

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NOVEMBER 21, 2016

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 meeting of November 7th were approved as presented on a motion by Mark, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

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

#1 Kerry McConnell- SIRPC - Open Contractor Bids

Wil opened the bids for the “owner occupied rehab” program for 14 Switzerland County residents. After the bids were opened there was some discussion about the absence of local contractors submitting bids. Kerry will review the bids and make recommendations to the commissioners at their next meeting on December 5th.

#2 Saundra Adams - Telephone Issues

Saundra spoke about telephone problems at the Nurse Managed Clinic. There are phone lines just lying around that need to be placed in a locked box on the wall. Dave Muncey, of CenturyLink, is aware of the complaint and has been looking into the problem. Mark had spoken with Dave today and was told the problem should be fixed soon.

#3 Other Business

Lighting assessment: There was a discussion about the past lighting survey that Mr. Woods had done. Josh stated that any department/building not serviced by Duke Energy would not qualify for this program. Due to the cost, the charges need to be taken to council. There would be future savings by changing to led bulbs. Rebates were discussed.

Purdue Extension contract: There are 2 amendments that were not with the contract. Mark made a motion to table the approval until the amendments have been read, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

Tech building carpet cleaning: This was discussed but there was not a proposal for the meeting.

Dr. Findley's cleaning/waxing of floors: There was a discussion at the last commissioners meeting in reference to a stripping and waxing machine that had been purchased a couple of years ago by the county. The rooms at Dr. Findley's office contain a lot of equipment and the rooms are too small to use the county's machine. Bill Gulley had a proposal for \$1,150.00 to strip and wax the floors. Mark made a motion to approve Bill's proposal, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

REGULAR MEETING - PAGE 2

Other Business cont'd

SIRPC board appointments: Josh requested that Bruce provide a list of board appointments that need to be made at the end of this year and to have an ad in the local paper to advertise board vacancies for people that would be interested in serving. No action was taken on the SIRPC board appointments at this time.

New fund ordinances: Gayle explained that the 6 funds were set up to track the funds due to each entity that has user fees that have been paid. The funds were Fund #2501 - #2506. Josh made a motion to approve these funds, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

Everbridge contract signatures: Josh made a motion to sign the contract with Everbridge for emergency notification services, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

State flag and proclamation: The County received a state flag that had flown over our state capital along with a bicentennial proclamation. Steve read aloud the proclamation and suggested the county donate the flag to the local museum.

2017 COBRA rates: The commissioners approved the 2017 COBRA rates by signing the forms.

Tech building: Josh stated that he has asked Jon Bond to obtain an assessment on what it would cost to upgrade a room on the 2nd floor of the tech building to be used for his economic development office. Currently he pays rent to the Vevay Switzerland County Foundation of \$400.00 a month to use their office space. The cost of the upgrade would be deducted from the funds the county gives for support of economic development. In 2018 economic development could pay the county monthly rent to cover the overhead.

Radio repeater: Wil said that the radio repeater can be located at Belterra at no cost. We will need to pay the electric bill and insurance coverage for the tower site. Belterra is probably going to build a cell phone tower in the near future. Mark made a motion to approve the repeater site and cost, seconded by Josh and all agreed.

Free items: Wil also spoke about gifts from engineers and contractors. Even small gifts such as free lunches should be avoided but an ordinance stating the accepted limits could be written. Josh said he felt the best policy was not to accept any gift.

Audience questions:

1. What did they mean by "fixing up" office space in the tech building for economic development's office. The room needs painting, carpet, etc.
2. What happened to the tech building balloon payment? A 6-month extension from the bank was received while Umbaugh works on refinancing options.
3. Who owns the house on SR156? Economic development does.

REGULAR MEETING - PAGE 3

Other Business cont'd

Audience questions cont'd:

4. Is there any interest in companies moving into the Markland Industrial Park building? The building the county owns is being vacated by the present tenant. The building is leased until the end of the year. A couple of companies have shown interest.
5. Mr. Teeters is cleaning up his property in Bennington.

Speed studies: Mark spoke about speed studies and speed ordinances for county roads. The county will need to have speed studies done by SIRPC.

Mr. Stivers asked about funding for economic development; they receive \$42,500.00 each quarter.

Wil spoke about the FCC complaint from Jeff-Craig Fire Department. Wil's opinion is that the frequency in question could be used in an absolute emergency when other forms of communication are unavailable or inadequate. A letter will be sent to the Jeff-Craig Fire Department.

With no further business to come before the board, Mark made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Attest:

Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana