

Monday, January 16, 2012

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 7:00PM in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Dan Bridegroom and Jennifer Davis present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Dan Bridegroom.

RE: PAYROLL AND VENDOR CLAIMS, MINUTES

Vendor Claims: In reference to the vendor claims, Commissioner Davis made a motion to only approve the mileage claim submitted by Mary Ryan, of the Prosecutor's office, for the amount of 110 miles, and not the 166 miles that were originally submitted. Ms. Ryan had attended a conference in Indianapolis, along with two other members of the Prosecutor's office. The other two attendees submitted mileage claims for a distance of 110 miles, each way. Commissioner Bridegroom stated the policy is that the shortest possible travel route is to be taken/submitted for reimbursement. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the Ryan claim for mileage for 110 miles each way, seconded by Commissioner Bridegroom. The motion passed with all ayes.

There was a question in regard to the claim submitted by Annette Warkentein, for the reimbursement of a meal from a one day conference, in the amount of \$13.50. A discussion followed in regard to the county's travel policy and meal reimbursement. Commissioner Davis inquired if the meal was part of the conference or separate from the conference. Commissioner Davis then made a motion to table this claim, seconded by Commissioner Bridegroom. The motion passed with all ayes.

In another claim submitted by the attendees of an Election Board conference, who had received documentation that they were entitled to a \$24.00 per diem, Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the per diem with the understanding that they were not entitled for any meal reimbursement. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Davis then made a motion to approve the vendor claims in total, minus the Warkentein meal claim, and minus the difference in mileage of the Ryan claim. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. The total amount of the vendor claims is \$561,941.13.

Payroll Claim: Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the pay claim for the pay period ending January 7, 2012, in the amount of \$174,012.77. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes.

Minutes: Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 3rd regular meeting, and the minutes of the Jan. 3rd. meeting of the Board of Finance. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes.

RE: 2012 CEDIT APPROPRIATIONS

Charlie Weaver, Director of the Starke County Economic Development Board, appeared before the Board to present the listing of the 2012 appropriations of the CEDIT fund. A portion of the appropriations is the carryover of the balance of the fund at the yearend, 12/31/2011, and the other portion of the appropriations is for the balance of the funds to be received in 2012. He stated he had met with the Auditor to work out the correct balance of the appropriations to balance with the total in the fund at the yearend. Commissioner Bridegroom inquired as to how the claims that were just approved to be paid out of the CEDIT fund, would be accounted for in those appropriations. Director Weaver advised he would work with the Auditor to document correctly the reduction in the appropriation total, as a result of the payment of those claims. No action of the Board was taken.

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

Davis Township Grant Reporting Form: Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the signing of the grant reporting form they had received from Davis Township Trustee, Robin Latamer. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes, and the form was then signed by Commissioner Bridegroom.

Employees' Unpaid Vacations: Commissioner Davis made a motion to specify that the head of the department can authorize an employee of that department to take an unpaid vacation. Commissioner Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed with ayes. The motion came as a result of a discussion involving a newly hired employee of the auditor's office requesting to take time off for a trip. The Auditor advised the employee is aware that she does not have vacation time until her anniversary date, and is aware any time off will be without pay.

Ditch Assessment: Commissioner Bridegroom advised they had received a schedule of ditch assessments from the Starke Regular Drainage Board, setting the ditch assessment, for the year 2012. Commissioner Davis made a motion to accept the assessments, seconded by Commissioner Bridegroom. The motion passed with all ayes. A copy of the ditch assessments is on file in the Auditor's office, showing the total amount of assessments per ditch in Starke County.

Simplex: Commissioner Bridegroom advised a representative from the Simplex Company, Penny Huffman, will be in attendance at the Board's Feb. 6th meeting along with the Annex Building's Custodian, James Coad.

Treasurer's 47TR Report: Commissioner Bridegroom advised they had received a copy of the Treasurer's 47TR report that was filed with the Auditor on Jan. 3, 2012 for the month of December, 2011. The SBOA requires this monthly treasurer's report be filed by the 16th on the month.

Commissioner Bridegroom advised a grievance had been filed by an employee. County Attorney Lucas advised the matter should be addressed at an Executive Session of the Board.

PUBLIC BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bridegroom advised he had received a complaint in regard to the Bass Lake Beach. The lady advised they have held a reunion there annually and was not happy with the reunion held there this year. She advised the picnic tables were sparse in number, and the ones that were there were broken. She also stated the gazebo leaks. Commissioner Davis inquired if she would be willing to document that complaint.

Clyde Haniford, of Bass Lake, advised the Board of his concern with the appearance of the Bass Lake Beach and Campground. He stated there appears to be twenty eight of the fifty six camp sites are being used for year round camper storing. He stated he is concerned the Campground will turn into a mobile home park. He stated more and more items are accumulating in the campground and suggested the campers be moved to the back of the campground and therefore making them less visible. He also stated his concern for the number of boats left at the pier. Commissioner Bridegroom advised he will be discussing these issues with Brian Callahan.

Commissioner Bridegroom reminded everyone of the three Jail Public Meetings being held that week: Tuesday, Jan. 17th at the Knox Middle School, Wednesday, Jan. 18th at the NJ-SP High School, and Thursday, Jan. 19th, at the O-D High School. Commissioner Bridegroom advised he will be in touch with State Representative Gutwein on Wed. with the sign-up sheets from Tuesday night, and Rep. Gutwein will then call the bill up to the floor at the State Legislation.

There being no further business, Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice-President Bridegroom. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

January 16, 2012

ABSENT
Kathy Norem, President

Dan Bridegroom, Vice-President

Jennifer Davis

Katherine Chaffins, Auditor &
Secretary to the Board of Commissioners