

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: Mark Lohide, Steve Lyons, and Josh South, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams. The sheriff, Roy Leap, and the county attorney, Wil Goering, were absent.

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

The minutes of December 1st were approved as presented on a motion by Mark, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

The claims were approved on a motion by Josh, after he asked the auditor to hold the Verizon cell phone bill for Zack Brogan of LEPC for Wil to examine. The motion was seconded by Mark and all agreed.

#1 Carolyn Miller – Cemetery Board Update

Carolyn gave the commissioner a written report for 2014 that also listed the board's goals for 2015. Work is being done at the Cotton Cemetery now and the Vevay Cemetery is next.

All board members would like to remain on the cemetery board except Shila Geyman who now lives out of the county and would like to be replaced. Carolyn recommended Cyndi Barnes as Shila's replacement.

Mark made a motion to appoint Cyndi Barnes to the cemetery board and to reappoint all of the current board members. This was seconded by Josh and all agreed. Mark made a motion to accept the 2014 cemetery board report, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

#2 Peg Ehlers – Extension Office Sign and Contract Signature

After some discussion, Mark made a motion to sign the contract for 2015 with Purdue, seconded by Josh and all agreed. The county's part of the extension services support is \$40,970.00.

Peg also requested a sign be placed at the tech building to identify the extension office's location. Bruce is to contact Mitch and Bert concerning this.

#3 Jon Bond – Economic Development Commission

Jon came to ask the commissioners to sign the Government Affairs Service Agreement with Lewis and Kappes Government Relations. Council had approved \$60,000.00 to cover their annual fees. Josh made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

Josh requested a quarterly expenditures report to detail the expenses of county contracts with the EDC.

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Other issues discussed:

1. Wording in the contract be changed in reference to quarterly reporting (Wil will do this).
2. The auditor is now the treasurer for the Redevelopment Corporation.
3. Markland Center building lease.
4. The three-phase electric has been installed at the Markland Center.

#4 Randy See – EMS 2015 Contract

This is the same contract as for 2014. The contract language will need to reflect the quarterly expense report (as requested by Josh). The commissioners are to sign the contract at a later meeting after the wording change.

#5 Highway Department

Update on Road Repairs: Darrell Keith, interim highway superintendent, and Bernie Haurspenger, of FPBH Inc. gave the update on the road repairs. The topics discussed were as follows:

- A. A change order for additional erosion on Popcorn Ridge Road will cost \$13,489.21. After some discussion, Josh made a motion to approve the change order, seconded by Mark and all agreed.
- B. A 10-day extension was granted by the USDA on this project. The extension will end on December 22, 2014.
- C. Notice of grant and agreement awards.
- D. Adkinson Hill repairs are 50% completed.
- E. It's too late to lay asphalt on Markland Pike. Steve requested the county highway department shore up the area with the duropatching to get through winter.
- F. More slide problems on Popcorn Ridge Road for the highway department to do. Some options were discussed.
- G. An update on IDEM, DNR, and Army Corp of Engineers permits.
- H. Mark had a question about a claim from CenturyLink in reference to damage to a telephone line on Knaus Road.

#6 Other Business

- A. Board appointments: There was not a lot of response from the public in reference to the newspaper ad concerning board appointments. The article was in the classified section. Bruce is to ask the newspaper office to re-run the ad and have it as a block ad. Bruce is to contact present commissioner appointed board members to see if they are interested in remaining on their respective board and to ask them to send in a request for re-appointment. This is tabled until the January 5, 2015 meeting.
- B. Revolver/Side Arm ordinance: The sheriff had requested, by ordinance that a 20-year member of the sheriff's department be allowed to keep the department issued side arm. Wil had approved the document. After some discussion, Mark made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

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Other Business cont'd

Steve stated that a deputy is leaving the department and his wife wants to purchase the deputy's service weapon and will pay the replacement cost for the same type of weapon. After some discussion, this request was approved on a motion by Mark, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

- C. COBRA rates: The commissioners approved the 2015 COBRA insurance rates by consensus; they initialed the document.
- D. Conduit at the Markland Business Park: There is a large amount of 4" schedule 40 conduit in a building next to the Markland Center. The county highway department would like to use the building for storage. After some discussion, the commissioners requested Jon Bond to advertise the conduit for sale.
- E. JSSCSCC emergency closing: The commissioners decided that Lifetime Resources, which uses the building to serve meals to senior citizens, has a key to the JSSCSCC. They may continue to do so during snow emergencies, however, our employee will not be required to be there during weather watches and/or warnings.
- F. December 26th federal holiday: No action was taken on this matter.
- G. EMA grant signatures: The commissioners signed the grants that the EMA director had previously applied for and needed their signatures on.
- H. Recycle center doors: Mark had a complaint in reference to the large doors at the recycle center being left open and causing a lot of heat loss. Steve stated he has spoken with someone about this at the recycle center and the problem will be addressed.
- I. Jail reception area: Rosemary Bovard stated that a lady had told her that the reception area at the jail needs painted and that the floors are dirty.

With no further business to come before the board, Josh made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

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