

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, Josh South, and Jerry Monjar, county attorney, Wil Goering, chief deputy, Brian Morton, the auditor, Gayle Rayles and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams.

The meeting was opened by chief deputy, Brian Morton, with the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Josh, seconded by Jerry and all agreed.

Josh made a motion to approve the claims; Jerry seconded the motion for discussion. Discussion: The claims for All Seasons Snow Removal were discussed and compared to prior year invoices from the previous contractor. The commissions agreed to hold these checks. There will be an administrative session on Wednesday, February 7th, at 5:00 p.m. to meet with the contractor and discuss why the invoices are significantly higher than expected.

Mark called for the vote on the motion on the floor. All voted no so the motion failed. Josh made a motion to approve the claims without the All Seasons invoices; Jerry seconded the motion, and all agreed.

#1 Aaron Bell-SEIRD Annual Report

The annual report for the SE Indiana Recycling District shows a decrease in some areas. Aaron explained that this is because they have started charging for electronics and refrigerant-bearing items and raised the fees on tires. He explained that when the cost of metal goes up in the private sector, they see less metal since there is a profit to be made if the metal is sold rather than recycled.

Aaron said that Sharon Hansel is Switzerland County's board representative. Meetings are held at the Proving Ground. Currently there are four meetings annually and that is going to be increased to six meetings a year.

#2 Lacey Ekberg - Tourism / Tech Building

Lacey said that tourism is planning a wedding show to be held on April 14th. They are preparing a wedding guide and this event will be an opportunity for the vendors in the guide to showcase their products and services. They would like to use the community room at the Tech Center at no cost since there will be no entrance fee for the event. She pointed out that it will be an opportunity to showcase the community room.

Josh made a motion to allow tourism to use the room at no cost for the wedding show; Jerry seconded the motion, and all agreed.

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#3 Kurt Kegerreis - Work One SE Update

Kurt said that unemployment is low. The big issue currently is having a workforce ready with the talents the businesses need. Indiana's unemployment is low compared to the national average.

The State of Indiana has two major projects to keep unemployment low:

1. Work Indiana
2. JAG - Drop Out Prevention Program in High Schools

The JAG program is not currently in the Switzerland County School System and there was a discussion about combining Ohio and Switzerland County to offer this. Kurt said the state was being very flexible in allowing districts to combine to make the program feasible in small counties.

Mike Bush was the county's representative on the board. Josh offered to replace Mike on the board, and the commissioners agreed.

#4 Dump Truck Bids

Dump truck bids were opened:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|------|
| • FYDA Freightliner Cincinnati, Inc. | \$118,630.00 | each |
| • Shirk's International, Greensburg | 131,654.08 | each |
| • Lischkge Motors, Aurora | 139,020.73 | each |
| • Peterbilt of Cincinnati | 134,997.00 | each |
| ◦ Alternate bid / different body | 137,397.00 | each |

All bids were found to be in proper form

Josh made a motion to table the bids and take them under advisement; Jerry seconded the motion, and all agreed. The bid is to be awarded at the commissioners' February 20, 2018 meeting.

#5 Chief Deputy Brian Morton - Task Force

Brian has been approached by the Jefferson County prosecutor regarding participating in a Drug Task Force. Jefferson County is taking the lead on this with their investigator spearheading the project. Brian said that he would like to participate but cannot sacrifice a road deputy to serve on the task force. He would like to go to council for funding for one additional deputy. The plan would be for him to move one of the current deputies into the new position on the task force and hire a new road deputy.

The task force deputy would be a county employee and be in Switzerland County all the time. Drug investigation would be their only focus. That person can pull from resources in Jefferson County and Hanover, which has also committed to participating in the task force.

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Chief Deputy Brian Morton - Task Force cont'd

Josh said that one of the complaints they hear during the Drug Free Switzerland County meetings is about resources. He gave his blessing for Brian to go to council to seek funding for an additional full-time deputy to serve on the task force; Jerry seconded the motion, and all agreed.

Josh asked about what the position would pay. Brian said it would depend on where the deputy falls in the pay matrix. Brian said the officer would need a vehicle, but it would not be a typical police car; the cost should be less than \$15,000.00.

#6 Other Business

- a. SIRPC Board Appointments - Signatures: Gayle said the appointments had already been made but SIRPC has "member sheets" that need signatures for each of the appointees. The commissioners signed the forms.
- b. 2018 Mowing & Landscaping Bids: There was a discussion on which buildings should be in the ad for mowing. Bruce will check previous ads. Josh recommended making the contracts for two years to avoid going through the same process every year. The commissioners all agreed by consensus. Landscaping and mowing bid requests to go in the paper are to state that the contracts will be for a two-year period.
- c. Letter from School Corp.: Mark read a letter from Switzerland County School Superintendent, Mike Jones, thanking the highway department and Darrell for their work on the roads when the weather is bad and specifically for communicating with the schools on road conditions and when crews will be out to treat the roads.
- d. Bridge Bids: Mark explained that the bids to replace Bridge #8 have been opened but the project would not be awarded until the February 20, 2018 meeting. Bids were:

McAlister Excavating	\$586,283.75
Parham Excavating	389,456.00
Paul Rohe	428,196.50

The Engineers estimate for the project was \$512,000.
- e. USI Consulting: Derek Towle, with USI Consulting, said that INDOT had approved the contract for 2018 through 2021 for \$111,123.84 (cost for four years). Derick explained that there is an 80/20 federal matching program, with the county paying 20% of the cost and federal money covering the 80%. Josh made a motion to award the bridge inspections to USI Consulting for the four-year term; Jerry seconded the motion, and all agreed.

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Other Business cont'd

f. Time Capsule: Bruce said there is a time capsule in the northwest corner of the new addition. He said the original plans had called for a plaque to mark the spot. The plaque was never placed, and he would like to price plaques so that the capsule will not be forgotten.

#7 Water Damage

Mark mentioned the water damage and the recent fire marshal visit. Concrete has been poured in two of the rooms in the basement of the original courthouse. The things previously stored under the stairs will be moved to those rooms to comply with the fire marshal's orders to stop storing items in the stairwells.

With no further business to come before the board, Josh made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jerry, and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

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