

**SPECIAL MEETING – TUESDAY AT 6:00 P.M.**

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

Those present: commissioners: Mark Lohide, Steve Lyons, and Josh South, the sheriff, Nathan Hughes, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams.

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

**#1 Courthouse Maintenance Position**

Steve stated that there were 13 applicants and that 3 of the applicants were interviewed. Josh made a motion to hire Wesley Poling, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

**#2 EMS Contract**

Steve read a portion of the 2016 EMS contract that had changes from the 2015 contract. Lisa Rosenberger, attorney for the EMS, was present and expressed concerns regarding the section that states a council person and a commissioner be on the EMS board as a voting member. They are welcome as non-voting members but she said that, in her opinion, being on the board with voting privileges is a conflict of interest. Josh explained that the county's relationship with EMS is different than the other contracts they enter into.

This issue remains unresolved.

The new contact calls for a citizens' board with a single vote. Lisa said there is already a citizens' board, (Pat Lanham, Jill Hutcherson, and Jeff Darling) but they have no voting rights.

Another section of the 2016 contract addresses ambulances used for non-emergency services. Lisa said this is in agreement with their current practices. Josh asked for greater detail in the financial reports sent to the county officials.

There was a discussion on the Open-Door Law and if EMS is subject to this law since they receive public money. Lisa disagrees. Josh reminded her that in the past they have requested their employees be added to the county benefit package and to be able to have municipal tags. Steve mentioned the previous request for funds for equipment and repairs. These are not typical contract requests.

Lisa also said that the county cannot require EMS return the property purchased by the county if the contact is terminated as long as EMS continues to exist.

Mark asked about recent probation and findings that EMS is required to have a "certified Indiana supervising hospital". Lisa said they have appealed the findings and are in negotiations with Homeland Security's legal counsel. They are requesting they be permitted to use Carroll County Hospital.

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**#3 Courthouse Heat**

Tabled until the next meeting.

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 6:55 p.m.

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor  
Switzerland County, Indiana