

**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 sheriff, Roy Leap, the county attorney, Wil Goering, and the auditor, Gayle Rayles. The commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams, was absent.

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

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of March 17<sup>th</sup> and the minutes of the joint meeting of March 17<sup>th</sup> were approved as presented on a motion by John, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

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

***#1 Laura Luking – Flooding of Bennett Road***

Ms. Luking was present to discuss the problem of flooding on Bennett Road. Chris Clerkin, highway superintendent, has been down to look at it and there is nothing the county can do. The road floods when the river is higher than normal.

***#2 Teresa Miller, Robbie Miller, William Romans – Hilltop Question***

Mr. Romans and some other residents were present to question what is being done to North Drive. They could not find out anything from Hilltop. Steve said that McAllister Excavating is to start soon on the moving of the road.

There was some discussion about a surcharge on every load of rock or whatever that comes out of Hilltop Basic Resources. Kenny Griffin was present and said that a few years ago county council looked into having a surcharge and were not allowed because it is considered strip mining and the state would not allow it.

***#3 John McCarren – Property Complaint***

Mr. McCarren came about a property complaint that was filed with Planning and Zoning. Mr. McCarren had pictures of the property on Scotts Ridge Road.

Mr. McCarren's complaint was more about a property line and that is something that the commissioners could not help him with.

He had Brian McAllister come out and survey the line; Mr. McCarren has tried to contact the other land owner to no avail. There is a porch and also a lot of trash that has accumulated on the property once believed to belong to the neighbor but is actually Mr. McCarren's according to the new survey.

Mark Archer, of Planning and Zoning, has been able to contact the landowner and he is to meet with the nephew of the landowner and go over the areas that need cleaned up. He said someone has cleaned up around the front porch already.

Mr. McCarren is concerned that the trash will end up being his responsibility to clean up when really it is the neighbors. The commissioners agreed that the trash cleanup is not his responsibility.

Wil said there could be a dispute over the property line due to the fact that the line has been wrong for so long. He advised Mr. McCarren to have an attorney help with the resolution.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 2*****John McCarren – Property Complaint cont'd***

Wil advised the commissioners that per the ordinance, Mr. McCarren needs to go through the Planning and Zoning office to complain about the trash, and then they would notify the property owner(s) of the complaint and then if offending property owners did not correct the situation, then the issue would be appealed to the commissioners who are actually the appeal board. The process could take at least 30 days.

Wil told Mr. McCarren that the property line dispute is a civil matter not something the commissioners can solve.

***#4 Elyssa Haskell/Randy Teltoe - Insurance Renewal for 2014-2015 & Agent Letter***

Elyssa came with Randy Teltoe, the representative of HCC. She brought the liability policy for discussion. The renewal cost for this year is \$178,876.00 and last year it was approximately \$174,000.00. She explained the rate increase was due to a 2% property value increase and some new vehicles. Steve asked about the terrorism coverage for \$1,200.00. Her opinion is that since it is county government, it is necessary. Say someone threatens the courthouse, that could be considered an act of domestic terrorism. Wil agreed with her.

Mark made the motion to approve the insurance renewal amount of \$178,876.00, seconded by Steve and the motion passed with John abstaining.

The reserve deputy policy is set to renew on April 20<sup>th</sup> and in order to get this switched over to the Hummel office, Elyssa needs an Agent of Record Letter signed for this policy. Mark made the motion to make Elyssa the agent of record, seconded by Steve and the motion passed with John abstaining.

***#5 Volunteer Age Requirements***

This item mainly concerns the animal shelter volunteers. Elyssa said the insurance company basically does not care about the age of volunteers. The issue would be the workman's comp. The reason a list of volunteers was requested was because of the concern of the age of the children in the county vehicle and trying to get them listed as volunteers to get the additional coverage. Workman's comp rules state that if a volunteer is under 18 years of age then there is no coverage.

So if someone gets hurt while volunteering and it is our liability - we have medical payments of up to \$5,000.00 and liability coverage. The only time it would be an issue is if they are in a county vehicle and then there is no coverage period.

There was more discussion about the volunteers for the animal shelter and the cemetery commission as well as the reserve deputies.

***#6 Highway Department***

Chris had a quote for oil for chip and seal and the berm machine. The price is the same as last year. The quote just locks in the price and the county is not required to purchase a certain number of gallons. The quote was \$2.20 a gallon for 90S or \$528.00 for 10 gallons and the AE90 is \$1.95 per gallon or \$468.00 for 10 gallons. This quote is from Asphalt Materials and the price is the delivered price – no extra fees.

There was some discussion about some slide areas: 2 on Atkinson Hill Road, 1 on Popcorn Ridge Road and North Branch Road has a slide area starting. Atkinson Hill Road and Popcorn Ridge Road will be closed until these slips can be fixed.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 3*****Highway Department cont'd***

John asked where the money is to come from to fix these areas and Steve said it would have to come out of the chip and seal funds. Steve said it would be addressed with the council at council's next meeting on Wednesday.

