

**August 17, 2009**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session at 4:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Mark Milo absent and the following proceedings were held to wit:

**IN RE: ATTENDANCE**

Dan Bridegroom, Kathy Norem, Chuck Estok, Julianne Havens, Kim Hall, Richard June (to represent Bob Smith), Kevin Caldwell with All Star Communications, Oscar Cowen and Michaelene Houston were all present.

**IN RE: NEW PHONE SYSTEM**

Kathy Norem updated everyone on the phone system proposals as she had gotten all the information from Bob Smith earlier today.

It was discussed about adding the prosecutor to the package, and whether or not the new system is needed and the cost savings with a new system. The various proposals were also discussed.

Julianne Havens stated that she has a new phone system and didn't necessarily need to be included.

Kathy stated that we should wait six months to see what the strategic plan states is the most important thing to do right now.

Kevin Caldwell stated that with a two-year lease, the monthly savings would pay for the lease.

Judge Hall stated that he is not in a hurry for video arraignment.

Chuck and Kathy will recommend to their boards that there be further discussion and negotiation with All Star.

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

**August 17, 2009**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session with the county council at 5:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Mark Milo absent and the following proceedings were held to wit:

**IN RE: CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (C.A.M.S.)  
RESOLUTION #2009-18 AND #2009-19**

Dan Bridegroom moved to proceed with the Capital Asset Management Strategy (C.A.M.S.) Project with the match funded by the Commissioners' EDIT dollars seconded by Kathy Norem with 2 ayes.

Two resolutions were submitted regarding the C.A.M.S. Project--Resolution #2009-18 Submission of Plan Grant Application and Resolution #2009-19 Submission of Disaster Application for CBDG funding. Kathy Norem moved to approve both Resolutions seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 2 ayes.

**August 17<sup>th</sup>, 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, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

## **IN RE: MINUTES**

Kathy Norem moved to approve the July 30, July 31, and August 3, 2009, minutes seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

## **IN RE: PAYROLL CLAIMS**

Kathy Norem moved to approve the August 8, 2009, payroll seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes.

## **IN RE: ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Charles Weaver submitted an energy audit through a grant with the stimulus program for up to \$50,000 to install more efficient lighting and other energy saving devices. IWM Consulting Group submitted a letter to Mr. Weaver with a letter of understanding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation & the Block Grant Program.

IWM will be here on August 24, 2009, to conduct the audit. Mr. Weaver stated that one of the commissioners should be here in case other things need to be done. Kathy Norem moved to approve the document and conduct the audit seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes. (Document on file in the Auditor's Office.)

## **IN RE: COURTHOUSE AND ANNEX OUTSIDE STAIRS**

The courthouse and annex outside stairs—on the south side of both buildings—need repaired. The commissioners will solicit for proposals to do the repairs. The courthouse stairs are a little trickier as they are sandstone. The commissioners will contact Jim Shilling to help coordinate the repairs on the courthouse stairs.

Mark Milo moved to solicit proposals for the repairs seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes.

## **IN RE: POLLING PLACES IN WAYNE TOWNSHIP**

Evelyn Skronski and James Henriott requested to change the polling sites in three of the precincts in Wayne Township. They requested permission to start looking to relocate them and the locations need the commissioners' approval and must be H.A.V.A. approved.

Mr. Henriott submitted the H.A.V.A. guidelines for polling places and a summation to an inspection of polling places done in 2004.

Mark Milo moved to appoint Dan Bridegroom to the H.A.V.A. advisory board and to approve the request to look for suitable precinct locations seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

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

Richard Callahan attended the meeting at the commissioners' request. The commissioners had questions regarding some concerns neighbors had voiced. Dan Bridegroom wanted it on record that everyone thinks Mr. Callahan is doing a great job at the beach and campgrounds and just want to address the concerns.

Mr. Callahan stated that he met with most of the neighbors and they had no problem with people camping on the beach. Dan said one time, though, he went by and saw towels and bedding hanging all along the beach fence. Mr. Callahan stated that due to a heavy downpour, there was some flooding in the tents and the campers needed to dry out their bedding.

Mr. Callahan stated that the beach is only used for camping when there is an overflow from the campgrounds. He feels that this should be allowed.

Mr. Callahan was planning to store a camper there, but Kathy Norem stated that this wasn't part of the lease agreement—it is not for storage.

There was much discussion about what should or shouldn't be happening at the beach and campgrounds. There was discussion of a potential for winter activities and whether the lease is year-round.

