

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

**May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session at 1:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order.

**IN RE: ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Ciesielski, landfill property owner, was not present and is now without counsel. According to our county attorney, Ciesielski's counsel was disbarred.

Brian Horvath and Chad Bellemie from Weaver Boos were present.

**IN RE: LANDFILL**

Weaver Boos advised the commissioners that Starke County is facing many of the same problems Noble County had, in the process of closing their landfill. There are three areas of concern- methane gas monitoring, cap condition, and ground water. The county must prove to IDEM that none of these issues are a problem, so the landfill can be closed.

At this time, there is not a good monitoring system at the site. They propose to install a perimeter system for monitoring, at a cost of approximately \$5,000. They could also install a gravel and pipe system, but this would be more expensive. If the perimeter system is installed and the gas levels are acceptable, then the digging of trenches to install a gravel and pipe system will not be needed. The commissioners discussed skipping the perimeter system, and going straight to a gravel and pipe system. Weaver Boos think they should install the perimeter system first, with the possibility of not needing to do extensive digging.

Kathy Norem moved to move forward as Weaver Boos presented, with the perimeter system, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

Dan said he will continue to try to contact Mr. Ciesielski to schedule a meeting with him and the commissioners at a future date. It would be to his advantage to let the county proceed with this, so he does not end up with the financial burden in the future.

**IN RE: CENTURY LINK BILLS**

Kathy Norem moved to approve the payment of \$3,256.64 for the E-911 Century Link bill, and an adjusted amount of \$1,773.93 for the Courthouse/Annex E-911 bill, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

There being no further business to come before the board, Kathy Norem moved to adjourn.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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Jennifer Davis

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Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem

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

**May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session at 4:30 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order.

**IN RE: ATTENDANCE**

All three commissioners, the Auditor, and Charlie Weaver, with the Development Foundation were present.

**IN RE: COUNTY ROAD 300 EAST PROJECT**

Charlie Weaver submitted the project budget costs, and he explained the project.

The city will need to pay \$265,805; the county will pay \$600,000 over a four year period. The \$154,395 balance will come out of the Commissioners' share of the EDIT funds, with the \$600,000 coming from the Economic Development Fund. A portion could possibly come from Bridge EDIT money. They discussed taking \$75,000 out of Commissioners, \$25,000 out of Bridges, and \$75,000 out of Economic Development.

The commissioners have to name 300 East a Rural Major Collector between Culver Road and Division Road, possibly all the way to State Highway 8. It is now a Rural Minor Collector.

They need to act within two weeks.

Kathy Norem moved to recess the meeting until 8:30 the next morning (May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010), seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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Jennifer Davis

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Michaelene J Houston, Auditor

**May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in reconvened session at 8:30 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Dan Bridegroom and Kathy Norem present and Jennifer Davis absent. The following proceedings were held to wit:

**IN RE: COUNTY ROAD 300 EAST PROJECT**

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Steve Siddall, Highway Superintendent, was present to review the finances for the department and plans for the Commissioners discretionary EDIT money. Discussion ensued.

Kathy Norem makes a motion, seconded by Dan Bridegroom with two ayes, to set aside \$50,000 for 2010 and \$75,000 in subsequent years in a separate line item to be earmarked for the CR 300 East Project.

Charlie Weaver, Starke County Development Foundation Director, appears before the Board and commits to setting aside \$75,000 per year of the Economic Development Foundation's annual draw for the project as well.

When the project is prepared to begin, any shortfalls in the savings plan will be reevaluated and addressed at that time.

With no further business to come before the board, Kathy Norem moved to adjourn.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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ABSENT

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Jennifer Davis

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Michaelene J Houston, Auditor

**June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 1:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order.

## **IN RE: PAYROLL, CLAIMS, AND MINUTES**

Kathy Norem moved to approve the May 15, 2010 payroll, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

Jennifer Davis moved to approve the May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 payroll, seconded by Kathy Norem, with three ayes.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 claims, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes. The commissioners want to know the amount of the new CenturyLink phone bill when we receive it.

