

## July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 3:45 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

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

Kent Danford moved to approve the July 7<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

Kent Danford moved to approve the payroll, seconded by Kevin Kroft, with three ayes.

Kent Danford moved to approve the claims, seconded by Kevin Kroft, with three ayes.

### **IN RE: HIGHWAY**

Mark Milo moved to have Martin Bedrock, County Attorney, send a letter to Torrenga Surveying in Munster, Indiana regarding the dispute on the property at Highway 421 & Highway 10. Kent Danford seconded the motion and it passed with three ayes.

Johnny Ray Norris, Highway Interim Superintendent, asked the commissioners what the process was to bid salt. The commissioners discussed the possibility of salting only the intersections, curves and railroad crossings, like other counties, instead of salting the entire road.

They discussed bidding highway supplies, such as paper towel, hand soap, toilet tissue, etc. The commissioners asked that they discuss this with the Sheriff, EMS director & Courthouse Custodian to see if they can all order together and get a better price. The commissioners asked the auditor to send a letter asking them to compile a list of these items and get their lists to the commissioners for bidding. They would also like the departments to let them know whom they are currently purchasing these items from.

The Commissioners want a letter sent to INDOT requesting the transfer of \$1,400,000 from the Toto Road Project to the County Road 300 East project. The letter also needs to request an additional \$552,000 to cover the project totaling \$1,952,000. Kent Danford put this in a motion, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

It was brought to the commissioners' attention that someone made an extension of Calvin Drive onto Boa Drive. The first 100 ft are the county's but the rest will remain a private drive unless the owner dedicates it to the county. If it were dedicated, it would need to meet county specs before the commissioners could accept it.

### **IN RE: HOOSIER VALLEY RAILROAD**

Mark Milo moved to endorse Hoosier Valley Railroad, seconded by Kent Danford, with three ayes. (Letter on file in Auditor's Office.)

### **IN RE: STARKE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL PROPERTY**

Kent Danford moved to approve the combination of the parcels where the Starke Memorial Hospital sits, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

### **IN RE: GROUP INSURANCE**

Randy Bailey, with Henriott Group, discussed buying insurance with other municipalities and establishing consortiums to do so. He said it would help us get lower rates and he wanted to open the floor to discussion and get the commissioners' ideas on this. Mark Milo moved to have Mr. Bailey give the commissioners a price quote, seconded by

Kent Danford, with three ayes.

**IN RE: NIPSCO CLAIM**

The commissioners said that without proof of the damage done, such as witnesses or pictures, NIPSCO is pretty hard to fight. They won't accept a settlement agreement. Mark Milo moved to pay, grudgingly under protest, \$1267.88, seconded by Kent Danford with three ayes.

**IN RE: RADIO TOWERS**

Custom Tower Systems submitted a quote for the tower that ERS has already quoted. Custom Tower's quote was \$20,325. The commissioners will take both quotes under advisement until the council approves the money.

**IN RE: OFF SHORE DRILLING**

Kent Danford moved to send Joe Donnelly a letter that the board supports off shore drilling, seconded by Mark Milo with three ayes.

There being no further business to come before the board at this time, Mark Milo moved to adjourn, seconded by Kent Danford, with three ayes.

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Kevin Kroft, President

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Kent Danford, Vice President

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Mark Milo, Member

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Michaelene J Houston, Auditor