The State Health Department came out and told Mr. Callahan that it was ok to camp on the beach side. Then the state rep. talked to the neighbors and came back and told them he could finish this year out, but he would need to have an engineer come out and draw up a plan to continue to allow camping on the beach side. Mr. Callahan stated that Dave Singleton, County Sanitarian, also checked it out and said that it was ok.

The commissioners want Mr. Callahan to be successful and to make a profit, but they have to consider the rest of the county as well. Dan stated that the commissioners did not stipulate anything. Kathy thinks that it is a difficult situation and she would like to see him be successful, but doesn't know how to resolve the problem. She wishes there would be a little more give and take.

Clyde Haniford spoke against the way the beach side camping is being done.

Rick Yover commended Mr. Callahan and said that he did not mind the overflow camping.

Rich Wiczorak tried to mediate between Mr. Callahan and Mr. Haniford beforehand. Mr. Wiczorak asked Mr. Callahan to move a concession trailer and he did so the next day. Mr. Wiczorak stated that he had previously suggested the need for an oversight committee for the beach and campgrounds and stands behind that suggestion still.

Mr. Haniford suggest moving the electric down to put the camp sites away from their homes and he would be willing to pay \$250 of the \$500 to move the electric and Mr. Yover said that he would pay the other \$250.

Mark Milo stated that Mr. Callahan has already made concessions by removing the trailer and moving the pier. Mark said the beach and campground were there when Mr. Haniford built his home and as long as Mr. Callahan uses good judgment there shouldn't be a problem.

Dan Bridegroom stated that we have to honor the lease. The commissioners asked Mr. Callahan to show some courtesy and for Mr. Haniford to make some concessions.

#### **IN RE: CULVERT ON C.R. 400S BY C.R. 950W**

There are some problems with a culvert on C.R. 400S by C.R. 950 W. Dan wanted to know what the other commissioners' opinions were. He further stated that we don't have the money to replace it and it's not broke. The commissioners will check into putting in rip rap to resolve the problem.

#### **IN RE: SPEED BUMP ON DEBBIE DRIVE IN KNOX**

Mark Milo received a request to put a speed bump on Debbie Drive in Knox. The problem with doing that would be when the road was plowed for snow. The plow would rip up the bump as well as ruin the plow.

#### **IN RE: LAY OFF AT JAIL**

Due to financial shortfalls, Skyler Ellinger was laid off as a jailer. When an opening came up, Mr. Ellinger was hired back. There was a question about how to handle his

vacation time. It was discussed to take the time worked off the year required and he would work that much more to total a year “worked”. County Attorney Martin Lucas pointed out that the handbook says “after one year uninterrupted employment” you earn a week of vacation. Due to the circumstances, though, Dan Bridegroom moved to approve a week of vacation after a full year “worked” is achieved seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

**IN RE: BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

Bruce Williams took a 3-day bereavement leave when his stepfather passed away, which is not listed in the handbook. Kathy Norem stated that she suggested counting it as vacation time until the whole board could vote on it. Kathy Norem moved to give him the 3 days of bereavement leave seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes.

**IN RE: C.R. 450E**

Forest Fishburn had reported some pot holes on C.R. 450E. The highway department came out to fix it, but did not finish it. The commissioners will contact the highway department to take care of the problem.

**IN RE: OVERGROWN BRUSH AT 8320E 25N**

It was reported that there was overgrown brush on the county right of way at 8320E 25N which is obscuring the vision coming out of the driveway. The commissioners will have the highway department take care of this.

**IN RE: AUGUST 26 OFFICE HOURS**

Dan Bridegroom will hold the office hours on August 26, 2009, from 4 to 6 pm.

**IN RE: AMENDMENT FOR INMATE HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACT**

Kathy Norem, on Oscar Cowen’s behalf, submitted an amendment for the inmate health services contract. Martin Lucas stated that three items were stripped out of the contract. The county would still end up being responsible for these items. The commissioners feel that they are obligated to provide services. One of the three services is ambulance service which can be stripped from the contract as we have our own ambulance service. No decision was made on this at this time.

**IN RE: H1N1**

Randy Abbey, Emergency Management and E.M.S. Director, asked what the commissioners were going to do about H1N1. The commissioners feel that the Health Department should come up with a plan and submit it to the commissioners. Randy will get the commissioners more information and will go to the Health Department and see where they are with this.

**IN RE: RESTAURANT INSPECTION CONTRACT**

The health department asked Martin Lucas to look over the restaurant inspection contract. They also wanted him to attend their meeting. Martin stated that there is not a legal issue involved here and that limited county money should not be wasted on him attending this meeting.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mark Milo moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes.

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Mark Milo, Member

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Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor &  
Secretary to the Commissioners