

Decatur County Commissioners
Monday, October 7th, 2013
8:00 a.m. Room 109

Claims were approved as submitted. Minutes for the September 16th meeting were approved as submitted.

Decatur County Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr reported that the hot mix overlay and patching is almost finished up except for the Highway 421 project near Love's truck stop by St. Paul. The department still has plans to chip and seal about 6 miles of road including 450 West, south of Hwy 46 and 550 North off of 400 East. He reported that the weekend storms did cause some trees to go down on SW 60 but there weren't any huge overall problems with the rain. Enterprise Gas will be out of the county in approximately 3 weeks if the weather cooperates. There will be some finish up items that they will take care of but the main project will be finished up.

The state has a call for projects right now. Mr. Mohr suggested Bridge #168. The bridge, located on 1100 South near Westport just south of the Covered Bridge, was discussed as a possible rehab project and could be a 2016 construction project if selected. Mr. Mohr asked for the Commissioners to indicate whether they wanted him to submit an application or not. The commissioners agreed he should submit a request.

Mr. Mohr reported that United is in the county doing the bridge inspections right now and has already put together a list of things they'd like to see cleaned up.

It was pointed out that Bridge #124 (West of Burney on 100 North over Clifty Creek) needs some work done on it that may require engineering services. It is too big of a project for the Bridge Crew but too small for Federal Bridge Aid and it was proposed that Ron May/Aecon Engineering could do the work. A proposal was submitted for services to the 4 span stone arch in which a new reinforced deck would be put over top of the existing spans and made wider for modern traffic with updated guard rails. The estimate for construction was \$200 - \$230,000. Mr. Mohr indicated he would take care of the right of way acquisition. He suggested that Andy Scholle could be subcontracted to do the topographical survey for the project. There was some discussion about waiting until United finishes the bridge inspection before making a decision on Bridge #124. Bridge 2 will be the next "letting" and it was noted that the match will be paid through the Honda TIF money.

David Neuman presented an updated **Flood Ordinance**. After brief discussion, Mr. Buening moved to approve Ordinance 2013-02 for Flood hazard Area in Decatur County. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. Mr. Nobbbe concurred. The motion carried.

Eric Kranz, Indiana Small Business Development, gave an update on the number of new clients the ISBD had worked with during the past year. 41 new clients, 2 new businesses, 2 expansions and a transfer indicate that things are going well. He thanked the county and mentioned the other local entities that he has worked with and through and expressed his appreciation for the opportunities he has had in the city and county.

Lana Martin was present and asked if the Commissioners had any comments or concern with the recent **Fall Festival**. Ms. Martin was the chair for the event and thanked the Commissioners for the use of county facilities. There was some talk of electric issues and some concern with security. There was also talk of how to increase attendance on Friday night.

A Mr. **Kixmiller** submitted an official request for **closing an alleyway** in Kingston. Mr. Mohr does not have a problem with the proposed closure. The proper paperwork to close the alley was presented and it was noted that the request had been advertised. Area Plan also had no concerns with the proposed closure. Mr. Richards moved to vacate the alleyway. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Nobbe asked the petitioner if she was aware that a permit needed to be obtained for the pond at that location. He became aware of the issue due to a complaint of trucks that were hauling dirt away from the site crumbling the edge of the adjacent church's pavement.

Mr. Bryan Robbins was on hand to discuss the most recent developments in the **Pedestrian walking path project**. A last minute change by one landowner caused last minute reengineering and redesigning of the trail. This change caused new estimates from Schneider and a shortening of the trail length by 700 feet. All right of way parcels are taken care of. \$164,890 was paid for acquisition costs and any values of easement donations go towards the required match as well. After more discussion, it was suggest that Schneider be granted the construction engineering agreement because no one with the city or county has the time or the personnel to put on the project and Schneider is familiar with the project. There was discussion of INDOT funding policies and percentages based on the amount of the project. There was discussion on the cost of the project. Mr. Robbins mentioned many entities that deserved thanks for their input into the project.

Mr. Robbins took time to introduce **Ms. Sarah Robinson** who is the **new Director for Mainstreet**. She will be living downtown and is so far enjoying the community. Mr. Nobbe welcomed her to the community and thanked Mr. Robbins for his work on the trail.

Rob Duckworth, EMA Director submitted a quote for K & S Farm to do some work on the inside of the Mobile Command Unit as well as building an appropriate hitch for the vehicle. Mr. Buening moved to allow the expenditure from Plans and Implementations. Mr. Richards seconded it. The motion carried.

Mr. Duckworth also mentioned that the state has money that can be obtained for updating the county's Flood Mitigation Plan and he asked permission to submit a letter of interest. Permission was granted.

The draft of the **ADA Compliance Survey** had been distributed in various formats for public comment with a **Public Comment Hearing scheduled at 8:30 a.m. on this day**. Commissioner Nobbe asked if anyone present had any comments to submit regarding the draft of the survey. There was some discussion of the five year portion of the plan. There were no comments received from the public in written or oral form at or prior to the public hearing. The Public Hearing was closed and the adoption of the plan will take place on October 21st. Commissioner Nobbe encouraged the other two

commissioners to be thinking about what issues will need to be addressed during the first five-year phase of the plan. Like any good plan, it will need to be reviewed and modified accordingly.

Ms. Wenning informed the Commissioners that data is being gathered to determine how effective the Proliance gas usage contract is and what sort of savings there have been during the first year.

Mr. Nobbe asked the other two commissioners to do a final review of the most recent version of the Personnel Policy because the next step is to present it at the October 15th County Council meeting.

A request from **Decatur County Soil and Water District** was received. The District is asking for half of the funding necessary to purchase a new vehicle and trailer. After some discussion, Mr. Buening moved to pay \$13,850 towards the purchase of a new vehicle. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A **Request for Use of County Facilities** form was presented on behalf of the First Christian Church for the annual **Trunk or Treat** event held on the square. The event will be October 26th and they asked for permission to use the property from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. The portion of the event open to the public is from 2 – 6 p.m. Permission was granted in a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Buening. Ms. Wenning will request a certificate of insurance from Ms. Belt.

Cottonwood Subdivision submitted a request to establish an economic improvement district in order to have Roads 210 West, 230 west and 240 west paved. The county is not responsible for maintenance of these roads. Cottonwood Lakes want the commissioners to approve their petition to establish the district. After approval, a 3 member board would have the responsibility of getting bids for the proposed project. (Board will be 2/3 Cottonwood owners and possibly 1 member from Dec. Co. Hwy.) The petition covers 500 South between SW 60 and CR 220 SW. There were two options proposed that would be paid back over 15 – 20 years based on property tax collections. Upon approval by the commissioners, there are 23 property owners that would be sent a notice of public hearing. Boundaries would be laid out and public comment would be accepted. There could possibly be a remonstrance against the proposal. There were several questions and County Attorney Peg Polanski delineated what Cottonwood Lakes Subdivision owner's rights are pertaining to the right to form an Economic Development District. There was some discussion concerning what resident's expectations as far as upkeep following these upgrades might be. At this point, a public hearing just needs to be scheduled to put things in motion. Ms. Polanski submitted a list of parcels that would be in the improvement district. There were many concerns and questions. Mr. Nobbe will speak with the Cottonwood group and have their attorney contact Ms. Polanski to ascertain what area the signatures represent.

Discussion turned to recent meetings where the possibility of a **DNR property** being turned over to the county. The area is approximately 36 acres and an environmental impact study has recently been made available. After review of the impact study, Mr. Nobbe stated that he would be willing to allow the county attorney to forward a letter of intent to the DNR that the county is willing to take possession of the property. The other two commissioners agreed with Mr. Nobbe.

County Treasurer Mary Vail submitted a request for the Commissioner's assistance in getting help in correcting a long term issue with her office fax line and the inability to send or receive long distance faxes. Commissioners asked Ms. Wenning to contact ETC as Mrs. Vail had indicated that the vendor that had sold her the fax machine had exhausted all his efforts in finding the problem. Ms. Wenning will do so.

There being no further business, the meeting was recessed until Monday, October 21st at 8:00 a.m.

Rick Nobbe, President

Attest _____

Date _____