

REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY AT 5:00 P.M.

The Switzerland County Board of Commissioners met in regular session pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: commissioners: John Haskell, Mark Lohide, and Steve Lyons, the sheriff, Roy Leap, the county attorney, Wil Goering, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams.

The meeting was opened by Roy who also led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting of August 19th were approved as presented on a motion by John, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

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#1 Clarence Hunt – 4H Fence

Clarence asked if the fence at the 4H fairgrounds along Seminary Street was to be removed. The commissioners asked who will do the work and pay for it. He also spoke about a new security fence.

After some discussion, Mark stated he would go to the next fairboard meeting on Wednesday, the 11th of September, and discuss these issues.

#2 Steve Jones-Ellard – Markland Farmers Market

Insurance liability and vendor policies were discussed. Wil had been in contact with our insurance agent and suggested that the commissioners accept the \$1,000,000.00 liability coverage at this time.

Steve made a motion to accept this coverage, seconded by John and all agreed.

The market has plans to open on October 5, 2013.

#3 Della Swincher – Jeff-Craig Fire Department – Budget Proposal

Ms. Swincher presented a written proposal for the commissioners to study concerning changes to the method that riverboat revenue is distributed to the fire departments. She suggested that the monies, for the fire departments, be disbursed by the township trustees. The Craig Township funds, at present, are not being given to the Jeff-Craig Fire Department; the money actually goes to Patriot.

She is also presenting these documents to the county council at their meeting on September 11th. No action was taken at this time.

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 2**#4 Vickie James – County Treasurer – Collection Agency**

Vicky had a request to hire Eagle Account Group to recover delinquent personal property taxes at no cost to the county. The agency's fees would be added to the tax bill. There is approximately \$60,000.00 in unpaid taxes.

Wil is to examine the agreement before the commissioners sign it.

#5 Highway Department – Swanson Road

County resident, Mary Cooms, read two letters; one from Mary Sargent and the other from Dr. David B. Argo. They both own property on Swanson Road. The letters requested that the county maintain this road. The road is approximately 1 mile in length. Steve and Chris Clerkin will meet and inspect this road.

#6 Other Business

Annex Water Softener: There is a need for a water softener to be installed at the annex building. The ice machine has a lot of lime. Lonnie Harris is looking into the type of softener to be purchased. A person from WinSupply will be at the next commissioners meeting on the 16th to discuss what type of softener to install. Lonnie gave the commissioners paperwork on a "scale buster" for their review.

Moorefield/Bennington Sewer District: Lonnie stated that the Moorefield Fire Department has purchased an old home near their station and that a tank for this residence is going to be capped off. The pump and any other items that can be reused will be removed.

There was a discussion about mowing the Moorefield/Bennington Sewer District property. John Jester has been mowing it for the hay, but may not do it next year. Mark will look into this and advise at the next meeting.

Innovative Energy: Bruce gave the commissioners the renewal request for preventive maintenance and inspections for the heating and air conditioning for the courthouse and jail. Innovative is the current maintenance provider. The commissioners requested that a representative from Innovative Energy be present at the next meeting, if possible. They want to discuss what the contract covers – Bruce is to notify Innovative of this request.

JSSCC HEATING & AC: Bruce had two bids to replace the outside 31/2 ton ac unit at this building: Sigmon's Heating & Cooling = \$2,300.00 and J & S Appliance = \$2,580.00.

Mark made a motion to accept Sigmon's bid of \$2,300.00, seconded by John and all agreed.

Bruce also stated that another ac unit at the JSSCC building needs inspected for problems. The commissioners advised that Greg Sigmon should also do the inspection at 4 hours of labor and \$40.00 for parts.

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Animal Shelter Vehicle: Keli Gabbard gave the commissioners various prices for a vehicle that she has requested. A long discussion followed with Gayle providing prices on Ford work trucks, 2-wheel and 4-wheel drive.

Topics discussed: 1. type of vehicle and cost, 2. if council would purchase it, 3. the need to be involved in picking up large animals, 4. trailers and the transporting of rescue animals, 5. the policy change on large animals.

After more discussion, John made a motion to change the policy and for the shelter to only pick up dogs and cats, seconded by Steve and all agreed. No decision was made as to what type of vehicle to purchase. Mark will go with Keli to the next council meeting.

Animals Shelter Washer and Dryer: Keli also had a request to purchase a new washer and dryer for the shelter at a price of \$1,577.94 for both. John made a motion to purchase the washer and dryer, seconded by Mark and all agreed. Washer cost is \$719.00, the dryer cost is \$719.00, and the 2-year extended warranty is \$139.94. To be paid out of Cum Cap funds.

#7 Conflict Of Interest Form

Steve is on the board for the Solid Waste District who rents a building on Ferry Street from his wife's family. Steve provided a conflict of interest statement to be filed with the county clerk and the State Board of Accounts. The auditor is to do the filing.

#8 Personal Leave Days

Gayle read the new wording for the personnel policy in regards to personal days. The number of days per year (4) remains the same. The difference is that they will be awarded quarterly instead of annually. John made a motion to accept the change, seconded by Mark and all agreed. The change will be effective January 1, 2014.

#9 Connie Wallace – EMA

Connie spoke about Code Red calls and the various situations that would be a Code Red call. She requested that the EMA continue to initiate the calls. The commissioners agreed by consensus.

The black Ford Crown Vic was discussed. The county may now sell it if they want. The commissioners decided that the EMA should keep the vehicle for the time being. It does not have license plates or insurance at this time.

The topic of the EMA being the District 9 fiscal agent was discussed. Due to a timing issue, Decatur County will be the new agent for all but one grant which we will retain for the balance of 2013 in order to have funding for the Full Scale Exercise.

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#10 Trash & Junk Car Ordinance

An approximately 45-minute discussion followed with members of the audience and the commissioners regarding the trash and junk car ordinance. The members of the audience suggested that the ordinance should be more of a health issue and not about junk vehicles and vehicles that are used for parts. Each commissioner spoke about the need for this ordinance.

There is still a 1996 ordinance in effect that addresses abandoned vehicles. Mark Helt stated that the health department requires complaints regarding health issues be signed by the party initiating the complaint. He stated that the health department issues are normally with unconfined household trash/garbage. The state law has been changed to allow counties to recover the cost and to give them powers to maintain the properties.

Other Issues: Other issues discussed with the audience were: dust control on Brushy Fork Road and access to cemeteries on private property.

With no further business to come before the board, John made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Attest: _____
Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana