

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting  
November 9, 2015

Commissioners meeting opened promptly at 7:00AM, Monday, November 9, 2015 at the Ripley County Highway Department, Osgood, Indiana.

Commissioners Stutler, Linville and Busching were present as well as Auditor Wagner.

The commissioners discussed the salt, cinders, and equipment status for the winter season. All is ready and in good supply.

Foreman Steve Schonegg stated County road 725W was reopened.

The commissioners discussed the county van that had been placed on auction and decided to reduce the minimum bid and advertise with the new minimum price.

With no further business to discuss Commissioner Busching moved to recess to the annex. Commissioner Linville seconded and the motion passed with 3 yes.

Commissioner Busching moved to reconvene with a second from Commissioner Linville. Motion passed with 3 yes and the meeting reconvened with the Pledge to the Flag. Commissioners Stutler, Busching, and Linville were present as well as Attorney Ertel and Auditor Wagner.

**Maintenance—Mr. Johnny Lohrum 8:04:30**

Mr. Lohrum advised the courthouse doors had been varnished and will be completely redone this next summer. Also the water softener was being installed in the courthouse. He advised a water pump for the heat system had gone down and was being switched over for maintenance by QPH.

**Technology—Ms. Kelly Vollet 8:36:00**

The commissioners instructed Ms. Vollet to reduce the minimum bid for the county van to \$1000.00 and advertise for two more weeks. They will determine what to do with the bids at the November 23 commissioners' meeting.

### **Zoning and Planning—Mr. Tad Brinson 8:39:00**

Mr. Brinson presented the commissioners with a rezone request for property at 5451 W. US 50, Holton, In. 47023 (Part of the N.E. quarter of Section 12, Township 7 North, Range 10 East, Otter Creek Twp. 2.00+/- acres). The Zoning and Planning Board gave the request a favorable recommendation for the commissioners to consider.

Commissioner Linville moved to approve the rezone request to I-1 Enclosed Industrial with a second from Commissioner Busching. Motion passed with 3 yes.

Mr. Brinson then presented the commissioners with a request to rezone property North of Osgood on State Road 421 (Part of the South ½ of the S.E. ¼ of Section 9, Twp. 8 North, range 11 East, Center Twp. 12.00+/- acres from A-1 Agricultural to I-2 Open Industrial.

The Zoning and Planning Board had no recommendation for the commissioners to consider as they were unable to get a majority vote for or against the request.

Commissioner Stutler then opened the floor to the public as there were numerous patrons in the audience. Mr. Joe Olsen of Helena spoke for the company and their plans for the site. He stated that long term they expected up to 10 additional employees at the site and any and all operations by them were regulated by IDEM and Homeland Security.

Ms. Melodie Busch, Mr. Jeff Newhart, Mr. Carroll Heneke, Mr. Adam Vollmer, and Ms. Rosemary Newhart spoke against the rezone. Mr. Bob Vollmer also spoke against the rezone and requested that all those present against the project stand. There were approximately 10 -15 patrons who stood as against. Mr. Tim Taylor, JCD Superintendent stated he was neutral but was concerned about what might occupy the site in the future if the site would be abandoned or sold by Helena.

Mr. Frank Ingram and Mr. Jim Ingram spoke for the rezone and Mr. John Lohrum advised he was not against the rezone.

There was no call for those for the project to stand to show support.

Commissioner Busching then spoke and stated he was disappointed with the Zoning and Planning Board and felt they did not do their job and provide the commissioners with a recommendation. He then made a motion to DENY the rezone request. Commissioner Linville seconded and the motion to deny passed with 3 yes.

### **BREAK**

### **Sheriff Department—Sheriff Jeff Cumberworth 9:28:03**

Sheriff Cumberworth advised he had provided the Surveyor's Office with the old reserve car to determine if they could use it in their operation. It would also be available for other employees to use if needed.

He requested that all employees obtain ID badges for use in the courthouse so they did not have to go through the security check by showing their badge. A discussion of the difficulty in using the key for the west door ensued. Commissioner Busching stated it was a security risk for the Sheriff Department transporting prisoners into the courthouse and having difficulty with the lock and key. The Mag Lock Controller was revisited from Central Indiana Hardware for \$2796.40. Commissioner Busching moved to approve the quote and have the system installed on the west entrance of the courthouse doors. Commissioner Linville seconded and the motion passed with 3 yes.

**Probation—Mr. Shannon Schmaltz 9:35:00**

Mr. Schmaltz advised he would like to start using community service inmates to help township trustees maintain township cemeteries in 2016. This will depend on how many township cemeteries there are and difficulty in access to them.

**Mayor Elect—Mr. Mike Bettice**

Mr. Bettice introduced himself to the commissioners and stated his desire in forming working relationships with the county officials for the future.

**EMS—Mr. Jim Corbin 9:11:00**

Mr. Corbin advised Medicount was switching vendors they used to submit claims to they receive from the county and rescue units. The new vendor is Emdeon Business Services. He also discussed the balance owed by Rescue 69 and provided a copy of a check received from Rescue 69 that did not state what it was for. Auditor Wagner provided the file in which he and Mr. Corbin had reviewed the Rescue 69 account and determined the check amount matched the amount of the September 2015 billing. This leaves a balance of \$31,650.00 owed to the county.

County Attorney John Ertel advised the commissioners he had received a claim affidavit from Liberty Mutual for the road damage in the county by Enterprise Pipeline. Commissioner Busching moved to have Commissioner Stutler sign the form for submission. Commissioner Lonville seconded and the motion passed with 3 yes.

**Clerk—Ms. Mary Ann McCoy 10:07:45**

Ms. McCoy advised the commissioners she had an opening January 1, 2016 and requested permission to advertise the position. She was advised she did not have to request permission to advertise the opening since it was not an additional position request.

Commissioner Busching moved to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting and the claims as submitted. Commissioner Linville seconded and the motion passed with 3 yes.

Commissioners signed payroll sheets, claim vouchers, and claims being paid from the commissioners' budget and minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting.

Auditor presented the commissioners with the Payroll Schedule and the Commissioners Meeting/Accounts Payable Schedule for 2016. The commissioners signed these as well. He then presented the commissioners with a copy of an email from the Director of Outreach of the Corporate and Government Department of Branson Missouri. It provided a request to disseminate information and instructions to the county employees in obtaining show tickets or scheduling a vacation to Branson. The commissioners instructed Auditor Wagner to provide this information to the employees.

With no further business to attend Commissioner Busching moved to adjourn with a second from Commissioner Linville. Motion passed with 3 yes.

\_\_\_\_\_ Gary Stutler

\_\_\_\_\_ Mark Busching

\_\_\_\_\_ Robert Linville

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ William Lee Wagner, Auditor Ripley County