Jennifer Davis moved to approve the May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 minutes, seconded by Kathy Norem, with three ayes.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010 minutes, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

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## IN RE: ENERGY GRANT PROPOSALS

The commissioners received the following proposals for the energy grant:

- 1) Amps & Volts Electric, Inc. –Valparaiso, IN \$43,439.95
- 2) Midwest Lighting Solutions- Indianapolis, IN \$32,580
- 3) Warner’s Electric- Knox, IN \$8,880 **for labor only**
- 4) Banner Electric- Plymouth, IN (Division B only) \$12,400
- 5) Busse Electric- North Judson, IN \$31,468 **for material only**  
\$14,800 **for labor only**

Kathy Norem moved to take the proposals under advisement and discuss them at the next meeting scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup>. Jennifer Davis seconded the motion, and it passed with three ayes.

## IN RE: E.M.S./E.M.A.

Mary Lynn Ritchie and Lisa Burger, with EMS, submitted clerk collections of \$202.40 and Ohara collections of \$2,035.47. The elderly write offs were \$1,623.40. Kathy Norem moved to approve these, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes. The deceased and bankruptcy write offs were \$5,421.15, with a move to approve by Kathy Norem, and a second by Jennifer Davis, passing with three ayes.

Mary Lynn submitted financials for EMS payments, write offs, collections, assignments, billings, etc.

Lisa submitted monthly reports and statistics. She said they would like to change the starting date for Grovertown repairs from July 10<sup>th</sup> to after Labor Day, so the vehicle won’t have to sit out in the hot sun. Lisa plans to talk to Doug Allen about starting June 8<sup>th</sup> instead, voicing the concerns about leaving rigs out in the heat. Lisa is to call Kathy if this cannot be done.

Ted Bombagetti, EMA Director, reported that the Hamlet base passed on tornado sirens, and he gave the information to the commissioners. It is all voluntary and no funding will be provided at this time. He is working on a comprehensive emergency plan.

## IN RE: HIGHWAY

Steve Siddall, Highway Superintendent, asked the commissioners to approve the Bridge 156 contract. Kathy Norem moved to approve the contract, with Dan signing, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the 2009 Highway Operating Report, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

Kathy reported complaints of farmers planting too close to intersections obscuring vision. Steve reported they are working on clearing these intersections. He also called the state regarding the state intersections, and they will not be starting to clear those until the end of June.

Steve asked the commissioners about setting a date for the county auction.

Steve asked permission to use some trustees from the jail to clean before, during, and after the 4-H fair. Sheriff Cowen approved.

Carrie Kuchel, from Environmental Management complained that the Community Corrections community service workers did not work out for Environmental Days. Steve

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said the Highway Department has been having the same problems. He said the workers are not showing up when they are supposed to.

## **IN RE: SHERIFF'S DEPT**

Sheriff Oscar Cowen submitted a policy for Starke County Sheriff Police Vehicle Operation.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the newly formatted job application for the sheriff's use, seconded by Dan Bridegroom, with two ayes, and one abstaining (JD).

Colleen Bresnahan, with Global Connect, presented a web based emergency notification service from their company. They offer the training and anything else regarding this. The cost would be \$0.55 per household, and \$1.00 per employee. It would be a three year contract that could be broken by us with no additional fee. This would include only the county. If the school wanted to commit, that would be a separate account with them. The commissioners will take this under advisement.

Sheriff Cowen asked for permission to transfer from full time help to extra help, but was told he does not need commissioners' approval to do this.

## **IN RE: COUNTY CELL PHONE CONTRACT**

Lynn Grady, with AT&T came before the commissioners with a presentation for a cell phone contract for all Starke County Government cell phones as a business rate plan.

The commissioners are taking this under advisement.

