

DECATUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 20th, 2012

The Decatur County Commissioners opened their February 20th, 2012 meeting with the following present: Rick Nobbe -President, Jerome Buening, John Richards and Tami Wenning– Auditor

The February 6th, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as read.

Payroll claims were approved as presented.

Mark Mohr – Highway Superintendent gave an update on Bridge 19. He reported that the patching machine and the ditch cleaner (brush cutter) have been staying active. Mr. Ron May/Aecon presented an agreement between REMC and Decatur County for reimbursement for the relocation of power lines on CR 400 S. The proposal has been reviewed and is the standard INDOT format. \$26,570 is the proposed cost with 80% of the cost eligible for federal reimbursement so the county share would be approximately \$5200. After some discussion, Mr. Jerome Buening moved to enter into the agreement for Bridge 18. Mr. John Richards seconded. President Rick Nobbe concurred and the motion passed. The agreement was signed and notarized prior to Mr. May leaving the courthouse.

Mr. May also asked to discuss the topic of the new bridge inspection report format that was developed 3 years ago by INDOT. The form now offers the option of a one page synopsis or the full report. Mr. Mark Mohr and Mr. May discussed the issue with the commissioners and asked if they would consider utilizing the shorter version for their report, with the larger format being produced for the County Highway and the Auditor. Mr. Jerome Buening and President Rick Nobbe asked about the 3 page CD version and the one page printed version and that format was agreed upon.

Dave Stults – Westport Covered Bridge Committee came before the board to request permission for a road closing. Prior to asking for that, he commended County Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr on the great job that he and his crew does on keeping the Westport Covered Bridge in good shape. Mr. Stults presented a copy of the Columbus newspaper to Mr. Mohr that had a very nice picture of the covered bridge. Mr. Stults then asked the Commissioners to consider allowing the closure of Layton's Road for June 1st, 2nd and possibly the 3rd so that the bridge may be used for festival events. Mr. John Richards moved that Layton's Drive be closed for that weekend. Mr. Jerome Buening seconded the motion and President Rick Nobbe concurred. The motion carried.

Doug Banks, EMA – Mr. Banks thanked the board for their time. He gave a detailed update on the 2006 Ford that had to have the engine replaced. The new engine has been installed and is currently in the "500 mile break-in phase". It is in service. Mr. Banks reported that he had received Shirk's pricing on the cab over style without the extension. It would be \$129,887 for a remount. Mr. Banks reported that he has talked to three different manufacturers regarding the replacement engine and the consensus among those involved in the industry is that the 6 liter engines still have unresolved issues. Medtec quoted \$25,690 and Don Meyer quoted \$26,000 on their chassis but still has reservations about the 6 liter engine. Mr. Banks said that a Ford box has been remounted onto an International chassis but the county with that vehicle reported that mounting the lighter box onto the heavier chassis changed the ride in the back of the ambulance significantly. There was some discussion about fixes for that type of situation. Mr. Banks said that a V-10 gas ambulance was in the county last week and he asked to drive it. It was an extremely quiet ride and the gentleman who had brought it by said there are several out in other counties with no reported problems. With the V-10, maintenance involves changing the coils and plugs at 60,000 miles. Mr. Banks was impressed with the vehicle.

President Rick Nobbe questioned why the remount bid is at \$90,000 when the quote looks like almost \$70,000 is other costs involved after the chassis. Mr. Banks pointed out that the floor comes out, the cabinetry has to be removed, the lights disassembled, the HVAC is disassembled and that is just part of what needs to be done to rehab the box onto the chassis. A new vehicle is \$166,000 compared to the \$90,000 cost of remounting. Mr. John Richards questioned if the remount is done onto a cab-style pick up truck what the price difference would be. It is around \$18 – 20,000 more if we take the existing box and set it on a truck. It changes the style and involves a lot more work. Mayor Gary Herbert offered up that reducing the poundage on the rear springs could help create a smoother ride. Mr. Banks said that Medtec did say that weight could be added to the box, too. Mr. John Richards asked about the current air ride system. Mr. Banks explained that it is an “air ride dump” that allows the back of the ambulance to raise and lower for ease of loading patients.

President Rick Nobbe requested that Mr. Doug Banks put together a one page summary of all of the scenarios presented over the last several meetings. He would like the synopsis to cover all of the research presented by Mr. Banks. Mr. Nobbe also mentioned that he hoped that the county could possibly get on an every other year schedule.

Mr. Banks deferred to the Commissioners on whether to replace the engine in the other ambulance instead of rehabbing it.

