

**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 chief deputy, Richard Lock, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams. The county attorney, Wil Goering, was absent.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting of July 15<sup>th</sup> 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 Steve, seconded by John and all agreed.

**#1 Eric Cole – YMCA Contract**

Russ Brink, the YMCA board president, was also present. He and Eric spoke about the services and scholarships that the Y has to offer. They do not consider the contract we have with them for the county employees to be memberships.

After some discussion, Steve, made a motion to renew the contract for \$10,000.00 (it was previously \$20,000.00). Mark seconded the motion and John voted "nay". Mr. Brink stated that the board would approve the contract.

**#2 Patricia Conner & Katie Collier – Grants Creek**

Patricia advised the commissioners about the Grants Creek mitigation plan. The main items are as follows:

1. The plan has been approved by the Army Corp of Engineers and the USDA. (The US Fish and Wildlife and the DNR are in the process of reviewing the plan.)
2. The approved 19 ½ acres is owned by the Vevay Switzerland County Foundation.
3. A restrictive covenant will be placed on the seed for the 4000 feet stream and the wetlands are to be untouched permanently.
4. The S.W.C.D. is to inspect yearly for invasive species. If there are invasive species present the county highway department is to remove them if needed. The highway department is to inspect and maintain the area regarding trash and debris.
5. The Commissioners were asked to sign a long-term maintenance plan. The county will need to report to IDEM and the Army Corp. of Engineers annually.
6. Signs will need to be placed on the property.
7. The cost of the signs and the maintenance should be about \$3,000.00 a year.
8. Katie Collier signed for the S.W.C.D.

Mark made a motion to accept the mitigation plan, seconded by John and all agreed.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 2**

**#3 Tommy Sullivan – Vending Machines at the Learning Center**

Wil was not present to review the proposal to place the vending machine at the learning center. No action was taken at this time.

**#4 Carson Trotter – CenturyLink**

Carson spoke about the power outage at the courthouse last month that caused the phone systems to fail at the health department, nurse managed clinic, the extension office, the EMA office, the animal shelter, and the highway department. The phone call manager needs to be at a location that has a generator, such as the sheriff's office. The courthouse is the present hub.

The cost to move the hub would be \$120.00 per hour.

The commissioners discussed this issue and decided that John, Gayle, a county council representative, and Jon Bond would meet and review the phone system with CenturyLink. No other action taken at this time.

**#5 Melissa Johnson – Ohio River Port Project**

Melissa distributed a packet of information explaining the future ideas and plans for the expansion of the Port of Cincinnati. The proposal is to take the port from 26 linear miles to 205 miles if all of the counties along the river agree.

**#6 Lou Gordon – Food Pantry**

Lou advised the commissioners about the operation and the restocking process. The food is distributed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

There were 198 families (646 people) received food this past July. Everyone who works at the food pantry is a volunteer.

Lou also spoke about a distribution called; "Feed the Children" that is to take place September 24<sup>th</sup> at the food pantry. This will be the 1<sup>st</sup> distribution of its kind in Indiana.

**#7 Linda Elam – East Enterprise Sewer District**

Linda advised the commissioners that routing the sewage to Florence is no longer an option.

## REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 3

*Linda Elam – East Enterprise Sewer District cont'd*

She also had 2 bids to repair the manhole covers. The manholes are allowing rain water to enter the system. The bids are good until the end of August then the cost will change.

J.D. Reed LLC	-	\$64,240.00
PEMCO	-	\$89,700.00

Steve stated that Linda will need to go to the next council meeting. Mark and Steve will be at the next East Enterprise Sewer District meeting only.

The commissioners discussed billing and sewer expansion. No further action was taken.

*#8 Lisa Clerkin – Red Cross Update*

Lisa came to give the commissioners a written update of the Switzerland County Red Cross activities.

*#9 Highway Department*

*Fox Trail Lane:* Patty Viero wanted verification from Chris Clerkin, the highway department superintendent, and the commissioners that Fox Tail Lane is not a county road. The Town of Patriot had annexed part of the road several years ago and has maintained it other than mowing. The road sides need mowed. She will attend the next Patriot town board meeting and will advise the board that Patriot should do the mowing - not the county. **It is not a county road.**

*Chip & Seal:* Chris gave an update and costs so far, for the chip and seal project. Bennington Road is scheduled next.

*Bud Ballard Road:* Steve spoke about closing part of Bud Ballard Road that is located in the Markland Industrial Park site.

*#10 Rachel Schuler – Lake Geneva Road*

Rachel has a question about some houses on Lake Geneva Road. The deed shows restrictions that are not being followed. Mark and Steve referred the question to Jon Bond, who was present. Jon stated that typically restrictions on property are for the benefit of other landowners who purchased a lot in a particular section and the county would not have jurisdiction over the restriction enforcement.

Rachel also stated that the council, (she is a member), is looking into a centralized purchasing plan. This should save the county some money and would not have to be a budget issue for each office. The commissioners agreed this was a good idea.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 4****#11 Other Business**

1. *Trash Ordinance:* Some wording will need to be discussed with Wil. A motion to table this item was made by John, seconded by Mark and all agreed.
2. *Tourism Appointment:* Steve recommended Steven Ellard-Jones, (a republican), be appointed. John seconded the motion and all agreed.
3. *Sealing and Striping:* One bid was received from Derrick Adams for the jail and the courthouse lots: \$1,140.00 for the courthouse and \$1,650.00 for the jail front and side. This was approved on a motion by John, seconded by Steve and all agreed.
4. *Personnel Policy Changes:* Tabled
5. *George Adam's Resignation:* Mark read the letter of resignation from George Adams so all could hear. John made a motion to accept the resignation, seconded by Steve and all agreed.
6. *Interim EMA Director:* Mark made a motion to appoint Connie Wallace as the interim EMA director, seconded by John and all agreed. Mark also spoke about the advisory board. This board needs to meet and suggest a new EMA director to the commissioners. Mark will arrange a meeting.
7. *EMA Grant:* Connie advised the commissioners that the EMA was selected to receive a \$4,000.00 grant to up-grade their computers. The grant will be presented by Governor Mike Pence at the Jeff-Craig Firehouse on August 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

Connie said some repairs are needed on the EMA pickup truck. It appears to have alignment problems and the tire sensor light is blinking. The commissioners wanted to see if this might be a warranty issue.

8. *Farmers' Market Agreement:* The opening date is slated for September 14<sup>th</sup>. There was a question about the wording concerning the insurance coverage that needs an explanation. Wil and Hummel Insurance will be contacted.
9. *Moorefield/Bennington Sewer:* Glenn Scott was given permission to remove a barb wire fence at the Moorefield Sewer site. This would make it easier to mow.
10. *OVLD Dumpsters:* Mark Helt spoke about the 3 dumpsters that were used at the OVLD and that 300 tires had been disposed of in a 4<sup>th</sup> dumpster.
11. *Roadside Dumps:* Pete Furnish said roadside dumps need to be addressed.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 5**

With no further business to come before the board, Mark made the motion to adjourn, seconded by John and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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