

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 9:00AM in the Annex Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Kent Danford and Jennifer Davis present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by President Jennifer Davis. She advised this meeting was being held today as the meeting that originally had been posted for Monday, February 17th but was postponed due to the weather. Commissioner Norem was absent.

RE: EMA DOCUMENTS

EMA Director, Ted Bombagetti, appeared before the Board to request their signatures on the Declaration of Local State of Emergency, in regard to the heavy snow, severe drifting, and cold temperatures that hit the County on February 5th. Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the document, and President Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed with all ayes and the document was signed.

Director Bombagetti then presented to the Board the 2013 Emergency Management Performance Grant, Sub-Grant Agreement, for the amount not to exceed \$5,179.00. Per the grant proposal, the grant would allow the purchase of computer tablets for field damage assessments, and a mobile weather camera which would provide safety while conducting field operations in the communications trailer. Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the grant proposal, seconded by President Davis. The motion passed with all ayes, and the grant proposal was signed.

President Davis asked Director Bombagetti to set up a bad weather practice drill for the Courthouse, the Annex Building and the Jail. Director Bombagetti advised the issue is being addressed by the safety committee. He advised the Annex Building Custodian, Jim Coad, will be in charge of the plan for the Annex Building, and he believed County Health Nurse, Frank Lynch, would be in charge of the Courthouse. President Davis asked that she be notified as to when the drill will take place.

RE: MINUTES, VENDOR CLAIMS, PAYROLL CLAIMS

Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3rd meeting, seconded by President Davis. The motion passed with all ayes. Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the payroll claim for the pay period ending 02/1/14, with a pay date of 2/7/14, in the total gross amount of \$187,989.28. The motion passed with all ayes. Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the payroll claim for the pay period ending 2/15/14 with a pay date of 2/21/14 in the total gross amount of \$193,000.26. President Davis seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the vendor claims in the total amount of \$255,053.27. President Davis seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes.

RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF TAX LIEN CERTIFICATES OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES TO THE CITY OF KNOX

County Attorney, Marty Lucas, presented the following prepared document: A Resolution of the Commissioners of Starke County, IN Authorizing the Sale of Tax Lien Certificates of Certain Properties to the City of Knox, Resolution 2014-0220. He noted the City would be required to follow the same procedure as any other purchaser of tax certificates. Commissioner Danford made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by President Davis. The motion passed with all ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:

Commissioner Danford gave a brief report of the Knox Planning Commission meeting which was held on Tuesday, February 11th. He advised the Planning Commission approved the reduction of the proposed building permit fees, deciding the project includes both the new portion, and the remodeled portion of the proposed County Jail. He noted now the decision will need to be presented to the Knox City Council for their approval at their next meeting. President Davis inquired if Commissioner Danford will be attending the Council meeting as the Commissioner Representative and Commissioner Danford advised he would have to see when the meeting will be held.

In regard to the Kone Elevator renewal of its service maintenance agreement, Attorney Lucas advised he would be preparing another letter to Kone advising them the County does not want to renew the annual maintenance agreement. Courthouse Custodian, Carl Goodrich, advised the agreement was up for renewal in May.

President Davis advised Custodian Goodrich of the County's plans to hold a severe weather drill for the Courthouse, the Annex Building and the Jail. She advised him, the Courthouse will need to establish a plan of how to notify the Courthouse employees, where the employees are to go, and also how to know all employees are clear from their workstations. Custodian Goodrich advised it will be difficult to schedule a drill with the Judge's Court schedule, but advised it could possibly be scheduled for some time in March.

In regard to the Amended Lawson-Fisher Agreement, County Attorney Lucas stated the amended agreement reduces Lawson-Fisher's participation level in the construction inspections and therefore, would be greatly reducing their fees. He noted this was due to the County establishing a building/construction inspector through the Highway Department. President Davis advised she did not want to sign this agreement until the County Council approves the funding for the new inspector position. Attorney Lucas stated possibly the Council could hold a special meeting prior to their March 17th meeting, in which to approve the new position's funding.

In regard to the roads in the Chesapeake Run Subdivision, Attorney Lucas advised the County had received a proposal of "Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Maintenance of Street Improvements", which was prepared by Bob Aloï, for the owners of the property, TCU. Attorney Lucas stated he is concerned with the terminology used in the agreement of "temporary Cul de Sac". Highway Superintendent Rik Ritzler, who was present at the meeting, advised he is concerned with the term "temporary" because if TCU was to extend the sub-division the County would have to pave and maintain any road

expansions. President Davis noted the Owner/Developer is responsible for any lighting or curb damages. Attorney Lucas advised the Board could direct him to have TCU address the “temporary” Cul de Sac portion of the proposal prior to the County’s acceptance of the agreement. Commissioner Davis made a motion to direct Attorney Lucas to address the temporary Cul de Sac with TCU. President Davis seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. Attorney Lucas stated he will coordinate with Superintendent Ritzler to work towards an acceptable proposal.

Veteran’s Service Officer, Terry Turner, who was present at the meeting, advised the Board he will be attending a training session in Indianapolis March 3-7 and was inquiring in regard to the payment of the state called training, and hotel accommodations. President Davis advised she will speak with him following the meeting as to the proper procedure.

There being no further business, Commissioner Danford made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by President Davis. The motion passed with all ayes, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45AM.

FEBRUARY 20, 2014

Jennifer Davis, President

Kent Danford

ABSENT
Kathy Norem

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