGING PROJECT

Kathy Norem reported she had composed a letter that required the commissioner's signature. It needed to be printed out on County letterhead. Mr. Bridgroom was going to check with the Auditor's Office to see it that had been completed.

IN RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Kim from Community Corrections advised the Board that she has people that will come in and clean the courthouse; clean and polish the marble, banisters, wood accents, wash windows, and scrub and polish floors. Mr. Bridgroom stated he would be in charge of

that project and there is a big need for the cleaning based on the appearance of the courthouse. Mrs. Norem stated the county will supply the cleaning supplies. Jennifer Davis suggested a list of duties be composed. Mr. Bridegroom advised he would check with the Judge who is already using their services and he would also talk with Carl Goodrich who is in charge of the courthouse maintenance.

IN RE: BANNER ELECTRIC INVOICE

Michelle Snowdon appeared before the Board to present an outstanding invoice from Banner Electric, Plymouth, IN as part of the retrofit of lights for the electrical grant. Mr. Bridegroom stated the invoice should be paid since it is part of the grant proceeds and not an expense to the county. Jennifer Davis made a motion to pay the invoice, Kathy Norem seconded the motion, it was followed with a three ayes vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kenneth Wallace inquired as to why Tom Raderstorf was not appointed to the Alcoholic Beverage Board. Mr. Bridegroom advised him that his appointment was done by the Knox City Council.

There was a question by Harrison Fields concerning the county burn ordinance. Mr. Bridegroom advised him the county burn ordinance was posted on the internet, on the Starke County website. This was an updated ordinance that included the state statutes. There was also going to a public hearing about the ordinance on Jan. 17, 2011. The public also has the opportunity to post comments on the website.

Mr. Fields inquired who issues the permits to allow burning. Mr. Bridegroom advised you would get a permit through IDEM for major burn projects

Marty Lucas read a comment that had been posted from Linda Byer of the Indiana State Dept. of Natural Resources.

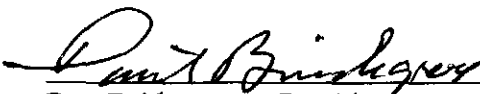
Harrison Fields also inquired if the Board was aware that when a complaint is made to the Planning Commission you can no longer notify them via telephone. A complaint needs to be documented, signed and filed with the Planning Commission.

He disagreed with this procedure. Mr. Bridegroom advised him that is the way it has been for months now. Kathy Norem agreed with Mr. Fields; she disagrees with the new procedure of having to document complaints causing it to be more difficult for the public to report possible violations.

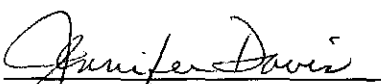
The Board welcomed Katherine Chaffins as the new Starke County Auditor and secretary


to the Board of Commissioners.

There being no further business to come before the board, Jennifer Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Norem seconded the motion. Mr. Bridegroom adjourned the meeting.


Dan Bridegroom, President


Kathy Norem, Vice President


Jennifer Davis, Member


Katherine Chaffins, Auditor
Secretary to the Commissioners