

Commissioner Meeting

March 4th, 2013 8:00 A.M.

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening, John Richards

Claims were approved as presented.

Minutes were approved as presented.

Mark Mohr, Decatur County Highway Superintendent reported that County Road 950 East is now reopened. There is still some shoulder work that needs to be done when the weather improves. He did report that another “suckhole” opened up on CR 1000 South on a section between SW 60 and 100 W so that section is closed for repairs. 1000 S is a highly traveled road and the affected area has had other issues so the department will take this opportunity to investigate the extent of the problems and take care of them as weather permits.

Mr. Mohr reported that Bridge 18 project had received the final numbers needed for a check to be cut so that was taken care of. Duncan-Roberts did receive a notice to proceed and will begin on or after March 4th. Duncan-Roberts projected a two week time span to get timber laid down in order to stay compliant with the Indiana Bat protection law that requires no timber be cut after April 1. Bridge 18 is located on 400 west.

Mr. Mohr intends to attend Road School yet this week if predicted weather doesn't change his plans.

Dave Richter of United is working to get details so he can create a proposal for Bridge Inspections. He is working with the Highway Department and Ron May of Aecon to utilize existing records that may cut down on the amount of work that needs doing, thus reducing the cost of the project. Mr. Mohr relayed to the Commissioners that he feels very comfortable with Mr. Richter and is confident his company will do a good job.

Mr. Mohr said depending upon the weather, the highway crews are in spring weather mode and are working on getting gravel roads back into shape as well as tending to potholes and cracks in other roadways. There is some clean-up that needs done from projects that were completed in the fall.

Officer Bruce Cople came before the Commissioners to request that Greensburg High School history students and tv crew be allowed access to the southwest portion of the square to stage and film a reenactment of when Robert Kennedy made a speech. The event is scheduled for May 3rd from 11:00 – 3:00 and Thurston Clark will be the guest speaker playing the part of Bobby Kennedy. After discussion of what would need to be built and the time frame it would occur in, Mr. Richards moved to allow the reenactment on county property. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Bryan Robbins, Mainstreet Greensburg presented an annual report detailing the activities and accomplishments of his group for 2012. He also outlined future plans and thanked the Commissioners for allowing so many of these activities to take place on the courthouse square. He announced their annual meeting is scheduled for March 26th. He mentioned the increase in the group's funding due to “non-local” funding, especially grants. He discussed efforts in strategic planning, what the group has done as far as promotional activities and the positive results of some of the economic restructuring that has taken place. He also reported on the status of the old Decatur Apartments, the old YMCA building and the adjacent apartment building. There are plans for those buildings to become senior housing. Mr Richards questioned the difference in funding on the 2013 budget and Mr. Robbins told the board about the SNAP program that allows food stamp users to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Mr. Robbins said that four area farmer's markets are included in this program. There was some concern on additional parking that

may be required by the development of senior housing and Mr. Robbins assured the board that those concerns had been researched. Mr. Nobbe thanked Mr. Robbins for his efforts.

Harold Sample, Veterans Service Officer brought his concerns over HB 1387 to the board. Mr. Sample stated that the bill sounds as if it would require full time service officers in every county and would also require those officers to take classes that cost a lot and really don't change what the officer is able to do for veterans. Mr. Sample said that service officers were not consulted concerning this bill and it has already passed committee. He stated that he and many other officers had been discussing it and very few feel that their county requires someone full time.

Minon Stepp did not appear to represent Allstate.

Dave Neuman, Area Plan Director presented rezoning paperwork for Terry Wagner (APC 2007-14) and Joe Raver (APC 2013-1). Mr. Richards moved to approve the rezoning. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Leedie Lair and Amy Keppel requested use of the gazebo for a wedding on June 29th. After some discussion, Mr. Richards moved to allow the request. Mr. Buening seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Extension had forwarded a request to do a three year renewal from Centrex to Frontier for voice and data. The change will save \$344 per year. There is no contract required so the board agreed that they were fine with the renewal.

County Clerk Janet Chadwell and Deputy Clerk Faith Koors appeared before the board to discuss changing the county voting to Vote Centers. They presented a breakdown of the savings and discussed why the vote centers would be a positive change. Voting Centers would be open on Election Day only with a satellite office being opened for the two Saturdays prior to election. People would not be assigned to any particular center but could show up at any of the four proposed locations to vote. The "e-poll books" would be instantly updated when a voter signs in and all poll books stay updated throughout the day so no one could vote twice. The County Election Board still has to host two public meetings with a public comment period between them. Deputy Faith Koors also reported that a mailing would go out to every mailbox in the county letting voters know of the meetings and the proposed changes. The Clerk's office plans to stay with a local vendor for the electronic hardware so that repairs could be made more efficiently if needed. Ms. Chadwell and Ms. Koors were asking for the board to approve Resolution 2013-1 regarding making Decatur County a "vote center" county.

Mr. Buening moved to authorize the County Election Board to move forward in designating Decatur County a "vote center" county and to continue their plans to file this with the Indiana Election Division. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clerk Janet Chadwell mentioned that HAVA (Help America Vote Act) monies are still available at the local level to be used towards achieving these goals. Mr. Nobbe asked if the office has enough help to staff vote centers and Ms. Chadwell said she believed so. Mr. Nobbe mentioned the Region 9 Workforce Development group offers internships for people wanting to learn skills and that the state pays the wages. He suggested if Ms. Chadwell needs extra help, this might be an avenue to explore.

County Attorney Peg Polanski submitted a written report on the status of septic systems in Sardinia and indicated that it will probably be necessary to take some people to court.

Mr. Nobbe presented a renewal contract with RBSK for the calendar year 2013. Nothing in the contract had changed from the year before and Tami Wenning stated that the GIS/IT group expressed their satisfaction with how things are working. Mr. Buening moved to approve the agreement with RBSK and Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Richards mentioned that he had been approached by another company and that he had instructed them to submit something in December for

consideration for 2014.

Mr. Nobbe mentioned that a bid had been received for replacing a portion of the roof over the Circuit Court area of the courthouse and that the existing roof was the original roof from 1997. Tami Wenning reported that three reports of leaks had resulted in a couple of service visits and subsequent repairs.

Mr. Richards thanked those present for their expressions of sympathy at the recent passing of his mother.

Mr. Buening moved to recess the meeting. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was recessed. The next session will resume at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, March 18th.

Rick Nobbe, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____