Mr. John Richards enquired about the warranty on the replacement engine. Mr. Banks reported that it is covered for 2 years and 100,000 miles. The problem with the engines has something to do with carbon build up on the intake valve and so far, there isn't a good fix. When the engines are used in pick-up truck, they seem to do better but the engines used in vans have less air flow which could be part of the problem.

EDC Director Mark Coplon- Mr Coplon reassured the board that he'll be giving quarterly reports in 2012 that will highlight the activities of the EDC work in Greensburg and Decatur County. He reported that he has been working on “beefing up” the existing businesses support program. Last year, after Mr. Coplon's arrival in April, 32 companies were visited. One example of a success of the Business Support Program is that One Solution Logistics has added 190 jobs. OSL learned through EDC of a training grant available from the state and as a result, received \$125,000. MESCO is another success story in that a manufacturing facility was retained, saving 25 jobs with the potential of doubling. This was due to utilizing the revolving loan fund. Mr. Coplon talked about receiving leads from an existing business services area survey. He did say that a number of the manufacturers that responded mention the need for a soft-skills program. Superintendent Tom Hunter and the Learning Center are putting together a free program that will start in April that addresses those needs.

Mr. Coplon also discussed New Business Recruitment. In 2011, he was on recruiting trips to Cincinnati, Chicago and other locations. He would like to implement a direct mail program that tells the world about what Greensburg and Decatur County have to offer. While in Chicago, Mr. Coplon was fortunate to meet the new head of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Coplon and Mayor Gary Herbert met with him and expressed our community's desire to diversify. Mr. Coplon plans to attend the world's largest plastic show in Orlando and he'll exhibit the materials that are currently or can be manufactured in our area. He will also be in Dallas to attend the largest food processing show in the United States.

Mr. Coplon would also like to work on the development of new land and infrastructure to make our community more attractive to companies. He took the time to thank the county for the first Annual Business Appreciation Day and foresees it becoming a much larger and more anticipated event in the future.

Mr. Coplon noted that EDC's budget had been request at the same level. It is also the first time

that EDC has had a full 18 person board. He entertained questions and thanked the commissioners for their time and support. Mr. Jerome Buening asked Mr. Coplon's opinion of what effect the Right to Work legislation will have. Mr. Coplon stated it is the best piece of legislation that has been passed in a long time. With his prior position in Tennessee, he had experienced companies NOT wanting to locate there due to it not being a RTW state. He wants to work on getting out the message that we may be a small community but we know how to handle large projects. Mr. Jerome Buening also enquired as to what sort of efforts Mr. Coplon is making in reaching out to our smaller communities. Mr. Coplon mentioned that the new office location was making EDC much more visible and available to anyone wishing to stop in. There will be an Open House on March 8th. Commissioner President Rick Nobbe did want to thank Mainsource for their accommodations through the prior years.

Linda Smith, Teresa Hooten – The Arc of Decatur County – Mrs. Linda Smith thanked the Commissioners for their continued support. She mentioned their most current board of directors and the mission of ARC. She also discussed the success of DSI and the number of clients being served. She was proud to report that the current growth in work may require them to add onto the existing workshop and added that they had purchased the adjacent land several years ago. They currently work on parts from Gecom, Batesville Tool and Die and AmCor in Westport. Community employment opportunities have decreased because of the economy. She talked about the "Transition Fair" that is held to help students figure out what opportunities they have beyond high school. This year, it will be held Thursday, March 1st for parents of students and on March 2nd it will be a field trip day for the students. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Hooten mentioned some of the upcoming social activities being planned including a Mardi Gras. There is also a lot of success coming out of a "self-advocate" group that is teaching clients to speak on their own behalf and to assert their rights.

ARC has been organized for over 45 years. Mrs. Smith also mentioned the new website. www.thearcofdecaturcounty.org is put together by local talent as is the brochure that they distributed at the meeting.

Carol Beck – Decatur County Board of Health informed the Commissioners that they had applied for a grant through the state for a vehicle purchase. The vehicle will have a variety of practical uses including food inspections, home visits, nursing meetings, food preparedness courses and attendance at various classes and conferences. It will need to be licensed jointly with the County and the Health Department. \$17,600 is designated for a vehicle. President Rick Nobbe suggested getting rid of the ambulance and replacing it with a van. Insurance, document and title fees are figured into the grant and maintenance should be able to come from the grant in future years. Ms. Beck asked for feedback from the Board. Mr. John Richards asked about the county having to match funds and Ms. Beck informed him that no match was necessary. President Rick Nobbe asked Ms. Beck to contact the interim EMA director and ask him what the best vehicle may be to buy from an emergency usage standpoint. President Nobbe suggested that Ms. Beck and Mr. Duckworth choose a type of vehicle. County Attorney Peg Polanski suggested that Ms. Beck and Mr. Rob Duckworth get three quotes. Mr. Jerome Buening suggested that Ms. Beck should check with County Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr about possible government pricing.

