

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 2020

The Posey County Commissioners met in regular session at the Hovey House on Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020. The following members were present at said meeting: Carl Schmitz; Jay Price; Randy Thornburg; Commissioners Attorney Joe Harrison; and Auditor Maegen Greenwell.

C. Schmitz: This meeting of the Posey County Commissioners meeting will come to order at 9:00am.

Rick Sellers, with First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon opened with a prayer.

MINUTES

J. Price made a motion to approve the January 7th 2020 Commissioner Minutes; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the Claims; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

TREASURER/CLERK REPORT

J. Price made a motion to approve the December Treasurer and Clerk's reports; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

C. Schmitz made a motion to appoint Larry Droege to the Board of Zoning Appeals; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

C. Schmitz stated the Commissioners are still looking for someone to serve on the EMS, Tourism, Workforce and Wabash River Boards.

RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION SYSTEM ORDINANCE

R. Thornburg made a motion to send the Renewable Energy Generation System Ordinance back to Area Plan Commission to separate wind from solar and make any amendments necessary.

Mr. Harrsion asked if the intent was to reject as is. R. Thornburg stated yes, rejecting as is.

No second was made.

J. Price made a motion to approve the ordinance with two amendments; first, separating wind from solar; second, an addition to 153.131 stating any WECS project proposed shall not have any boundary set closer than two miles to any schools, public or private to their boundary lines.

R. Thornburg stated this was in the amendments that he requested at the first reading. Mr. Harrison stated the difference is that Commissioner Price's motion is not rejecting the Ordinance, rather asking these amendments be made and submitted back for consideration.

C. Schmitz asked if it is rejected, it has to go back to Area Plan to be completely re-worked. Mr. Harrison stated that is up to Area Plan if that is what they chose to do,

C. Schmitz stated the chief concern is the Doppler radar. J. Price stated correct, but that is why the mitigation wording is in the ordinance also. R. Thornburg stated the National Weather Service has not legal recourse; this is why the Commissioners need to include it in the ordinance. J. Price stated if the National Weather Service advises the BZA or Area Plan that this is not mitigatable, then it would be up to Area Plan or BZA to shut it down.

R. Thornburg stated the Doppler radar information is proven, and feels like public safety is being ignored.

C. Schmitz stated this ordinance can be changed at any time.

C. Schmitz seconded Jay's motion to approve and send back with suggested amendments.

C. Schmitz opened the meeting for public comments.

Karson Rumpf, project manager for RWE addressed the following issues that were brought up at the last meeting:

- Safety- Over 1200 wind turbines operating in the State of Indiana as of now. 54,000 wind turbines operating across the County. Wind Turbines are operating on college and high school campus. R. Thornburg asked what size those are. Mr. Rumpf stated 390-500 feet.
- Setback- Mr. Rumpf stated the 1200 turbines in Indiana operate safely at 1.1 times the height of the turbine from any non-participating landowner. Mr. Rumpf encouraged the Commissioners to reach out to other Counties who might have wind turbines.
- Property Value Guarantee- Mr. Rumpf asked the Commissioners to consider the fact that no one can control the real estate market. Mr. Rumpf stated this could not be obtained.
- Decommission- Mr. Rumpf stated in the lease agreement with the landowner, there are funds set aside in an escrow account after year ten of the project. Mr. Rumpf stated it usually cost around \$150,000 to decommission. Mr. Rumpf stated salvage value is roughly \$50,000.
- Doppler Radar- Mr. Rumpf stated they are continuously working to make this issue better. Mr. Rumpf stated there is a no build zone, a mitigation zone and consultation area. Mr. Rumpf stated they could not submit any analysis on what the impact will be until they have the final ordinance.

R. Thornburg stated he spoke with a gentlemen in Tipton County who had a turbine installed 1500 feet from his property line. Mr. Thornburg stated his property appraised at \$180,000 before and \$120,000 after the turbine had been installed.

R. Thornburg stated everything he has read on decommissioning states figures between \$250,000 to \$400,000.

Sarah Newton, 10401 Pumpkin Run Road in Poseyville:

Mrs. Newton thanked the Commissioners for the setbacks for the schools. Mrs. Newton stated NOA has told POCO Wind that anything inside the mitigation zone would cause issues. Mrs. Newton stated they have asked the Commissioners to make sure the ordinance read that nothing can be built inside the no build zone, the mitigation zone and the consultation zone. Mrs. Newton stated the mitigation zone is where the most interference will be seen, and the consultation zone includes the area where EON's own wind farm masked a tornado. Mrs. Newton stated POCO Wind is just asking that Doppler is protected.