Chris is to meet with the representatives from Janssen and Spaans this week to discuss these areas and what will be allowed to be done environmentally.

Mark made the motion to accept the quote from Asphalt Materials, seconded by John and all agreed.

One of the county trucks accidentally hit a trailer while trying to pass another vehicle. The owner of the trailer is fine with just having the trailer fixed and the cost is less than our deductible; approximately \$750.00. The commissioners are fine with just paying the bill.

There is property on Braytown Road that is not a county road but the owner would like to have it maintained. The map is incorrect in showing it to be a county road. John told the landowner that the county would not fix his road.

Steve said Liter Road has a washed out spot that needs fixed – Chris said he would look into it.

***#7 Health Department Mowing Bids***

Wil opened the following bids for mowing the health department grounds:

McCreary Lawn Care	- \$65.00 per mowing
Mike's Mowing	- \$43.75 weekly
Walker Lawn Care & More	- \$125.00 per mowing
Elite Lawn Service	- \$40.00 per week

John made a motion to approve Elite Lawn Care for the health department mowing provided he agrees to clean the grass off of the sidewalks and parking lot and does weed eating, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

***#8 Florence Regional Sewer District***

Patty Chase is up for reappointment to the Florence Regional Sewer District Board. John made a motion to reappoint Patty to the FRSD board, seconded by Mark and all agreed.

***#9 Highway Department Comp Time***

Wil had the information for figuring and accumulating comp time. Wil has agreed rewrite the policy for the highway to read anything over 40 hours is comp time and then increase the amount of comp time that can be carried over. He will try to have something for the next meeting. Anything over 40 hours will be at time and a half.

Mark said there were questions about emergency closings of the courthouse and Wil said he will try to address this also in the revision.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 4*****#10 SIRPC Housing Grant***

Kathy Kelly was at the joint meeting to discuss a housing/planning grant that could be applied for – the maximum grant is \$350,000.00. There is a 10% match required. The big issue is the match money – everyone thought it is a good idea but where would the money come from?

Mark said that he and some others had attended the SIRPC meeting and the money is not actually available until June. Wil suggested that maybe they could fund a smaller amount - \$200,000.00 then the match would be \$20,000.00.

Steve said that he would ask council at their next meeting if they would want to fund any of the matching money.

***#11 AIC Meeting***

Gayle or Bruce need to know if any of the commissioners and/or Wil is planning on attending the meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

***#12 Letters of Completion of 3 Projects***

These are letters in reference to the following past projects: the replacement of Bridge 59, the Patriot Launch Ramp improvement, and the Markland Center. Steve signed these on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

***#13 East Enterprise Regional Sewer District***

Wil brought up the fact that the EERSD is operating in the red and wants county assistance. He said they are looking at a planning grant to see what can be done and this grant is \$3,500.00. They are losing approximately \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 per month.

***#14 Markland Center Mowing Bids***

Wil opened the only bid received from Elite Lawn Service for \$40.00 per week. John made a motion to accept the bid, seconded by Mark and the motion passed with it being stipulated that Elite clean off sidewalks, parking, and do the string trimming.

***#15 Courthouse Lawn Bids***

These bids were opened at the last meeting in March. After some discussion Mark made the motion to approve that the lawn bid go to Grassman providing he gives proof of insurance to the auditor's office, seconded by John and the motion passed.

***#16 Property Complaint – League Property***

Wil had an opportunity to speak with Duke League and Duke said he would have someone cleanup the property and do the mowing. Wil went and looked at the property today and said it wasn't in too bad of shape. Steve said he would contact John Stafford the resident who has filed the complaint and let him know what is going on.

***#17 IDEM Letter***

Gayle had a letter from IDEM letting the commissioners know that they had received a facility construction permit application on April 2, 2014 from Josh South on behalf of the Town of Vevay as is required by IC 13-15-3-1.

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***#18 Air Conditioning Inspection at the Courthouse***

The company that cleaned or is in the process of cleaning the air conditioners at the courthouse recommended that the county have a licensed a/c contractor come in and do an inspection after they are finished. The commissioners agreed by consensus to have someone to come in and check them.

The company that is cleaning the air conditioners is coming April 17<sup>th</sup> to work in the courtroom and while they are here they will go ahead and fix the ceiling in the hall near the courtroom for half the price of what J J Sullivan was going to do it. J J has never come to do the work - maybe because of his work schedule.

***#19 Drainage at the 4H Fairgrounds***

There was a concern about drainage over by the 4H fairgrounds. The thought was that maybe the new horse arena has aggravated the situation. Chris said that some of the drainage ditches have been filled in over time and possibly the culvert is not letting it drain properly so the county will check this out.

With no further business to come before the board, Mark made a motion to adjourn seconded by John and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

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