

## **MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in Regular Session at 9:30AM, in person at the Starke County Annex Building, Knox, Indiana, with Charles Chesak, Bryan Cavender, and Mark Gourley present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner President Charles Chesak directly at 9:30AM.

### **AUDITOR BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the vendor claims docket for a total in the amount of \$418,505.08. Commissioner Gourley seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes. Commissioner Gourley made a motion to approve the payroll docket in the amount of \$259,926.03, including deductions in the amount of \$79,153.53 for the pay period ending on 03/06/2021 and pay date of 03/12/2021. Commissioner Cavender seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the minutes from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Commissioner Cavender seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cavender advised he did not realize there was a rule advising that Alcohol Board appointments have to be a county resident for five years. The last appointment the board made did not meet these requirements. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to appoint Kenny Johnson to the Alcohol Board. Commissioner Gourley seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to appoint Commissioner Gourley to the US 30 Coalition Committee. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

Commissioner Chesak advised they will need to make a decision regarding county vehicle use by employees while conducting county business especially for liability factors. Commissioner Cavender stated that is what scares him the most is the liability issues that may come up if they do not use county vehicles he could like to see employees use a county vehicle if one is available. Commissioner Gourley stated he does not have a problem giving them the option but he does not think a mandate would be the right way to go. He is not in favor of a general use motor pool. He believes this would cause maintenance and administration issues they will have to worry about for more vehicles. Auditor Oesterreich advised that she had contacted other Auditor's to see how they handle this situation; Benton County, Shelby County, Pike County, and Hendricks County, if a county vehicle is available they are to use a county vehicle but if it is not available they can use their own vehicle. In Montgomery, Fulton, Dubois, and Miami County has county vehicles available or if they want to use their own they have to provide the county with proof of business insurance carried on their personal vehicle as it is being used for business purposes. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to recommend to use a county vehicle and if they do use their own they will have to provide proof of insurance including business coverage on their personal vehicle. Commissioner Gourley seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

After some discussion regarding the Interim Superintendent appointment the Board of Commissioners decided that the office staff and the operations foreman will handle the daily operations. Commissioner Chesak will be the contact point for the Highway Department. Auditor Oesterreich is to reduce the wording within the Superintendent Job Posting. Commissioner Gourley asked what the previous Superintendent's add on in his pay included. Auditor Oesterreich advised he was a Certified Construction Inspector which was an additional \$5000 per year. He was also the Certified ADA Coordinator which was an additional \$5000 extra per year. Commissioner Gourley asked if there was anyone else with the Certified Construction Inspection on file. Auditor Oesterreich advised she was the only one left in the county. Commissioner Chesak and Commissioner Gourley suggested moving the ADA Coordinator to another department. Auditor Oesterreich advised that if they did move it to another department they would need to add the pay in a different area as a person from another department could not be compensated through MVH funds.

Commissioner Chesak and Surveyor Crase advised that near Beach Bailey's residence there is a dirt bike set up going on. Survey Crase advised there was over 20 dirt bikes there and they were also taking money at the driveway to ride the track that was built in the back of the property. After further discussion regarding the current property type, permits, zoning, and the individuals running this set up as a business, Surveyor Crase will be looking into it further with the Planning Commission.

Surveyor Crase advised that he was at the Trustee's meeting when they had chosen to appoint Mark Allen to the Planning Commission Board. He stated that Trustee Julie Manns will be providing documentation regarding this. He is requesting the Board of Commissioners go ahead and appoint Mark Allen as the Trustee's Appointment to the Planning Commission Board as they have a couple meetings coming up soon. Commissioner Gourley made a motion to appoint Mark Allen to the Planning Commission Board. Commissioner Cavender seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

With there being no further public comments and no further business, Commissioner Gourley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Cavender seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 AM.

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Charlie Chesak, President

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Bryan Cavender, Vice-President

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Mark Gourley

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Rachel Oesterreich, County Auditor  
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners