

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

September 7, 2010

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: PAYROLL AND VENDOR CLAIMS

Kathy Norem moved to approve the payroll claims seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the vendor claims seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: STATE ROAD 23 PROJECT FOR KOONTZ LAKE DAM

INDOT is rescinding their previous offer for a parcel of property, as was sold previously at the May commissioners' sale. They will be submitting another offer for the other part of that parcel. The commissioners accepted the rescinding of that offer and Dan Bridegroom signed the form per a motion by Kathy Norem and seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: MINUTES

Kathy Norem moved to approve the August 16, 2010, minutes with one change—to read notice of breach not eviction on the Bass Lake Lease. Jennifer Davis seconded this motion with 3 ayes.

IN RE: BASS LAKE BEACH AND CAMPGROUNDS

Richard Callahan and his attorney, David Wallsmith, submitted documentation relative to the Beach and Campgrounds. Mr. Wallsmith stated how Mr. Callahan paid the \$14,000+ arrearage on the Bass Lake Conservancy Sewer fees and all the current fees.

Mr. Wallsmith also pointed out that past minutes of the commissioner meetings reflect that receipts were submitted even though they are not on file. Mr. Callahan went to the sources and received duplicates of the invoices and showed them to the commissioners. He will be bringing copies of these to the Auditor's Office. Mr. Callahan also showed proof that the conservancy fees are paid in full through September, 2010.

The commissioners instructed the Auditor, that when received, all the invoices are to be totaled using only the capital improvement amounts. This is all to be brought to the next commissioners' meeting as proof that the lease is paid current.

Mr. Callahan stated that the state was at the beach on Monday to re-inspect but he has not received anything in writing. He was told that everything had been complied with. The state informed him that there is a water heater that needs replaced before opening next season.

Dan Bridegroom reported that the state notified the commissioners that fines and fees would be rendered against the commissioners for failure to meet codes.

Kathy Norem stated that there would be no problems as long as the rules and regulations were followed. She further stated that the commissioners had received four separate notices of non-compliance from the state.

Mr. Callahan informed the commissioners that all violations have been corrected.

The room was full of people who were present on behalf of Mr. Callahan. Twelve of these people wished to speak.

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Rich Wiczorak, Amy Pfau, Larry Wiser, John Diehl, Jeff Magiera, Rosie Rose, Chad Colbert, Rick Yover and Carol Blastic spoke in favor of what Mr. Callahan has done to improve the beach and campgrounds. Michael Johnson and Clyde Haniford spoke against. Terry Turner stated both pros and cons.

Kathy Norem stated that she would like to have better communication with Mr. Callahan. She also wanted to quell rumors that they were kicking out Mr. Callahan in order to lease the property to Mr. Haniford's son-in-law.

Jennifer Davis stated that she wanted everyone to work it out and hopes that if everything works out that Mr. Callahan will be there for a very long time.

Dan Bridegroom stated that he wanted everyone to be on the same page.

The commissioners called for a short recess.

IN RE: COUNTY AUCTION

Scott Dedloff, Highway Foreman, informed the commissioners that the auction was all set for September 23rd. County Attorney Martin Lucas went over the contract with Ozinski Auctions and the contract was signed.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

Ken Wagner, with Starke County Co-op, is interested in supplying the county with fuel. He is requesting that the commissioners stay within the county when purchasing fuel.

Mr. Wagner explained how their company does business and asked if the county can choose their own vendors.

Dan Bridegroom informed him that per state law we have to take bids and Kathy Norem said that we have to take the lowest and most responsible bid. Kathy asked the county attorney to check if we can establish a policy to buy local.

Mr. Wagner asked what the county is looking for, ideally, in a supplier. Dan Bridegroom stated "total reliability" and Kathy Norem agreed. Dan also said flexibility.

Mr. Wagner asked if we would rather have the best price or the best deal. Kathy Norem stated that those both go hand in hand. Mr. Wagner stated that the best price isn't always the best deal, you may pay two cents more a gallon but would be getting better mileage and better power service. Kathy said she would prefer the best deal.

The Country Mark Representative (Country Mark supplies Starke County Co-op) stated that their fuel meets the true EMA standards for premium fuel.

Dan Bridegroom stated that he would like some statements from people who use their fuel.

IN RE: NEW VEHICLE FOR COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Robert Hinojosa with Starke County Community Corrections requested commissioner approval on a new vehicle. He stated that the Advisory Board and the State Dept. of Corrections both have approved. He submitted a list of vehicles that were all from state approved vendors and is looking to purchase a 2010 Dodge Avenger that the Advisory Board has approved. Mr. Hinojosa reported that they do have the funds. Kathy Norem moved to approve them purchasing the 2010 Dodge Avenger for \$16,096.25 seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the claim for \$16,096.25 for a 2010 Dodge Avenger for SCCC with the check to be cut immediately seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

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IN RE: ORDINANCE 2007-26 ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Hinojosa submitted a copy of an ordinance, #2007-26, establishing the community corrections advisory board. This ordinance establishes term lengths for the advisory board as well.

IN RE: BROWNFIELD GRANTS FOR PROPERTIES WITH ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Charles Weaver, Economic Development Director, informed the commissioners that there are Brownfield Assessment Grants for real estate properties with environmental issues. He made a list of properties that might qualify. The grants cannot be given to an owner who caused the environmental problem. He asked the commissioners to support the grant request and to authorize Dan Bridegroom, as president, to sign the letter of support.

This is a regional grant and will not cause issues with other grants.

There are a couple of potential industrial properties that could benefit as well as other properties. Mr. Weaver also wanted to make it clear that the mere presence of a property on the list does not mean it is contaminated.

Kathy Norem moved to approve the letter of support seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: C.R. 300E PROJECT

Charles Weaver submitted a graph report from Lawson Fisher on the CR 300E Project. It is on file in the Auditor's office.

IN RE: STARKE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEB SITE

Charles Weaver informed the commissioners that there is a new feature on the Foundation's web site. It is a PDF fact sheet on the county. Mr. Weaver explained the purpose of the fact sheet. A copy is on file in the Auditor's Office.

IN RE: NORTH JUDSON INDUSTRIAL PARK REZONING

Bruce Williams, Planning Commission Director, submitted a zoning change for the North Judson Industrial Park from R2 to I. Kathy Norem moved to approve seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: PROBLEMS AT KOONTZ LAKE

Kathy Norem told Bruce Williams that she would like to have an organized tour at Koontz Lake on the properties she has had complaints on. They are going to go out on Thursday at 10 am.

IN RE: FRAUDULENT HOMESTEAD CREDITS AND DEDUCTIONS

Tim Jorzak and Jeff Volz with SRI introduced themselves to the commissioners. SRI is our tax sale provider. Mr. Volz explained their Homestead Verification Assistance for Starke County, Indiana. They submitted information on this which is on file in the Auditor's Office.

The commissioners will take this under advisement and have the County Attorney, Martin Lucas, check into this.

IN RE: KOONTZ LAKE SEWER DISTRICT

Mr. McKenna with the Koontz Lake Sewer District requested the commissioners sign the sub recipient grant for the sewer district. He stated that the Sewer Board signed the

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recipient agreement. Kathy Norem moved to sign the sub recipient grant agreement with the understanding that the state had represented that they had approved the extension seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: COURTHOUSE HANDRAILS

Jim Shilling submitted a breakdown on the courthouse handrails for the commissioners to back up the claims for payment.

IN RE: COURTHOUSE TOURS DURING HARVEST FESTIVAL

Jim Shilling reported that about 150 tours of the courthouse were conducted during the Harvest Festival. Students from all three county high schools led the tours. The commissioners approved and signed the thank you notes to be sent to the tour guides.

IN RE: WORKER'S COMPENSATION

The Risk Assessment Surveys were received from Bituminous Insurance, our Worker's Compensation Carrier, with recommendations to the commissioners to increase safety. Everyone who drives a county vehicle and everyone who is in a safety/security position should be subject to random drug/alcohol testing.

Training is needed by the jailers. Martin Lucas, County Attorney, will draft a simple contract for them to sign, that if they accept training from the county, they agree to serve a certain length of time or they have to compensate the county for the training.

A policy for all EMS employees, Jailers, E-911 employees, Sheriff deputies and all operators of county owned vehicles will be initiated on January 1st, 2011, giving the county time to put the policies into effect and fix the budgets for payment. Someone needs to be in charge of implementing the program. Dan Bridegroom moved to initiate the above policy as well as the other recommendations by Bituminous seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

IN RE: PEST CONTROL FOR COUNTY BUILDINGS

Arrow Pest Control submitted a quote for pest control for the Jail, Courthouse and Annex Building in the amount of \$120 for all three. Our current provider does the courthouse and the annex for \$125. We would be getting three buildings done for \$5 less than the current two buildings. Kathy Norem moved to approve Arrow's quote seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: FIRE PANEL

Carl Goodrich, County Custodian, submitted the quote he had received from Simplex for the fire panel at the Annex. The quote was from Simplex and is to update the software for the fire panel for \$2100. Jennifer Davis will talk to Carl to get all the details on this.

IN RE: FOOD INSPECTOR CONTRACT

The council had approved paying \$5000 towards the liability insurance for a food inspector. The health board submitted a contract for a food inspector. Dave Kasvormas is who the Health Department is considering and Mr. Kasvormas showed his credentials to the Health Board at their last meeting. Kathy Norem moved to approve the contract seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

IN RE: ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION BY THE COUNTY

Kathy Norem went through a list of things that need taken care of—such as a new ambulance, handicap entrances at the jail, and the jail roof leaking are just a few of these things. Kathy will e-mail out the list to the commissioners and would like them to look it over and give their input on what they think is the most imperative.

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IN RE: ANIMAL CONTROL

The commissioners would like the animal control officer from the City of Knox to come and address the commissioners regarding animal control county wide.

IN RE: COUNTY CENTENNIAL LEFTOVER FUNDS

Cheryl Ferch submitted a check to the commissioners in the amount of \$722.98. The committee had done everything to insure these accounts were closed after all centennial expenses had been met, but recently received this check. The funds need to be quietused into county general.

There being no further business to come before the board, Kathy Norem moved to adjourn seconded by Jennifer Davis with 3 ayes.

Dan Bridegroom, President

Kathy Norem, Vice President

Jennifer Davis

Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor &
Secretary to the Commissioners

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