## **IN RE: VACATING PART OF BEACH ROAD**

Brad Cramer spoke on behalf of property owner George Lausten. In section 24 of California Township, Beach Road goes to the ditch and was platted on the other side of the ditch but never constructed. There are no plans to construct and Lausten owns both sides. He is requesting vacation of the road in that area. The commissioners explained the process he needs to start, and that he needs to petition the commissioners for a hearing.

Mr. Lausten presented a notice from 1960 regarding a drain. The commissioners will have to research this, as they have no record of a drain in that area. Mr. Lausten said the manhole has not been cleaned since it was put in. The county will have to research as it is not county owned.

## **IN RE: RESUBDIVIDING WHITE PINE MEADOWS II**

Brad Cramer submitted plans for a resubdivision, taking six parcels and putting them into one. Kathy Norem moved to approve the replatting of Lots 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 in White Pine Meadows II Subdivision, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

## **IN RE: LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Bridget Markin, with First Source Insurance, submitted several different options for renewing our liability insurance. Jeff Deckert gave a presentation for Downey Insurance. Randy Teltoe gave a presentation for Burnham & Flower.

Bridget presented Hylant's renewal presentation.

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The commissioners would like to go through the loss runs quarterly.

The current carrier would extend general liability to cover a Contracted Food Inspector, but would not cover professional liability or auto insurance. The commissioners and the county would be covered, but the individual would not be. The commissioners could require showing proof of professional liability insurance.

Kathy & Bridget plan to go over all of the insurance information over the next two weeks and visit this again in the next meeting.

## **IN RE: PLANNING COMMISSION**

Bruce Williams, Planning Commission Director, requested a part time inspector. He said he needs someone to inspect when he is sick or on vacation for new services. NIPSCO and REMC will not hook up until after the inspection. There was much discussion on this and the commissioners told him to put it in his 2011 budget request.

## **IN RE: BASS LAKE BEACH**

Clyde Haniford, Bass Lake Resident, would like to see the final draft of plans that the Bass Lake Beach sent to the state.

## **IN RE: DEEDING NORTH JUDSON PROPERTY TO THE TOWN**

Kathy Norem moved to remove property 75-09-16-303-072.000-014 (017-00164-00) from the Commissioners' Sale List, and deed to the town of North Judson, with North Judson doing all the paperwork and incurring all costs. This offer will be good for one year. Jennifer Davis seconded the motion, and it passed with three ayes.

## **IN RE: FIRE EXIT DOORS**

The commissioners asked the Auditor to send a memo to all county employees telling them the fire exit doors are not to be left open or propped open. (Auditor's Note- A memo was emailed to the employees 6/10/2010).

## **IN RE: OFF SITE DATA BACKUP**

To help correct the offsite data backup problem, we would first need to have a higher DSL link. IT Director, Bob Smith is working on this.

## **IN RE: COUNTY FIREWORKS**

Kathy Norem moved to approve the claim for \$1,000 to the City of Knox for fireworks, seconded by Jennifer Davis, with three ayes.

## **IN RE: SCHEDULED MEETING AND EVENTS**

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 the commissioners plan to tour the courthouse at 9:00 a.m. They plan to meet at 11:00 a.m. to discuss the 2011 budget, and meet at 1:00 p.m. to review the State Board of Account audit reports.

## **IN RE: PHASE II COMPLIANCE**

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Dan signed an agreement with LOW to pay Phase II Compliance fees.

There being no other business to come before the board, Jennifer Davis moved to adjourn.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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Jennifer Davis

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Michaelene J Houston, Auditor

**June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session at 11:00 a.m., and again at 1:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Jennifer Davis absent and the following proceedings were held to wit:

**IN RE: CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT STUDY**

Gary Fisher, with RQAW Corporation, explained the theory of CAMS. He went through the questionnaire with each department and explained how to fill it out to perform the study.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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**ABSENT**

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Jennifer Davis

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Michaelene J Houston, Auditor