

## POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2014

The Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Commissioners' room at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. Members present: Commissioner President Carl A. Schmitz, Jerry R. Walden, James L. Alsop, Attorney Jacob Weis and Auditor Kyle J. Haney.

Commissioner President Carl A. Schmitz opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Schmitz recognized and congratulated the Office Holders who were elected and noted that the Posey County voters had shown an interest in the County.

### MINUTES

J. Walden made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with changes and J. Alsop seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### CLAIMS

J. Walden made a motion to approve the claims and J. Alsop seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0. Mr. Walden asked about the claim for a mattress that was purchased and the claim for a radiator. It was clarified that the mattress was for EMS and that the claim listed as a radiator was actually for a new engine and was purchased for the Highway Department.

### HARMONY WAY BRIDGE COMMITTEE

The Commissioners discussed updates in regard to the Harmony Way Bridge Committee. It was noted that the County Council has appointed Zach Weinzapfel as the Council Representative. Mr. Walden stated the Committee as such, Jerry Walden, Zach Weinzapfel, Andrew Wilson, Linda Henning, Ryan Rapp, Michael "Spud" Egbert, David Brown and Aaron Wilson. Mr. Alsop stated that that was eight and the Commissioners had passed seven members. It was noted that the even number would make a tie vote difficult to settle. As a result, it was decided that the committee members be increased from seven member to nine members. Mr. Walden mentioned that by December 15<sup>th</sup> the remaining members are going to resign and it was important to follow through with what will happen after that. He also mentioned a pledge from INDOT one year ago in the amount of \$10 million and he added that they were looking for a match from Illinois. Mr. Schmitz noted that the questions of concern are, how much and where will the money come from to pay for the land survey? How much and where will the money come from to pay for the initial inspection? How much and where will the money come from to pay for bridge repair? How much and where will the money come from for annual inspections? Will Illinois keep the road open to the bridge? And who takes title? Mr. Schmitz expressed his opinion that these questions should be answered prior to taking over the bridge. Mr. Walden responded that Illinois may have addressed those questions in Vincennes. He added that the \$10 million was offered for a new bridge and that a new bridge is not off the table. He expressed his personal thoughts that the bridge fits into a plan that the Governor has for the area and that the bridge carries the ability for opportunities for recreation and businesses. Mr. Walden summarized that it was more than the bridge and that other projects were incorporated with its existence. Mr. Walden took a moment to speak about the opportunities with Regional Cities Initiative also. Mr. Alsop addressed the number of members for the committee. It was stated that the number needed to be adjusted to eight or nine. Mr. Walden suggested to move the number to nine. J. Walden made a motion to increase the Harmony Way Bridge Committee/Wabash Bridge Committee from seven members to nine members and J. Alsop seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 2-1. J. Alsop voted "Nay". Mr. Walden added that progress had been slowed by the survey process, however it is now moving forward.

## **POSEY COUNTY EMPLOYEE INSURANCE RENEWAL INFORMATION**

The Posey County Employee Insurance premium increased 4.25% with Anthem was discussed. The Insurance Committee recommended signing the contract and that they have adjusted the employee's cost and county's cost with an increase. The County's portion will increase about \$67,000. The employee only plan will increase \$4.31, the employee-spouse plan will increase \$8.72, employee-children plan will increase \$7.87, family plan with increase \$13.09, and all increases are on a per month basis. The total increase for the year is a little more than \$91,000 for the year. County wide insurance for health and vision is about \$2.2 million and there are 158 employees on those plans. J. Also made a motion to approve Employee Insurance Program and J. Walden seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0. It was added that the employees may have the option of using out-of-network dental and it would be out of pocket costs for the employee. J. Also made a motion to allow out-of-network dental at the employees cost and J. Walden seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

## **ROAD ORDINANCE FOR HEAVY HAULING**

Mr. Schmitz expressed his opinion that they should wait for another two weeks or a month in order to allow for more time for review and feedback. C. Schmitz made a motion to table the Road Ordinance until further review and J. Walden seconded. Motion carried with a vote 3-0.