In other business, Ms. Beck also presented a "Mass Prophylaxis Agreement" for the commissioner's approval. It basically designates the Decatur County Fairgrounds as a site that can be used in the event of a large scale event. Mr. Jerome Buening moved that the agreement be signed. Mr. John Richards seconded the motion. President Rick Nobbe concurred and the motion carried.

Patty Jackson – SIRPC – Ms. Jackson discussed the Home Improvement Grant and reported that after the second news release slightly more than 30 applications were received. They are

no longer accepting application. To help 30 families, she estimated that \$600,000 would be needed and that the county would have to match a certain percentage of that. She reported that less could be requested and gave a rundown of the estimated amounts. There are 10 applicants from the City of Greensburg, 7 from the Westport area and the rest are in the county. She plans to talk to Westport officials later in the week. Mr. Jerome Buening questioned how long the program had been in place and did she foresee it continuing. Ms. Jackson said that funding has always been there but the amount has decreased. Indiana Housing is a sister agency to OCRA and their funds have been cut. However, the last two grant requests have been fully funded. There is still funding available at this time for the Owner Occupied Rehab Program. Mr. John Richards asked whether Ms. Jackson could foresee whether the program would be offered next year. Ms. Jackson stated that she would probably not open it up for next year because doing it every other year helps to make sure all of the loose ends are tied up before beginning another grant cycle. The amount of work required is labor intensive. Mr. Jerome Buening suggested that Ms. Jackson might want to contact the smaller communities to encourage their participation. Mayor Herbert mentioned that the city had two of these grants and that the program was handled very well and there had been a very positive response. Ms. Jackson said that there are several ways that the matching funds can be obtained. Baseline requirements are that the applicant be 55 years or older with low income, or if disabled there is no age requirement. There were a lot of questions about different scenarios and it was mentioned that once it is decided how many will be helped and what level of assistance will be sought, there will have to be RFP's (requests for proposals) after the grant is received to determine who will do the home inspections. It was agreed that Ms. Jackson will meet with the Mayor and the town of Westport. President Rick Nobbe pointed out that the match versus the value added to county is a pretty good return on the county's investment.

Sheriff Greg Allen – Sheriff Allen presented a proposal to purchase three police vehicles. He currently maintains 15 in the fleet and an additional 6 support vehicles. The proposal is for 3 2012 model Dodge Charger police packages. It will be a total of \$72,500 for the three and County Council had approved \$75,000 for the purchase. After some discussion on administrative vehicle life and proper disposal of old squad cars, it was decided that the vehicles being replaced should be used as trade-ins to alleviate responsibility concerning repainting the vehicles.

Mr. John Richards moved to approve the purchase of the 3 vehicles. Mr. Jerome Buening seconded the motion. President Rick Nobbe concurred and the motion carried.

County Attorney Peg Polanski discussed an ordinance that needs enforced in Milford. She mentioned that any notices that have been sent are probably "stale" and that Area Plan Director David Neuman has requested that the county do something to enforce the junk ordinance. There was discussion of hiring someone to clean up the property and then put the cost of the clean-up on their property taxes. It was decided that Ms. Polanski would send a notice from the county. Mayor Herbert reported that the city gives 10 days in a notice sent by certified letter and they the city cleans the property and invoices the property owner.

Mayor Herbert suggested that the city and county work together on so many projects that it would be nice to get a city/county logo that would reflect that partnership. He also mentioned that the Upland Reservoir will be annexed into the city. There will be a survey and then the city can put signage up on the reservoir property promoting the community. He also mentioned that there is about 90000 cubic yards of dirt available for projects if someone needs it.

Harold Sample – Veterans Service Officer – Mr. Sample met with Mr. Jim Todd and the county can have a 2011 Ford Expedition free of charge if Mr. Sample can find a coordinator and a pool of drivers that can take veterans to their appointments. Insurance is furnished by the Veterans Administration and there will also be a gas card, cell phone and a credit card in case of emergency. The Sheriff's Department can furnish a place to park the vehicle. Mr. Sample said the drivers just need a valid license, a tb test and a physical and proof of insurance on their own vehicle to be eligible as drivers. There were several suggestions of where he could go to recruit

drivers and/or a coordinator. Mr. Sample will return at the March 5th meeting.

With nothing further to come before the Commissioners, Mr. Buening moved to adjourn. Mr. Richards seconded and Mr. Nobbe concurred.

Rick Nobbe, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____