

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
And
SWITZERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL**

JOINT MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 at 6:45 P.M.

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

Those present: commissioners: Mark Lohide, Steve Lyons, and Josh South, council: Mike Bear, Elizabeth Jones, Rachel Bladen, and Glenn Scott, the county attorney, Wil Goering, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams.

Steve opened the meeting.

#1 East Enterprise Regional Sewer District - Funding

Julie Berry spoke to the commissioners on the need for an updated study for the EERSD project. It's been 2 years since the last study was performed. Their proposal is to update the figures and etc.

The EERS Board has contacted the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission and is working with Susan Craig. They will be applying for a Community Focus Grant. They are hoping to receive \$500,000.00 with a match from the county. There is a possibility that they will qualify for \$550,000.00. Josh said these grants are very competitive. The EERSD board is doing the preliminary work of the grant application which is due in October. There has been an income study and the results show that 62% of the residents are moderate to low income which will be in the sewer district's favor in the grant application process.

IDEM's deadline is to have the improvements done in September of 2017. However, as long as they are working on the grant process and continuing the upkeep of the system, they will work with them. At this time EERSD is in compliance (**but are under an Agreed Order by IDEM**). There have been no new findings. If the sewer district fails to show an effort to resolve the issues, IDEM could take over the operations of the plant. If that were to happen the rates for service **COULD** go to \$99.00 per month.

The agreement with Midwestern Engineering will be with EERSD. Josh recommended giving the \$15,000.00 to the EERSD for the study. Elizabeth made a motion to pay for the study, seconded by Rachel and all agreed.

Wil recommended that when it comes time to hire a contractor to do the actual work, the county purchase a performance bond.

Julie said that only municipalities can apply for OCRA grants and that will be up to EERSD. There would be an interlocal agreement between the EERSD and the county.

Steve recommended an owner's representative for the county be in the project budget.

East Enterprise Regional Sewer District - Funding cont'd

Josh made a motion to accept the agreement with Midwestern Engineering, seconded by Mark and all agreed. Steve signed the letter to Tammy Butts.

Debbie Van, of the EERSD, said they are out of money and need supplies and money to cover miscellaneous bills and debt. She brought and itemized list. There was a discussion of how much money is needed and its usage. Rachel emphasized that the money would need to be used for the items on the list and not deferred to other expenses. Elizabeth made a motion to give EERSD \$29,400.00 (the exact amount on the list) which was seconded by Rachel. The motion passed with a vote of 3 to 1 with Mike voting no because he would like more information.

With no further business to come before the joint session, Josh made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Glenn and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Commissioners:

Council:

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