## **ROAD ORDINANC FOR THREE-WAY STOP, BLACKFORD ROAD AND BLACKBURN ROAD**

Mr. Schmitz addressed the issues concerning the stop sign at the intersection of Blackford Road and Blackburn Road. Mr. Schenk spoke to the dangers of the intersection. It was noted that the new striping on the road is confusing. The Sheriff agreed that a three-way stop would be best at this intersection. It was stated that the Highway Superintendent and Sheriff agree that a three-way stop serves the best interests of the county. J. Walden made a motion to establish a three-way stop at the intersection of Blackford Road and Blackburn Road and J. Also seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

## **COURTHOUSE LAWN QUOTES**

J. Also made a motion to table the proposal for the Court House lawn care services and J. Walden seconded. Motion carried with a vote 3-0.

## **SHERIFF DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Sheriff Greg Oeth requested permission to proceed with the paper work to retire a Sig Sire 30 caliber handgun from County property to be issued as a retired gun. J. Walden made a motion to retire the weapon and J. Also seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

## **OPENING OF THE BIDS**

Mr. Schmitz opened the bids for the Highway Department for culverts, gravel and asphalt and the Highway Department, Sheriff's Department and EMS for fuel. He stated that he will open the bids, then give them to the Auditor who will give them to the Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, who will evaluate the bids and make his recommendation at the next meeting. The bids were opened as follows: Synenergy, fuel; FS, fuel and diesel; Jerry Chastain, excavating; Russell Excavating, annual work; DK Parker, excavating; Regis Culvert, pipes, drainage; Ohio Valley Drainage, culverts and said material; Southern Indiana Drainage, drainage material; CPI, drainage materials; Rice Tire, tires and repairs; Mulchers, road gravel, pea gravel and wash gravel; Mulchers, rip rap, #9's, #5's and chat product. That concludes the bids and all bids were said to be received with bond checks. J. Also made a motion to take the bids under advisement and J. Walden seconded. Motion carried with a vote 3-0.

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mr. Schenk presented the Commissioners with a contract renewal for JH Rudolph for the use of their building on Ford Road for salt, sand storage and snow removal. They charge \$100 per month and the Highway Department rents it December through March. J. Walden made a motion to pass the contract and sign and J. Alsop seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

## DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Mr. Schmitz gave the Animal Control Report for the month of October 2014. There were 53 complaints, 14 animals picked up, 1 bite. No rabies tests were performed and no euthanasia was performed.

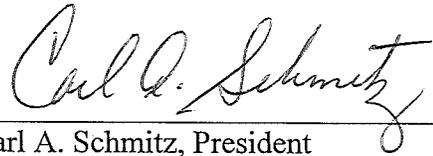
Mr. Schmitz announced that the December 16<sup>th</sup> Commissioners meeting they will appointing Committees in the County. It is expressed that any member of the public can contact the Auditor or Commissioners in they are interested in serving.

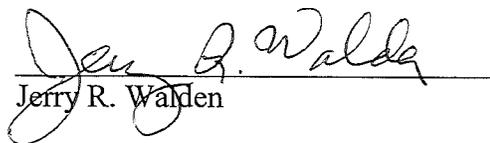
It was noted that the first meeting for the month of December will be changed from December 2<sup>nd</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>. It is moved because it conflicts with the State's Commissioner meeting. J. Alsop made a motion to move the meeting and J. Walden seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

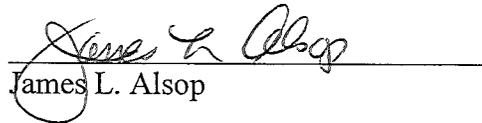
Mr. Alsop asked about the Inn Keeper's committee appointees. Mr. Haney replied that Mount Vernon appointed Ryan Stemple and Justin Suedmeyer, Poseyville has not responded and New Harmony is looking for a member to fill the second spot. It was noted that the appointees have to indicate their political affiliations because the requirements of the Board stipulates political neutrality. It was also stated that the Towns needed to make their appointments as soon as possible.

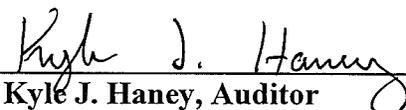
Mr. Walden added that the Economic Development Commission will meet that evening at 6:30pm.

No other business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned until Monday, December 1, 2014.

  
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Carl A. Schmitz, President

  
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Jerry R. Walden

  
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James L. Alsop

ATTEST:   
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Kyle J. Haney, Auditor

