

ATTN: THIS IS A DRAFT--NOT YET APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS

May 18th, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: PAYROLL

Kathy Norem moved to approve the May 2nd, 2009 payroll claims, the replacement check, and the corrected check, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

Dona Hoban, Payroll Clerk, asked the commissioners for permission to stop direct deposit when an employee is terminated. This was due to problems with employees' vacation time and not returning county equipment. The commissioners discussed this and declined to support this.

Martin Lucas and Dan Bridegroom will be attending the unemployment hearing for John Norris on June 3rd.

Kathy Norem moved to pay John Norris his vacation pay, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes. The vacation was earned in 2008 for 2009. Suspension has no effect on vacation days earned.

IN RE: REASSESSMENT

Mark Milo made a motion to notify bidders for reassessment, that a surety bond will be required, seconded by Kathy Norem with three ayes.

IN RE: SANDHILL CRANE BIKEWAY SYSTEM

Beverly Santicola appeared before the commissioners, asking for their support for the Sandhill Crane Bikeway System. The proposal is ready for submission to INDOT for the 44.5 mile bikeway grant. No money will be required from the county. The commissioners approved this in 2008, and she would like the support of the new board. Kathy Norem moved to sponsor this system, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

There is a property in San Pierre, referred to as "The Commons". Research has not confirmed who owns this parcel. The bikeway will start at that point.

Mark Milo moved to have Martin Lucas, County Attorney, research the property and the appropriate way for the county to acquire title with intention of passing ownership to San Pierre for the bikeway. Kathy Norem seconded the motion, and it passed with three ayes.

IN RE: BASS LAKE PUBLIC ACCESS

Don Rush and Roger Huntington appeared as Bass Lake property owners. Each of them own property on either side of the public access at CR 210 and Williams Street. They would like the commissioners to reserve their previous position to exercise riparian rights at public access sites. Their complaint is that too many boats moor at the water's edge, and it results in spill over to their properties. They said too many boats are docking at their piers and using them to access the lake. They have contacted the DNR and were told to ask the commissioners to reverse their previous position. All three commissioners are in agreement that they will not do this. They are well aware of the problems that arise yearly, but they are not the "policing unit" for Bass Lake, the DNR is. Kathy Norem has researched the mooring of boats and piers are prohibited at public access sites. Dan Bridegroom said he will call DNR again to discuss the possible solutions, and then address this issue at the June 15th commissioners meeting.

IN RE: BRIDGES

Ken Minett with BF&S informed the commissioners that none of the three bridges they wanted to submit for stimulus money are "major collectors" and therefore they are not eligible for federal funds at this time. All five bridges will be eligible in December, 2009. The commissioners discussed applying to have major roads classified as major collectors, so that in the future they will be eligible for federal funds. They also discussed the fact

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that they do not have a major comprehensive plan for the county. Dan said he will contact KIRPC to check if there are any grant monies available to form one.

IN RE: COMMUNITY SERVICES OF STARKE COUNTY

Kathy Norem moved to accept the annual agreement for Community Services of Starke County, seconded by Mark Milo with three ayes.

IN RE: SAN PIERRE PLANNING GRANT

Mark Milo moved to approve and sign the San Pierre Planning Grant, seconded by Kathy Norem, with three ayes.

IN RE: JOINING COUNTIES TO BUY OIL

Oscar Cowen, County Sheriff, gave information to Dan that he obtained from Lucas Oil. Pulaski County would like to join with Starke County to purchase oil together, and therefore get a better price. The information will be given to the Highway Superintendent for review.

IN RE: BIDS FOR TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The telephone system bids were opened:

CDW-G	Undetermined as there was no summary sheet included
All Star Communications	\$71,552, with a 5 year parts & labor warranty
Rick's Electronics	\$69,870.80

Mark Milo moved to take the bids under advisement, until Bob Smith and Martin Lucas review the bids, seconded by Kathy Norem with three ayes.

IN RE: BASS LAKE BEACH

Upon reviewing the bills submitted by Mr. Callahan for the Bass Lake Beach, a discussion ensued regarding what constituted improvements verses repairs. The tenant just prior to Mr. Callahan had allowed the facility to fall in such a state of disrepair that none of the plumbing was functional. In this case, the work that was performed is considered an improvement as it made non-functional plumbing functional again. Motion made by Mark Milo, seconded by Kathy Norem that bills submitted by Mr. Callahan are deemed to be improvements and will be abated from the rent in accordance with the lease. The motion unanimously passed.

IN RE: BONAR GROUP

Mike Strang appeared from Bonar Group in Plymouth. His firm does the same type of work as BF&S & United Consulting. He said they would welcome Starke County as one of their clients.

There being no further business to come before the board Mark Milo moved to adjourn, seconded by Kathy Norem with three ayes.

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

Mark Milo, Member

Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem