

Minutes of
Jackson County Commissioners
December 04, 2012

Members Present: Commissioner Jerry Hounshel, Commissioner John Schafstall

Others Present: Sheriff Mike Carothers, Attorney Susan Bevers, Deputy Auditor Sharon Ingle

Jerry Hounshel called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a silent prayer observed.

John Schafstall made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2012 minutes as presented. Matt Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

John Schafstall made a motion to approve the payroll of November 30, 2012 in the amount of \$337,803.74 and the claims dated December 04, 2012 in the amount of \$1,468,415.35. Matt Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Jason Fee with Janssen & Spaans Engineering gave an update on the courthouse expansion project. Jason requested authorization to purchase properties surrounding the courthouse. John Schafstall made a motion to approve. Matt Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Jason will attend the next scheduled Commissioners meeting for further updates.

Jackson County resident Mike Cox appeared before Commissioners stating that he does not know where to go for information on the issues regarding freedom of speech and religion. Jerry Hounshel suggested that Mr. Cox contact our State Representative on this issue. Any changes will need to take place at the state level.

Debbie Ault with the Indiana Department of Transportation appeared before Commissioners stating that the county will receive \$8,967.37 for reimbursement of flood damage on Co. Rd. 300 N. Commissioners signed a contract regarding the reimbursement.

Financial Consultant Eric Reedy appeared before Commissioners stating that the additional 0.1 percent the county has collected through the county adjusted gross income tax (CAGIT) expired in 2011. Mr. Reedy suggested that Commissioners lobby through the General Assembly to get the tax reauthorized. Barnes & Thornburg has agreed to assist the county to secure the funding which pays for the operations of the jail and juvenile detention center. Attorney Susan Bevers has reviewed the letter of agreement and stated that she has no issues with the agreement. Matt Reedy made a motion to approve \$25,000.00 for the hiring of Barnes & Thornburg. John Schafstall seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Kaleb McKinney and Joe McDermit with the Pershing Township Volunteer Fire Department informed Commissioners of issues with the contractor doing work on the new fire department. They have been unable to get JBM Contractors to take care of the issues. Attorney Susan Bevers stated that the Architect on the project should be contacted before the Commissioners get involved. Mr. McKinney stated that there is a courtyard of concrete which was not quoted that needs to be bid out in order for a proper deduction to the retention can be withheld. There is water standing on the concrete. After much discussion on the issue, Attorney Susan Bevers stated that the county may have to take care of the problems and go after JBM Contracting later. Commissioner agreed to

allow Mr. McKinney to request that the architect send a certified letter to JBM Contractors regarding the problems. Matt Reedy requested that the letter also be sent to him.

Sheriff Mike Carothers submitted the Jail Report and Inmate Meal Expenditure Report for November 2012. Sheriff Carothers also informed Commissioners that there are over 100 dogs at Red Sky Rescue and Ruth Riley is requesting help. Jerry Hounshel stated that he will speak with Mrs. Riley.

Highway Supervisor Warren Martin informed Commissioners that Wischmeir Trucking is putting in grain bins and an office building on 400S & US 31 in Vernon Township. They are widening the road to accommodate the truck traffic from the St. Rd. 31 ROW on 400 S.

Human Resource Director Jeff Hubbard updated the Commissioners on the employee survey results for the new Health Clinic. There were 31 who stated that they would use the clinic and 12 who stated that they would not use the clinic. Representatives of SIHO have requested further discussion with Commissioners on the Health Clinic.

Attorney Susan Bevers informed Commissioners that the Sheriffs office has been contacted by **Rumke on the building of a shooting range at the Medora landfill for deputy's use.** Rumpke will build the range to the length and width necessary upon the approval of a \$1.00 annual lease payment by the Commissioners. John Schafstall made a motion to approve. Matt Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Dan Wineinger with Ameresco gave a brief update on the findings of the energy audit performed by his company and proposed that an official agreement be put in place. Commissioners declined and Matt Reedy thanked Mr. Wineinger for the information provided.

The meeting recessed until December 18, 2012 at 9:00 AM.

Jerry Hounshel - President

Matt Reedy

John Schafstall

Debra Eggeman - attest