

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, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams.

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

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of October 3rd and the special meeting of October 10th 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 David Bottorff – AIC Scholarship Award

Mr. Bottorff came on behalf of the Indiana Association of Counties to present Brook Todd the \$500.00 SRI scholarship. She is a student at Hanover College. Photographs were taken with the commissioners and Brook receiving the check from Mr. Bottorff.

#2 Billy Kirkham – Colonial Life Insurance

Mr. Kirkham spoke about how the county could save money by combining various insurance companies. He talked about benefits, health care savings, prevention and wellness programs, and has references from 15 to 20 counties.

Gayle asked how this would save the county money. Mr. Kirkham said it would be in their wellness program preventing future expenses. She said the county already has a very active wellness program with great incentives that almost everyone is participating in it.

The commissioners agreed to look over the information packet that Mr. Kirkham provided each of them.

#3 Darin Woods – Lighting Tech

Mr. Woods had contacted a county councilman to do a study on county buildings to see if money could be saved by switching to LED bulbs. He has already looked at the tech building and passed out a report on his findings. The LED bulbs would have a 5-year warranty. After some discussion the commissioners decided to have Mr. Woods do a study of each of the county buildings and come back to a future commissioners' meeting with his findings and a proposal.

#4 Highway Department

Darrell Keith, highway supervisor, stated he has been waiting for permit examples from Janssen and Spaans. He also spoke about getting a retainer to assist in obtaining permits. Darrell is meeting tomorrow with a representative from Janssen and Spaans. The commissioners would like to see all work be done in house and the work would start on the repairs on Markland Pike, Spring Branch Road, and Log Lick Road is to follow.

#5 Other Business

Deed signature Park Board land: This is a deed from the federal government for the Bryants Creek Boat Ramp land. Wil read aloud the requirements that need to be done to keep ownership of the property. Steve signed the deed.

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Other Business cont'd

Living with Diabetes Class: Peg Ehlers, of the Extension Office, would like to teach a 4-session class on Living with Diabetes in the courthouse basement after election is over and during working hours. Mark made a motion to allow the class, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

GRW contract signature: GRW is to work on the county assessment plan. Mark made a motion to sign the contract, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

SCER building maintenance: Mark stated that Bert Allen, courthouse custodian, had called him and asked him about a needed change order at the SCER building concerning rotted sheeting around the water heater. The commissioners approved the extra work by consensus. They would like to know the cost.

Audience question: Mr. Stivers asked if any studies had been done about how LED lights might affect your health, such as eye problems and/or mood swings. Josh stated his place of employment has LED lights and there is no effect on people.

Rosemary Bovard had a complaint in reference to a property in Bennington owned by Mr. Teeters. The grass needs mowed and junk needs to be removed. Mark is to check with Mark Archer, of Planning and Zoning, to see if there is a complaint on file.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mark made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Josh and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Attest: _____

Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana