

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

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 Kent Danford, Kathy Norem and Donald Binkley present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner President Kent Danford at 6:30PM following the Executive Session with the Starke County Council.

OPENING OF BIDS, BRIDGE 50 REPLACEMENT

County Attorney Marty Lucas inquired if the bids received were in a timely manner. Auditor Chaffins advised they were received timely. The first bid opened by Attorney Lucas was from JCI Bridge, South Bend, IN in the amount of \$299,072.20. Attorney Lucas advised the second bid was from Northern Indiana Construction Company in Mishawaka, IN in the amount of \$272,681.20. He advised the third bid opened was from LaPorte Construction, LaPorte, IN in the amount of \$276,297.00. Highway Superintendent Rik Ritzler took the bids under advisement and will check back later on in the meeting with a report.

OPENING OF BIDS, COUNTY COURTHOUSE & OLD JAIL BUILDING RENOVATIONS

Attorney Lucas inquired if the bids were received in a timely manner. Auditor Chaffins advised they had been. Derek Anderson of Skillman assisted in the bid openings. Attorney Lucas opened the bids and advised the bids received are in the order that they were opened:

BC No. 01-General Trades:

1. Gibson Lewis—Base Bid \$2,341,500.00; Alt. 1 (Enclose Courtyard and Provide Concrete Stairs): \$68,000.00; Alt. 2 (Sidewalks at Perimeter): \$123,000.00; Alt. 3 (Site Furniture at East Entry): \$11,000.00; Alt. 4 (Screen Walls West Side of Building): \$22,000.00; Alt. 5 (Security Desk and Metal Detector): \$12,000.00; Alt. 6 (Clean/Wash Existing Exterior): \$52,000.00; Alt. 7 (Attic Smoke Detection and Lighting): No Change.
2. Ziolkowski Construction, South Bend, IN—Base Bid \$1,899,000.00; Alt. 1: \$53,800.00; Alt. 2: \$87,600.00; Alt. 3: \$8,200.00; Alt. 4: \$15,500.00; Alt. 5: \$9,200.00; Alt. 6: \$75,600.00 and Alt. 7: No Change.
3. 7GEN Construction—Base Bid: \$2,099,700.00; Alt. 1: \$82,678.00; Alt. 2: \$75,100.00; Alt. 3: \$8,780.00; Alt. 4: \$15,758.00; Alt. 5: \$10,670.00; Alt. 6: \$63,200.00 and Alt. 7: No Change.

BC No. 2—Flooring

1. Ziolkowski Construction Base Bid: \$177,700.00; No Change for all Alternates.
2. Master Tile, Merrillville Base Bid: \$149,854.00: No change for all Alternates.
3. Midwest Tile, Mishawaka Base Bid: \$110,899.00: No change for all Alternates.

BC No. 3—Painting/Wallcovering

1. Ziolkowski Construction Base Bid: \$245,880.00; Alt. 1: \$2,700.00; All other Alternates No Change.
2. Gibson Lewis Base Bid: \$249,000.00; Alt. 1: \$1,250.00; All other Alternates No Change.
3. Oosterbaan & Sons Base Bid: \$143,500.00; No Change for all Alternates.

BC No. 4—Plumbing

1. Griffen Plumbing & Heating Base Bid: \$153,900.00; No Change for all Alternates
2. D.A. Dodd Base Bid: \$204,353.00; No Change for all Alternates
3. EJ White Base Bid: \$194,329.00; No Change for all Alternates

BC No. 5—Mechanical

1. D.A. Dodd Base Bid: \$286,243.00; Alt. 1: \$6,217.00; No Change for all Other Alternates.
2. Griffen Plumbing & Heating Base Bid: \$453,900.00; No Change for all Alternates.
3. Arctic Engineering Base Bid: \$173,200.00; No Change for all Alternates.

4. Griffen P & H (bid on No. 4 & 5 combined) Base Bid: \$602,000.00; No Change for all Alternates

BC No. 6—Electrical/Technology

1. EMCOR Hyre Electric Base Bid: \$297,800.00; Alt 1: \$8,200.00; Alt. 7: \$9,920.00; No Change for all other Alternates.

Mr. Andersen advised he will be verifying the bids and there will be a meeting of bidders on Thursday the 8th and then the meeting with the County on the 12th to approve the bids. Commissioner Norem made a motion to accept the bids. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Binkley and passed with all ayes.

EMS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Director Keith Emigh appeared before the Board to present his department's monthly report. He advised the total billable runs during August were 208, with a total of 63 transfers which consisted of 30% of the calls. He advised a total of \$49.16 was collected from Small Claims Court and a total of \$1,292.21 was collected from Jonathan O'Hara.