Mrs. Newton stated she is suggesting that the following changes be made:

153.126 E- include that ALL interference be mitigated or adding subsection that states no wind turbines be placed in the no build zone, the mitigation zone, and the consultation zone as defined by NOA.

C. Schmitz closed the public portion of the meeting.

C. Schmitz stated there is a motion on the floor.

The motion carried with a vote of 2-1. With C. Schmitz and J. Price voting aye and R. Thornburg voting nay.

AREA PLAN REZONING REQUEST

Mindy Bourne, with Area Plan, informed the Commissioners of a rezoning request for property owned by Jack and Caroline Compton, applicant is Mulzer Crushed Stone. Mrs. Bourne stated this is requesting a rezone from AG to M2. Mrs. Bourne stated this request was heard at the January 9th, 2020 Area Plan meeting and was approved with an 8-0 vote, with no remonstrators.

R. Thornburgh made a motion to approve this request; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

COLISEUM BASEMENT REMODEL BIDS

C. Schmitz stated the Commissioners received the following two bids for this project:

ECI- \$31,940.00

TMI- \$36,806.00 excludes sales tax, overtime, and grinder toilet.

R. Thornburg made a motion to accept the ECI bid; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

EMS SURPLUS LIST

Chris Neaveill, with Posey County EMS, provided the Commissioners with a list of surplus that he would like to dispose of. Mr. Neaveill stated all the listed equipment are either outdate or non-useable.

J. Price stated Mr. Neaveill should contact IT to take hard drives out of devises that would have them.

J. Price made a motion to declare all items listed as surplus; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

E911 CONTRACT

Jason Knowles, E911 Director, provided the Commissioners with the AT&T contract that needs to be signed. Mr. Knowles stated this contract has lapsed, so for two months, the department paid \$14,000.00 each month, but with the signed contract, that amount drops to \$127.00 monthly to continue.

Mr. Harrison stated he has read the contract and it looks good.

J. Price made a motion to approve this contract; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

SHERIFF FUND ORDINANCE

Sheriff Tom Latham, presented the Commissioners with an Ordinance that would create a Reserve Deputy Fund. Mr. Latham stated the account has always been held with the jail account, but recently State Board of Accounts has asked this account be filtered through the Auditors office. Mr. Harrison stated that the current funds will be moved to this new account and all future funds will be deposited with the Auditor. Sheriff Latham stated yes.

Mr. Harrison stated this is the first reading.

J. Price made a motion to approve ordinance 2020-01-22-01; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

EMS VEHICLE

J. Price stated the Commissioners have been looking for an administrative vehicle for the EMS department that would also be certified as a ALS non-transport unit. Mr. Price stated he found a used unit with less than 50,000 miles on it for \$26,000.00. Mr. Price stated it has \$10,000-\$15,000 worth of equipment already added. J. Price made a motion to purchase this vehicle with funds from the Commissioners ambulance fund; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

COURTHOUSE ROOF

C. Schmitz stated the Courthouse roof is leaking and the Commissioners have a proposal from ICI to fix this issue. Mr. Schmitz stated the repair would cost \$2,664.00 coming from the repairs line. J. Price made a motion to approve; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

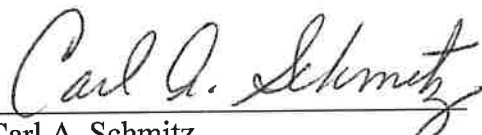
DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Larry Robb, with Posey County EMA, informed the Commissioners that the 2019 Harry Logan Award went to Erica Sims of Smith Township.

Jason Knowles, with Posey County Dispatch, informed the Commissioners in 2019 dispatch received 25,000 cad calls; 48,000 911 calls.

C. Schmitz stated a broadband meeting will take place January 23 at Mt. Vernon High School in the Media Room.

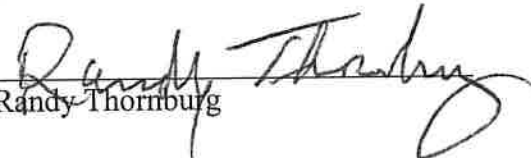
J. Price stated Roy Neaveill with the Highway Department recently retired from the Highway Department after 30 years of service.



Carl A. Schmitz



Jay Price



Randy Thornburg



ATTEST: _____