

Ripley County Commissioners Meeting

December 4, 2017

The Commissioners' meeting opened promptly at 7:00 a.m. Monday December 4, 2017 at the Ripley County Highway Garage, Osgood, Indiana. All Commissioners were in attendance as well as Auditor Wagner.

Superintendent Toops advised he had contacted Mr. Corey Ball with Milestone on the I-74 blacktop millings. Pricing for the millings are expected to be around \$5.50 per ton to haul them to a holding location. County would then need to load and haul from there.

Also the paperwork and signed agreement had been returned to INDOT for the Community Crossings Grant. INDOT now reviews the agreement.

Also reported was the phone system had gone out at the highway garage. It had been brought back online but Comcast had advised it may go out again. Mr. Toops is getting a quote on replacing the system.

Foreman Kissell advised the trucks are still on schedule to be delivered December 2017. Also the roller had been ordered and funding will be encumbered into 2018.

With no further business to attend, Commissioner Stratton moved to recess to the annex. Commissioner Linville seconded and the motion passed with 3 yes.

Commissioner Stratton moved to reconvene the meeting with a second from Commissioner Linville. Motion passed with 3 yes and Commissioner Stutler opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag. Commissioners Stutler, Linville, and Stratton, County Attorney Ertel, and Auditor Wagner were in attendance.

Maintenance—Mr. John Lohrum

Mr. Lohrum discussed the quote from Lohrum Electric for the light replacement in the annex parking lot. The commissioners requested additional information and stated they would make a decision at the 12/18/2017 meeting.

Friendship Regional Sewer District

Commissioner Stutler provided the commissioners with the appointments for the sewer board.

Commissioner Stratton moved to appoint Gary Stutler to a 3 year term starting 1/1/2018, Samantha O'Neil to serve the remainder of Ms. Dryer's term (1/1/2017---12/31/2019), and 4 year terms for Tony Wood, Glen Kamman, and Pat Thomas starting 1/1/2018.

Health Department—Dr. Harley Robinson

Dr. Robinson advised Ms. Holley Rose would be the Administrator and they had advertised for a health nurse. A revised salary ordinance would be provided for the health nurse position.

Technology—Ms. Kelly Vollet

Ms. Vollet advised ETC was looking at the phone system at the highway garage.

EMA—Mr. Patrick Rose

Mr. Rose advised the radios had been reprogrammed and he was working on closing out grants.

Encore Insurance—Mr. Brad Samples

Mr. Samples presented the commissioners with the 2018 property and casualty insurance renewal for review.

Property values have been increased for inflation and a new coverage for Cyber & Data Compromise was added.

Premium for the 2018 renewal was presented at \$241,273.00 which was an increase of \$979.00 from 2017.

Commissioner Linville moved to approve the renewal with a second from Commissioner Stratton. Motion passed with 3 yes.

BREAK 9:37:13**Mr. Richard Shebitz and Ms. Lynn Toops—Cohen & Malad Law Firm**

Mr. Shebitz described the Opioid Crisis and that his firm was representing only Indiana entities. They would file the suit in Federal Court in an attempt to recover costs from the distributors for entities that are directly related Opioid addiction. Ms. Toops spoke with statistics of the problem. Distributors of the opioid based drugs have skirted and in some cases ignored the federal laws making them negligent in their distribution efforts.

Mr. Shebitz provided their contingency contract for review.

Mr. Ken Pierce and Mr. Will Nefzger

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Nefzger spoke on the opioid litigation their partnership provided as well.

He stated they felt that there would be advantage to the county to consolidate with other counties in effort to recover costs associated with the opioid crisis such as additional jail inmate costs, treatment, etc. They advised they would provide their contract as well for review.

Mr. Ted Lukomski—Ambassador Company

Mr. Lukomski introduced himself to the commissioners and stated his company produced books for the lower grades that was a character development for the young children.

Commissioner Linville moved to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2017. Commissioner Stratton seconded and the motion passed with 3 yes.

Commissioner Linville moved to approve the claims as presented with a second from Commissioner Stratton. Motion passed with 3 yes.

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

With no other business to attend, Commissioner Linville moved to adjourn with a second from Commissioner Stratton. Motion passed with 3 yes.

_____ Gary Stutler

_____ Rodney Stratton

_____ Robert Linville

Attest: _____ William Lee Wagner—Ripley County Auditor