Operation Procedure: Director Emigh advised in regard to operational procedures that they are still waiting on DATAMED's update to move forward with the rest of the electronic billings. They are projecting the software should be ready by the middle of October and are looking at billing by the beginning of November.

They had a meeting with Lutheran Air Staff in regard to the helicopter they will be housing at the Starke County Airport which will be operational with the air helicopter in case of emergencies. It will be manned with a paramedic, a pilot, and a mechanic. Director Emigh noted he has not heard if they are bringing in more than one ambulance that will be a backup for the helicopter. He also noted he had a meeting with the full time medics. They discussed getting medicines from the hospital. He was told by the hospital that they will no longer be able to get medication through the Pyxis machine in the ER like they used to. They cannot get medication when the hospital pharmacy is closed. They are able to pick up medication at the LaPorte Hospital but that is not reasonable. They will be stocking more in their rigs so they won't run out.

Director Emigh also advised they did not receive the AFG grant since their EMS budget received a budget cut due to the State's budget cuts for 2016. They did not believe the EMS Department had the extra funding in their budget.

Personnel: Director Emigh advised he had hired three part time EMTs and two part time Paramedics last month. He had three of their part time EMTs get full time jobs last month so they won't be that available for the County. He advised he will be interviewing two more EMTs and one more Paramedic for part time service by the end of the month.

Education: Director Emigh stated he had attended the Safety Committee meeting last month and two training online classes.

Rig Maintenance: He advised Rig 3308 lost its front computer and had to have it replaced with a new one and needed to also have it reprogrammed. Rig 0086 was towed back down to Dobson's in Winamac. He advised the cooler went out. Dobson advised they will be warrantying the engine and will be replacing it. He expects to get that rig back later on this week. In regard to Rig 0514 he stated they had some transmission issues and speed sensor issues but the Highway Department Garage couldn't find anything wrong so it was put back on the road. However it is still experiencing the same issues.

Base Maintenance: Director Emigh stated routine base maintenance was done at all bases. No injuries were reported in the month of August, and the Director is constantly looking at ways to save money on their supplies and services.

Commissioner Norem suggested a sit down meeting with Craig at the Hospital as soon as possible in regard to the medications. She noted it is an inconvenience to the residents of Starke County. Commissioner Binkley asked about the towing bills to Dobson's in Winamac and advised Director Emigh to see if Dobson would pay the towing bills.

COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

Highway Department Superintendent Rik Ritzler appeared before the Board. He advised the bids had been verified and he is recommending they approve and accept the bid from Northern Indiana Construction Company for the replacement of Bridge 50, on CR1150E, just south of SR10. He noted there was an error on the bid of the posting of signs and instead of \$25.00 per sign it was stated as listing only two signs so instead of the costs being \$1,200.00 it is only

\$50.00 thus making the actual bid cost of \$270,531.20. He noted they had estimated the cost of Bridge 50 to be \$318,000.00 so that frees up \$70,000.00. Commissioner Norem made a motion to accept the bid from Northern Indiana Construction Company of the replacement of Bridge 50. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

He advised the Bridge 78 (located on CR250W, just south of Toto Road) project will begin on October 1st; the Bridge 96 (located on CR900S just west of US421) project will be replaced with a culvert and work should begin this month; Bridge 46 (located on CR900E just south of SR10) and Bridge 47 (located on CR625S just west of CR875E) are both in the design phase and should be ready for bid openings later of this year.

Bridge Inspections: The Superintendent met with USI Consultants to coordinate Phase II of their current cycle of bridge inspections. They began the inspections on Tuesday, the 6th. He noted they had provided the updated load rating for Bridge 27 (on CR700E over the Yellow River, just north of SR8). The bridge was recently repaired. The load rating no longer needs to be posted and farm trucks can once again use that route.

Current Road Improvements: He advised their goal for the month of August was to pave/wedge ten miles and chip seal at least twenty miles. He noted they had achieved both goals since they paved eight, wedged four, and chip sealed twenty six miles. He provided a chart of the roads that work done.

LTAP/PURDUE INTERSECTION RECOMMENDATIONS: Superintendent Ritzler advised Purdue has recently conducted a study of three of the County's intersections and they suggested the following: 1. At CR600S & CR210 at Bass Lake they recommend putting in a T-Intersection. It will be presented to the Bass Lake Property Owner's Association. 2. CR200N & CR500E Purdue was asked to do a study since they would like to change where the stop signs are located at that intersection, to put them on CR500E instead of on CR200N. Purdue advised they would do the study free of charge and the Superintendent is asking to take them up on their offer. 3. CR400N & CR300E is currently a two way stop. They asked Purdue to make it a four way stop because of distance problems. They agreed a four way stop is necessary. They recommended to install it the same as they did with the four way stop by Sporty's Pub at Bass Lake.

Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the four way stop at the intersection of CR400N & CR300E. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Winter Operations: This month they will be preparing for winter operations by ordering supplies, reviewing their plow routes and fine tuning their brine spraying. They will also be calibrating their sanders this month.

Commissioner Norem inquired as to the purpose of the orange flags posted by the Bass Lake Beach. Superintendent Ritzler advised that is the location of No Parking Signs requested by the County's Park Board.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

LEASE FOR OFFICE SPACE

Commissioner Norem advised the Offices of the Health Department, the Extension Office, and the Prosecutor's Child Support Office will need to be moved out of their own County Offices while the renovation work takes place. She stated she had given the assignment to County Health Nurse Frank Lynch who was able to find a building to use which is owned by Dr. Theresa Alexander Catlett. The building's rent is \$1,500.00 a month, and there is a \$1,500.00 security deposit. The rest of the Prosecutor's Offices will be moving into the new County Jail and using the Court's Offices. Commissioner Norem made a motion to accept and approve the lease with Dr. Alexander. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem then made a motion to add the \$3,000.00 pay claim to the Claims Docket that will be approved at their meeting tonight. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem advised there is also a charge for lawn care and snow removal at a cost of \$100.00 a month or \$900.00 a year, but that will be paid on September 19th. Attorney Lucas advised he had not thoroughly reviewed the lease but will do so in the Morning. He asked President Danford to pick up the lease from his Office in the AM.

NIPSCO AGREEMENT

Commissioner Norem advised she had discovered the new Jail is being charge the wrong NIPSCO rate. Now we have received a letter from NIPSCO that the Agreement for Electric Service needs to be signed so that the new rate could become effective on October 1st.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

COUNTY CORONER AGREEMENT

Commissioner Norem explained that the Coroner will be required to move out of the garage at the old Jail Building to make room for the renovation process. She advised the Council President, Freddie Baker was able to negotiate with a local funeral home for the storage of a body at the rate of \$200.00 a day if needed by the County Coroner. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the Document written by Attorney Lucas, Agreement for Mortuary Facility Use. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Tim Miller of Royal Star Builders Construction Company appeared before the Board and he asked the Coroner questions to prepare for a price quote he is writing. The quote will be for the construction of the Coroner's Office out at the new County Jail. Baugh Construction also submitted a sealed bid. The bids should be opened at the next Commissioner meeting. Commissioner Norem advised anyone else interested in bidding needs to talk to Commissioner Binkley or Councilman Baker.

GARAGE AT THE BASS LAKE POCKET AREA

Commissioner Norem advised they had received a complaint from the Bass Lake Property Owners Association on the amount of garbage at the Pocket Area in Bass Lake. He stated he would like to see a dumpster placed in that location. Commissioner Norem stated the Highway Department has a procedure they follow in regard to picking up garbage in the Koontz Lake area and suggested they handle the Bass Lake Area also. Highway Superintendent Ritzler advised he will take care of this.

5 YEAR PLAN FOR THE STARKE COUNTY PARK BOARD

Commissioner Norem advised the County will not be purchasing any police vehicles this year but the Coroner's Building will be paid out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. She stated the Board set aside a portion of that Fund to pay for the Park Board to establish a Five Year Plan. She advised the Five Year Plan is a preliminary paper that is required in many fields especially any grant funding the Park Board would apply for. She stated she would like to see a total of \$15,000.00 be available to pay for the creation of that plan or else they could possible get Purdue University to do it as a project. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve funding from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund up to \$15,000.00 to be used by the Park Board for the creation of a Five Year Plan. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Binkley advised he has received telephone calls on the cleanup of the old bank building that is being torn down at San Pierre. He stated he had spoken to the Planning Commissioner Terry Stephenson who advised he had it under control. Commissioner Binkley stated if the Planning Commission can't get the job done maybe the Board of Commissioners need to do it.

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

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the Vendor Claims Docket in the total amount of \$352,871.09 from \$3,000.00 for the rent and security deposit. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the payroll claims docket from the September 2, 2016 payroll, for the pay period that ended on 8/27/16 in the total gross amount of \$223,282.38. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the payroll claims docket for the pay period ending on 8/13/16 with a pay date of 8/19/16 in the total gross amount of \$222,157.89. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 29th special meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the minutes of the 8/15/16 regular meeting. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no public comment and no further business, Commissioner Norem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

Kent Danford, President

Donald Binkley, Vice President

Kathryn Norem

Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners