

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 sheriff, Nathan Hughes, the county attorney, Wil Goering, and the auditor, Gayle Rayles.

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

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

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

#1 Kerry McConnell – SIRPC – Housing

Kerry said this was a public hearing regarding the Owner Occupied Housing Program \$350,000 Grant. This grant will assist 14 low to moderate income residents with home repairs such as roofs, bathroom updates, handicapped ramps, etc. Currently they have 13 approved applicants. Anyone interested in the program can contact SIRPC to get on the waiting list.

#2 Chris See – EMA – Assessment Update

Chris said the grant process for this cycle has been completed. They should be hearing soon about what grants are approved.

There was a discussion on the recent power outage that effected the computers and phone lines at the tech center where the EMA offices are located. Chris said he was unable to use the Nixel program because the internet was not working and the Nixel program did not recognize his IP address when he tried to access it through his lap top. He is working on having Kevin Hayes, Communications Director, set up as an administrator on the Nixel system.

The lack of phones and internet during outages is an ongoing problem. The hub for the phone lines is located in the courthouse, which does not have a backup generator. Steve has contacted Dave Muncey, with CenturyLink, regarding solutions less expensive than moving the hub to the tech center or purchasing a generator for the courthouse.

There was a discussion when to send weather alerts out.

Steve complimented Chris and the Jeff-Craig Fire Department for their work during the outage. Josh followed up by recognizing Steve for his involvement.

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 2

#3 Chief Deputy Brian Morton – Speed Ordinance

Brian stated that there is an initial speed limit ordinance and then a second one when the next speed study was conducted. He would like to work with Wil to establish one ordinance that would be all inclusive for now and the future. The plan would be to have a simplified sheet for the deputies to use when stopping someone for a speeding violation; similar to what the state does on their fee schedule. These would be ordinance violations, not traffic infractions which are set by the state.

#4 Nathan Hughes – Taking Prisoners Out to Work

Nathan stated that in order to have the prisoners work outside of the jail they need approval from the commissioners and the insurance company. Elyssa Haskell, of Hummel Insurance, is checking into the insurance coverage. No serious crime offenders will be used. Those who are pre-trial detainees can sign a waiver if they are willing to work. Post-trial detainees can be told to work. The commissioners had no problem with this.

There was a discussion on Switzerland County having a community corrections facility. Currently we do this with Dearborn County and they receive all of the compensation from the state.

The recent jail inspector said our jail is understaffed. Nathan said we need another person now. If we get up to capacity we will need more than one additional employee.

#5 Highway Department

1. Concrete has been poured on Bridge #5. The project is ahead of schedule
2. Slips have been repaired
3. Pleasant Grove had a small washout during recent rains – this is repaired
4. Discussion on Detour Road repair to see if there is a less expensive solution to replacing the bridge or installing large culvert – Josh and Darrell are to look at this
5. Steve and Darrell are to look at Grants Creek
6. There is an issue with a wall on Long Run
7. Mark suggested we need a guard rail on Fishing Worm
8. Now that the bridge on SR156 is open, Darrell is to look at Antioch and compare the condition of the road to the pictures taken before SR156 was closed due to the bridge outage
9. Chip and seal is to begin after the 4-H Fair
10. Need to rent a roller with rubber tires for chip and seal

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 3**#6 Vickie Hinman – Vevay Main Street**

Vickie said that Vevay Main Street was making efforts to be more self-sufficient. They have applied for licenses to have bingo and raffles on First Friday. She came to discuss using the Jack Sullivan Center for bingo. Steve mentioned that there would probably need to be some compensation to cover the county's cost of having the building used. There was also a discussion on special event insurance.

Vickie asked if it was okay for the band, who will be performing for First Friday on July 3rd, to plug into the courthouse outlet. There is no problem with the request.

Vickie said there are two nominees for "Hometown Heroes"; Larry Tolbert and Tony Peelman. She invited the commissioners to attend the ceremony on July 3rd when the winner will be announced.

#7 Region 9 Workforce Development Form

The Commissioners signed the required form.

#8 Storage Building at the Clinic

Sandra, from the Nurse Managed Clinic, said the out building they use to store old medical records is made of wood and is rotting. She would like to have it replaced with a metal building. This one would be slightly smaller and not have a loft. The cost of building, including delivery, is \$2,595. The cost to have Errol Judy take care of the electric is \$445.50. The commissioners asked Sandra who was going to pay for the building. Sandra indicated that they have no budget for this and thought it would be paid for out of the building fund for the medical building. Gayle said there was sufficient money to cover this out of the Medical Center Fund. Josh asked if the board had approved this. Sandra indicated they were an advisory board and really didn't have any input on the building(s). The commissioners gave their approval by consensus.

#9 Telephone System Back-up

Discussed early in the meeting.

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 4

#10 Non-Agenda Items

Town Power Outages

Steve brought up the recent power outage that lasted 21 hours. Issues discussed:

- A. Plans for a Community Meeting with Duke Energy representatives, State Rep. Randy Frye, County Council, Commissioners and the Town Council all present.
- B. Vevay has single line service, so there is no other source of electric when we have a problem. Some areas have an agreement with REMC to provide service when Duke is down.
- C. The line right-a-ways need to be trimmed.
- D. Randy Frye is on the Committee at the State House that oversees Utilities
- E. There have been 4 major outages in the last 18 months

Eric Rabe, with the local IGA store, spoke about loss of insurance coverage due to excessive claims and the out of pocket cost he has experienced. For now the store is closed. He plans to have the remaining inventory out by Thursday, June 25th. If there is a plan in place to prevent so many outages, he can restock the store and have it open again in 24 hours.

Bridge #5 on Bennington Pike

Joe Parham has completed 38% of the work on Bridge #5 and brought paper work for the commissioners to sign to approve payment. The papers need to be signed by the engineering firm. Gayle will handle this and take care of getting Joe paid.

Mark Archer – Planning & Zoning

Mark Archer reported that there has been progress at the site in Bennington where he's had complaints about the trash, where the old building was gone, and there was an exposed basement.

He also asked about using the EMA vehicle while the Durango is in the garage for repairs. The commissioners were fine with Mark using the EMA F150 while his Durango is in the shop.

Mal-practice Insurance

Sandra asked for information about the malpractice insurance. Katia's policy is up in July. Wil is to try again to get in touch with the underwriter.

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 5

Economic Development Questions

Jon Bond fielded some questions about Economic Development Corporation's use of the model home they purchased at Bud Ballard Road and SR156, the Industrial Park, and if sewage is available for new businesses.

There being no further business to come before the board, Josh made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mark and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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