

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 minutes of the previous meeting of November 4th were approved as presented on a motion by John, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

The claims were approved as presented on a motion by John, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

#1 *Connie Wallace – EMA*

Connie stated that the EMA received 144 points for the past assessment.

She also informed the commissioners that the county did not receive any damage from Sunday's storms.

Mark suggested that Connie should drive the EMA pickup truck to her house a couple times a week to keep the battery charged and the vehicle in good running order.

There was a line item budget issue; some money needs to be transferred to pay for radio repairs. Connie will submit the transfer(s) to the auditor's office.

#2 *Highway Department*

Chris Clerkin, highway superintendent, had estimates for repairs on a diesel 2006 Ford F250. The estimates were \$8,000.00 for an EGR valve and head gaskets. The vehicle is worth about \$10,000.00 not counting the needed repairs.

After some discussion the commissioners decided not to repair the truck and for Chris to check and see what the trade-in value would be and to bring the information to the next meeting. (This vehicle is driven by a foreman.)

Chris said he could get a replacement gas Ford F250 for \$24,618.82; the retail would be \$32,370.00.

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#3 Other Business

1. *Library Board Appointments:* Steve made a motion to reappoint Diana Johnson and Denise Crawford to the library board, seconded by John and all agreed.
2. *SIRPC Letter:* Gayle read aloud the letter from the commissioners to SIRPC. John made a motion that the commissioners sign the letter, seconded by Steve and all agreed. This is concerning “brown fields”.
3. *Keystone Disaster Recovery Agreement:* The annual Keystone Disaster Recovery Agreement was explained by Gayle. John made a motion to sign the agreement, seconded by Steve and all agreed. Mark signed the agreement.
4. *Snow Removal Bids:* Wil opened the two bids: Glenn Gosnell for \$60.00 per hour plus \$5.50 per bag of salt and Parham Excavating for \$70.00 per hour (no additional cost for salt was mentioned). John made a motion to accept Gosnell’s bid, pending proof of insurance, seconded by Mark and all agreed.
5. *Bennington Bridge Bids:* Wil opened the only bid from E & H Bridge and Grating of Bedford, Indiana for the bridge kit. The bid was \$170,197.00. (Another bid will be needed in the future for labor and sub-structure.) The price of the bridge will not change. After some discussion Steve made a motion to accept the bid, seconded by John and all agreed.
6. *Redistricting:* This is an issue that does not affect the commissioners but affects the county council; the at-large members. This redistricting should be done after each census to see how much of a change has taken place concerning the county’s population in each district. The county council’s attorney, Cody Kendall, advised council that we were overdue to have county districts reviewed. He has a contact that will do the process for \$10,000.00 for the council’s districts and \$10,000.00 for the commissioners’ districts. After much discussion the commissioners decided to sign the contract to-do the council’s redistricting only because all the commissioners run at-large. Mark made a motion to hire Platform, Inc. to do the redistricting for county council and not the commissioners, seconded by John and all agreed.
7. *Tourism Board:* Wil is going to research the occupations and politics that are needed for members to be selected to this board. The commissioners will then advertise for the position.
8. *2014 Dates:* Steve made a motion to approve the pay dates and the meeting dates of the commissioners, seconded by John and all agreed. Holidays will be decided at the next meeting.
9. *Thanksgiving Dinner:* Gayle requested that the courthouse be closed for one hour on the Friday before Thanksgiving so that the county courthouse employees can have their Thanksgiving meal. Mark approved the request, seconded by Steve and all agreed.
10. *Telephone Bill:* Gayle explained to the commissioners her frustrations in obtaining concise telephone bills from CenturyLink. A discussion followed about this problem and the cost for telephones. Council had asked Gayle to request the commissioners change the time from when they would consent to a phone bill review by ESPY. Gayle will contact the ESPY Company to examine the phone bills in early 2014.

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Other Business cont'd

11. *Road Changes:* John spoke about the road changes that Hilltop Basic Resources had requested at an earlier meeting. Steve stated he had spoken with a complainant about the road changes. John also spoke about the large amount of materials that had been removed by Hilltop Basic Resources. He also asked if Hilltop pays a mineral tax and/or a replacement policy. Wil will look into what agreements are currently in place and what taxes or fees we are able to impose.
12. *Tree Removal:* Mark said that the large tree located at the corner of Goodner Road and Bear Branch Road will be cut down on Wednesday at 8:00 a.m.
13. *Storms:* Mark also thanked people that were on standby for any emergency that might have occurred during Sunday's storms.
14. *Active Shooter Training:* Roy Leap requested the use of the courthouse on a Thursday afternoon for the active shooter training. The commissioners agreed by consensus.

With no further business to come before the board, Steve made the motion to adjourn, seconded by John and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Attest: _____

Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana