

December 1st, 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, PAYROLL & CLAIMS

Kent Danford moved to approve the November 17th minutes, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

Mark Milo moved to approve the claims, seconded by Kent Danford, with three ayes.

Kent Danford moved to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

IN RE: SAN PIERRE PROPERTY LINE DISPUTE

Torrenge Surveying submitted a notice of a legal survey of the South half of the Southeast quarter of Section 29-32-4. There was a property line dispute in that area. Mark MacKillop, County Surveyor, will check into it.

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

EMS received checks from the clerk in the amount of \$102.50 and \$220.00. They also received a check from collections for \$303.90. There were no write offs.

Randy Abbey submitted a draft of what is planned for the Homeland Security meeting scheduled for December 4th.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

John Norris, Interim Superintendent, told the commissioners that he ordered 100 tons of salt today and will need to haul some sand in the next couple of weeks. He cannot use regular sand because it packs and freezes.

John also reported that a highway department truck was involved in an accident and he thinks the frame is bent. It has about 300,000 miles on it. The truck driver was sent home by his doctor. He was not permitted to use a sick day because the last working day was a holiday and the county policy states that an employee will not be paid for a holiday if he/she takes a sick day the day before or the day after. Kent Danford moved to allow Edward Rans to take a sick day today and still be paid for the holiday since the accident happened while on the job. Mark Milo seconded the motion and it passed with three ayes.

The highway department employees' vacation days were discussed. The employee handbook states that vacation days that are not taken by the end of an employee's anniversary month are lost. It was discussed that sometimes employees plan to take a vacation day, but then get called in due to bad weather. Kent Danford moved to approve highway employees, in such cases, to take their vacation day the next consecutive workday. Mark Milo seconded the motion and it passed with three ayes.

Kent Danford moved to have the highway employees stagger their hours on days when they know there is going to be bad weather. This would allow workers to be out throughout the day, but avoid paying overtime. Mark Milo seconded the motion and it passed with three ayes.

IN RE: DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Charlie Weaver told the commissioners that a new website is coming for the Starke County Development Foundation.

He told the commissioners that Starke County is tied for 9th place in the unemployment rate. He gave information to the

commissioners.

He also suggested that the county put together a project to rebuild the intersection at County Road 300 east and State Road 8. He would like the commissioners to authorize a State Historic Preservation Review of the area, done by KIRPC. Kent Danford moved to approve the review, seconded by Mark Milo, with three ayes.

IN RE: THE SYSCO PROJECT

At the November meeting, Baugh Midwest authorized the Sysco project for the Hamlet area. They do not have a date for construction to start as of yet. They will need to get started with the water tower as there are only two companies that do water towers of that size and the EDA money is still available. Kent Danford moved to allow bidding for infrastructure, with the bid opening scheduled for the Commissioners' January 19th meeting. Mark Milo seconded the motion and it passed with three ayes.

IN RE: DAVIS TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

Brenda Stanojevic, Republican Chairperson, requested Davis Township pay the Advisory Board member whom was appointed last year, but not sworn into office until this year. The Indiana State Board of Accounts said the member should not be paid. The commissioners feel they have not been given all the facts. They don't think they have the authority or jurisdiction over the trustee, nor does the council. They said the Advisory Board could vote to order the trustee to pay her. The commissioners would like the County Attorney to talk to the County Clerk and find out her response to this situation.

IN RE: JAIL INSPECTION

Mark Milo moved to approve the payment for the jail inspection, seconded by Kent Danford, with three ayes.

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

Kevin Kroft, President

Kent Danford, Vice President

Mark Milo, Member

Michaelene J Houston, Auditor