

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in Regular Session at 6:00PM in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Charles Chesak and Bryan Cavender 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 at 6:14PM due to the lateness of the Starke County Board of Commissioners Executive Session.

EMS MONTHLY REPORT

EMS Director Travis Clary and EMS Clerk MaryLynn Richie appeared before the Board to present their monthly departmental report. Clerk Richie reported she had collected \$1,852.83 from Collections Attorney Jonathan O'Hara, she also reported there were no checks from small claims. Clerk Richie stated they started their new system as of March 5th, and it is working rather well. The run total report presented to the Commissioner's included the old system and new system. She stated they are staying consistent with their runs they reported 201 runs for the month of March. She stated 41% of the runs for the month of March came from IU Starke Health. She explained that there will be an adjustment to the reports because of the new system and clearing out the old system. Director Clary reported that they are now live with Health EMS Mobile Touch which is the new report writing software. He also reported they are continuing to transmit the 12 lead EKG's to the hospitals. Medic 2 went in service this morning at 10am and they had their first transfer within 30 minutes. They will continue to staff this unit for 12 hours a day from the hours of 10AM – 10PM. They have had approximately 850 calls for service already this year. Their crews have been averaging 9-10 calls a day.

Director Clary reported in personnel they will be filling a Full-Time Paramedic spot in the next couple of weeks. They had an employee move to Florida which caused a vacancy. He will continue to hire Part-Time EMT's/Paramedics to assist with the staffing of the transfer unit. Director Clary then presented updates in training, he stated that he hosted a Carfentanyl/Fentanyl training for all of our local first responders. They had 20 plus police officers present to learn about the dangers and some of the precautions we can take to prevent exposure. He reported that they also had many members from local fire departments attend his training. Tomorrow night they will be holding a training that will teach us, as first responders, how to appropriately communicate with special needs victim with Downs/Autism. He stated he assisted out regional IDHS EMS manager in a Stop Bleed training for local fire fighters. They attended the recent Fire Association meeting where they trained about 20 firefighters. They will continue training more fire personnel as our local schools will soon need the training for an upcoming house bill. Directed Clary also reported he attended the Difficult Airway training with their training officer in Fort Wayne. He state he taught CPR at Wintersong Village, and have had 2 other courses for Dr. Fritz's office this past Saturday.

Directory Clary reported that they had their monthly audit and review with their Medical Director Dr. Marovich & their regional EMS Coordinator. They also assisted with an ACLS class to finish getting their instructor licenses to teach that course. His stated his department had another injury free month. They had no major ambulance maintenance issues for the month of March. 0086 spent a week at the county highway department for a good look-over, it is the unit that they have dedicated as a transfer unit. He stated he wanted it serviced well, and looked over before they went live today with the longer distance transfers. They hope to have the new ambulance in service by the end of the week. The 800 MHz radio should be in tomorrow to be installed. They have the entire interior stocked, and ready to go. They will be doing a final inspection in the coming days to make sure they have everything per the State of Indiana. Director Clary also stated that there has been no major base maintenance issues to report.

COUNTY HIGHWAY MONTHLY REPORT

Rik Ritzler, Superintendent of the County Highway Department, appeared before the Board to present his monthly departmental report. He stated that they saved money again compared to last year for the month of March as they only had three snow events. Overall, the department saved about \$30,000, he stated they had a similar winter this year as they did last year. Superintendent Ritzler stated one important thing about March is the use of the air/road temperature pavement sensor. These are located in the supervisors trucks, the road temperature is more important in their work rather than the air temperature. This is used for brine, de-icing, paving, crack-sealing, and other things they do; they are more concerned with the pavement temperature. He also reported the fuel usage for the month of March,

Ritzler stated it reflected that March was a little less hectic. He explained that in better whether they use a little more gas and in worse whether they use a little more diesel as they are plowing snow. Superintendent Ritzler presented his department's summer schedule. He explained this is located on a board in his office. It is the long term summer program schedule, so that when the supervisor's review the board they have a chance in knowing what's coming and knowing what they have to do in organizing things. Ritzler stated as an example in the Bridge Work section the board shows that Bridge #7 replacement is in the design process and Bridge #154 replacement construction will begin April 8 and be finished the end of June. He explained that culvert cleaning is also on this board, the county has 662 culverts. The culvert inspection was completed in spring, 116 of those culverts need to be cleaned and only 12 of the 662 will need to be replaced. This number could increase as they are cleaning culverts as they may find that some of those that need cleaned need to be replaced. Superintendent Ritzler stated that they will be completing bridge cleaning of the 57 bridges as well as bridge sealing of the 44 bridges that are concrete decks. He also explained that some roadwork projects coming up that are on the board are the intersection improvement of CR210 and Old SR10, CR 25N Hot Mix from 600 E. to SR23, Chip Seal Round 1 20 miles, Cold Mix Paving 25 miles, Crack Sealing 20 Miles, rebuild and reopen 1100 E. from 150N to 300N, and Chip Seal Round 2, 20 miles. Ritzler then went on to explain the "other activities" that are listed on the board as well.

Superintendent Ritzler stated that Norfolk Southern Rail Crossing notified his department of anticipated work by their department. Two projects that are going to be started on April 8th is crossing repairs located are 1152 S. 600 E., Knox and 726-1440 S. 700 E., Knox. These should be finished on April 13th. He stated Norfolk Southern will place the detour and road closed signs for the county. His department will update first responders and the media of any schedule changes or additions. Superintendent Ritzler reported he would like to create a departmental policy on CDL Assistance Reimbursement. The policy would reflect guidelines in the payment of an employee's Commercial Driver's License and DOT physical examinations. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the CDL Assistance Reimbursement Policy. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes. He reported that the Community Crossings Grant project has been changed a little bit this year. They had split it up into two award areas. His department was awarded a lot last fall for the two projects of: 1) Intersection improvement at 600S/CR210 at Bass Lake and 2) Hot mix overlay on 25N from CR600E to SR23. He reported that they did not have any projects selected for the spring but are in good shape for the July selection which is better for their department as they will have the matching money available in the fall.

Superintendent Ritzler presented the LTAP Summary Handbook to the Board of Commissioners. He gave an overview of the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) and the conferences as well as trainings that are provided to the department all free of charge. He stated the Road Scholar program gives people incentive to stay in that program to receive the white helmet and the gold helmet along with the certification. He advised the state legislator this year almost passed a bonus for having this certification to help pay the county supplement that employees salary, he believes this could pass next year. Ritzler states LTAP does an equipment loan program, in the last 4 or 5 years they have had some devices that they have loaned. He stated LTAP also provides a lot of publications and information on information that is needed for activities such as, what is the best temperature to crack seal. He stated the LTAP Helper's program is also good for the county as Purdue will come to our county to provide engineers studies for such things as intersection improvements or road problems. This particular program saves the county \$20,000 to \$30,000 per year. Ritzler also reported that they have not had any reportable workman's compensation accidents this month. Additional they have not had a workman's compensation claim since early last summer.

CADA/CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION DECLARATION

Annette from the Starke County Prevent Child Abuse Council presented the Board of Commissioners with a proclamation to sign. Annette read the proclamation as follows:

WHEREAS, we all have the responsibility, as individuals, neighbors, community members, and citizens of Starke County to help create healthy, safe and nurturing experiences for children: and
WHEREAS, safe and healthy childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and
WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect often occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and
WHEREAS, children are sometimes exposed to intensive toxic stress like child abuse and neglect. Too much toxic stress is bad for anyone, and can be devastating to child development.

WHEREAS, adverse experiences like child abuse and neglect often have a lifelong consequences for a child; and

WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in a supportive community that values its children; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure every family has the support they need and deserve to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, effective prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that no one person can do everything, but that everyone can do something, and together we can create change for the better; and

Therefore, we do hereby proclaim:

April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Starke County, Indiana, and urge all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families in Starke County. We sign and affix our seal on April 1, 2019.

ASSESSOR/COMPUTER PURCHASES

Assessor Schouten appeared before the Board of Commissioners to request approval for computer purchases appropriation. She stated they were having a problem with one of her computers specifically and Richard came out and looked at it, he said that 7 of the 9 computers within their department needs to be replaced. She stated to cut back costs she will downsize to 8 computers of which 6 would need to be replaced. She presented the Commissioners with a quote for the towers, connectors, and Microsoft licenses. Assessor Schouten stated the total cost for these replacements would be \$5,790.96. She stated all of the computers that will be replaced with this purchase are still on Windows 7 which will stop being supported. Commissioner Cavender asked Assessor Schouten how soon she would need to have these and if she felt this was a pressing matter. Assessor Schouten stated on at least one of the computers it is a pressing matter. She stated Richard advised her that the other are not as pressing but when they start to go they are going to go. She also advised that the Windows 7 will only be supported until 2020. Assessor Schouten also advised that the reason IT used Dell for quotes is that our server is a Dell server and the computers work better being from the same manufacturer, which should help with some other issues that they have been having. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the quote as presented by Assessor Schouten and then to send this to the council for approval. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

The Farm Fund Ordinance was presented to the board as prepared by Attorney Lucas. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the Farm Fund Ordinance as presented with the suspension of the rules to be able to approve the ordinance on a single reading. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes.

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve annex building keys for Victoria Chessor and Katherine Chaffins. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes.

AUDITOR'S BUSINESS: MINUTES, VENDOR CLAIMS DOCKET, PAYROLL DOCKET

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the Payroll Claims Docket for the pay period ending on 03/23/19 with a pay date of 03/29/19, in the total gross amount of \$243,343.95. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion, the motion passed with both ayes. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the vendor claims as presented with the exception of the US 30 Coalition Claim of \$10,000.00. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18th meeting. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Edward Eckert came before the Board of Commissioners as a property owner located on Brazill St. in San Pierre, IN along with Gill Knip who is also a property owner located on Brazill St. in San Pierre, IN. They both would like to request that Brazill Street be entered into the county road inventory as it is not at this time. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to accept Brazill Street in San Pierre, IN into the

Starke County Road Inventory. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes.

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to uphold the decision made by the department head regarding the states of an employee pursuant to I.C. 514-1.5-6.1(H). Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion passed with both ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dallas Hester inquired about a dog barking ordinance. The Board of Commissioners asked Auditor Oesterreich to email the draft ordinance to Mr. Hester for review.

With no further public comment, Commissioner Cavender made a motion to adjourn at 7:02 PM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chesak and the motion passed with both ayes.

APRIL 1, 2019

ABSENT

Charlie Chesak, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

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