

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting
April 22, 2019

The Commissioners' meeting opened promptly at 8:00 a.m. Monday, April 22, 2019 at the Ripley County Annex Building, Versailles, Indiana. Commissioner Stratton, Commissioner Stutler and Commissioner Horstman were in attendance as well as Attorney Ertel and Auditor Copeland.

Commissioner Stratton opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag.

Maintenance—Johnnie Lohrum

Mr. Lohrum came in and stated that the maintenance contracts for 18 months are due May 3, 2019 and will be decided on at the May 6, 2019 meeting.

EMA – Darrell Ake, Interim

Mr. Ake was in to discuss the EMA position and the applications/resumes that were received. The commissioners will be having an executive session on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 3:30pm to discuss the applicants and do an interview.

Sheriff Department – Mr. Jeff Cumberworth

Sheriff Cumberworth came in with 1 new hire for the jail. Sheriff Cumberworth also made the commissioners aware that a citizen had fallen at the courthouse on the steps and Lee Mathews, security guard, gave a written statement about the accident.

Superior Court

Attorney Ertel brought in the contract for the superior court and clerk's office for a debt service agency. Commissioner Horstman made the motion to contract with MSB Collections, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

Park – Kenny Bowling

Mr. Bowling & Mrs. Hansen was in for the park about a new computer. The technology board met and stated that they should go with the Lenovo from a local supplier. Commissioner Horstman made the motion to go with the lowest bid which was Dell, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes. Mrs. Vollet, technology director, came in to talk with the commissioners about why they should not go with the lowest price. Commissioner Horstman then rescinded his motion to go with the lowest bid, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes. Commissioner Horstman then made the motion to go with the Lenovo with the local supplier with a bid of \$1,161.99, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes. The commissioners will pay for this out of the Cum Cap fund.

Area planning – Tad Brinson

Mr. Brinson was in about ordinances. The first ordinance was for the amendment to the Subdivision Control Code. Commissioner Horstman made the motion to approve/adopt the ordinance, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

The second ordinance was for the amendment for the zoning of cell phone towers to mirror the state statute. Commissioner Stutler made the motion to approve/adopt the ordinance, Commissioner Horstman 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

The third ordinance was for the amendment for the windmill farms, solar farm fields or alternative energy forms. Commissioner Horstman made the motion to approve/adopt ordinance, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

Highway Department – Mr. Ray Toops

Mr. Toops brought in 2 tractor quotes that have mower & ditcher attachments. Commissioner Stutler made the motion to go with the Zimmer Tractor quote, Commissioner Horstman 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes. There will also be a \$40,000 grant that will be applied to the tractor. Mr. Toops stated that the Indiana Land Marks are going to look at the Holton Covered Bridge to see if any grant money would be available. Mr. Toops has also called the Indiana State Historic and left a message but has not heard back from them yet.

Dave O'Mara has started paving in the county last week. Commissioner Stutler made the motion for the county garage to go on 4-10 hour days from May 20th – September 20th, 2019 with Mr. Toops discretion of the hours for weather, Commissioner Horstman 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

SERPC – Kerry McConnell

Mrs. McConnell was in to see if the county commissioners wanted her to apply for the Owner Occupied Rehab Grant. This grant can be up to \$350,000 and help up to 14 families. The SERPC handles all the money and paperwork. Commissioner Horstman made the motion for Mrs. McConnell to apply for the grant, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

Janitorial – Rick Bushhorn

Mr. Bushhorn was in to give his resignation. His last day of employment will be May 31, 2019. Mr. Bushhorn will be taking early retirement. Mr. Bushhorn also recommended that we consider hiring Theresa Swinney, who is Mr. Bushhorn's fill in if he is out of the building. Commissioners asked for the County Auditor to have the job posted in house for 5 days.

Health Insurance

Commissioner Horstman made the motion to let the employee needing to be seen at Christ Hospital continue care through 12/31/19 with the 20% discount, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

Commissioner Horstman made the motion to not do the contribution holiday but to pay the \$500 a year, which is \$20.83 a pay check, for the HSA account that is set up at Friendship State Bank, Commissioner Stutler 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3 yes.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Jack Mass & Mr. Dennis Reed filed a drainage petition. Attorney Ertel is going to give to County Surveyor, Jeff French, to go and take a look at the situation.

Auditor Copeland presented the commissioners with the minutes of the April 8, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Stutler moved to approve the minutes with a second from Commissioner Horstman. Motion passed with 3 yes.

Commissioner Stutler moved to approve the claims with a second from Commissioner Horstman. Motion passed with 3 yes.

The Commissioners signed the Payroll Vouchers, Claim Vouchers, and Claims being paid from the commissioners' budget.

With no further business to attend, Commissioner Stutler moved to adjourn with a second from Commissioner Horstman. Motion passed 3 yes.



Rodney Stratton, President



Gary Stutler



Mark Horstman

Assts: 

Amy R Copeland-Ripley County Auditor