

Minutes of  
Jackson County Commissioners  
January 17, 2017  
9:00 AM

Present: Commissioner Matt Reedy, Commissioner Drew Markel & Commissioner Bob Gillaspy  
Absent: All present.

The Board of Finance met at 9:00am. The regular Commissioner's meeting began immediately following the adjournment of the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Matt Reedy called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a silent prayer observed.

Commissioner Bob Gillaspy made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2017 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Drew Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

After review, Commissioner Gillaspy made a motion to approve the payroll of January 6, 2017 in the amount of \$397,898.20 along with Claims for January 17, 2017, in the amount of \$622,317.52. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

County Auditor, Kathy Hohenstreiter then asked Commissioners for approval to pay insurance bill (SIHO,AFLAC, VSP, Metlife, Liberty National) and invoices received from Prairie Farms, Gordon Foods and possibly Sams Club in with Weekly Utilities. The reason for this is either to avoid Late Penalties or to receive rebates for prompt payment. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

**Reports from other Committees:** None

Trena Carter and Jackie Hill then came before Commissioners to provide an update on the Workforce Development Grant. The grant has been approved and will be in the amount of \$250,000 for training. The total grant, including in kind donations is \$312,500. Commissioner Gillaspy will attend the Awards Ceremony on behalf of the Commissioners to be held at the Capital Building on January 26, 2017.

Community Corrections Director, JL Brewer then presented the CC 2018 Grant Budget, asking for Commissioners support. This budget is for July 1, 2017 – June 30,2018. After discussion, Commissioner Markel made a motion to support the presented budget. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Brewer then read the letter of support that he must submit, Commissioners then signed the letter.

Martha's Vineyard HOA President, Jason Enrique and Secretary Rachel Roll then came before Commissioners to discuss the road issue at the subdivision. Discussion was then held on past events and work that has been done. After discussion, Commissioners advised Highway Superintendent Jerry Ault to review specifics on what has previously been done and bring info back to Commissioners.

Jana Wessel then discussed with Commissioners an issue with the gutters on the back of the courthouse. The gutters have started to drip in a way that lands on the handicap ramp. Wessel was advised to get quotes and bring back to Commissioners.

Arann Banks with the Visitor's Center was listed on the agenda, but unable to attend.

Trena Carter then presented the Semi-Annual Subrecipient Grant Report for the Pershing Township VFD for approval. After review, Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Juvenile Detention Center Director, Steve Redicker then presented the December 2016 monthly report and the 2016 annual report for the Juvenile Detention Center for review. Commissioner Reedy asked Redicker to bring information on the cost of transporting juveniles. Commissioner Markel will be serving on the Juvenile Detention Board.

Joe Peters then discussed with Commissioners, his property in Vallonia, that the court has now deemed an unsafe premise. Peters gave the Commissioners copies of pictures and then exited the meeting. Conner Barnette stated that notices were sent to Mr Peters in March, May and July 2016. The court has now deemed the property unsafe – information which Sheriff's dept. delivered to Mr Peters on January 9, 2017.

Vickie Fleetwood, Russell Fritz and Lloyd Gastineau then came before Commissioners to discuss a concern with the Pershing Township Fire District Board. They asked to discuss the new Commissioners appointments that were made to the board at the January 3, 2017 meeting. Fleetwood, Fritz and Gastineau feel the Human Resource Director and Commissioners were given inaccurate information about their willingness to serve on the board again. Neither Gastineau or Fritz were contacted to see if they were willing to serve again. After discussion, it was stated that the appointments the Commissioners made on January 3, 2017 will stand unless a letter of resignation is received from those new appointees.

Auditor Hohenstreiter then presented the Annual Covered Bridge certification to be completed. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to certify that Jackson County has two (2) covered bridges. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Auditor Hohenstreiter then presented the 2016 100R for Commissioners to review. The 100R will be posted for the public at the Brownstown Courthouse, the Courthouse Annex and the Seymour Public Library and also on the Gateway site. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Auditor Hohenstreiter then presented the 2016 Fund Report for Commissioners to review. After review, Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Update on Plumer Hay Farm Contract – The Jackson County Highway is to bid out this acreage. Commissioners will review bids received.

Update on Shieldstown Bridge – Timelines are being demanded.

Update on Middendorf/Kloppenburg Properties – Attorney Susan Bevers stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> appraisal is back on the Middendorf lot from First Appraisal. Attorney Bevers was advised to prepare a purchase agreement for the lot. Commissioner Gillaspay then advised Attorney Bevers to acquire two (2) appraisals on the Middendorf property with the building. Commissioner Markel made a motion to approve the contract with First Appraisal to do one of the new appraisals on the Middendorf property with the building. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Plan Commissioner Barnette has petitioned the city of Brownstown to vacate 2 partial alleys in regards to the Judicial Center building site. Barnette along with Surveyor Dan Blann plan to attend the City meeting to explain the need.

County Liability Ins- Commissioner Markel stated that Beatty has come back with quotes for deductibles of \$10,000, \$15,000 & \$25,000. Commissioners would like to wait until next meeting for a decision, allowing time to review.

Virgil Steinker Road Vacate – After discussion, Commissioner Reedy read Ordinance No.1 Commissioners Bill No. 2 -2017. “An Ordinance vacating a county road in Redding Township, Indiana.” Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Hospital Board Appointment- Commissioner Markel made a motion to reappoint Terry Gilliland and John McCoy who both were recommended by Warren Forgey to the Hospital Board. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

### **END OF OLD BUSINESS**

Human Resource Director, Jeff Hubbard then asked if the Commissioners wanted to continue to pay to be in the Indiana Commissioners Association. Commissioner Markel made the motion to pay dues to remain members. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Mike Carothers then presented the December 2016 Jail Report, Meal Expenditure Report, Dog Detention Report and Judicial Statistics Report.

Highway Supervisor, Jerry Ault this discussed the following with Commissioners:

1. After purchase of Wheel loader and 1T truck, which came in under budget, there is \$48,449.00 left. With that Ault would like to purchase a hydraulic hammer to place on the new Volvo. The hammer would cost \$39,218.75 and would not affect warranty on the Volvo. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve the purchase of a hydraulic hammer. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.
2. The salary ordinance shows that the department is down 2 employees. Currently Ault has the permission to hire one, but would like to hire the additional employee. Commissioner Gillaspay made a motion to approve pending Council approval. Commissioner Markel seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.
3. Bridge #193 – The Vallonia Iron Bridge has severe erosion issue. After discussion, Ault was advised to contact Janssen & Spaans and get a plan in place .
4. A court order was issued to force residents from a home that was about to succumb to raising flood waters. The residents still want to remain in the home, even after the river bank has eroded to the point that the edge is at the foundation of the house. The county would need to petition the court to deem this house unsafe and be able to take the house down. Commissioner Markel made a motion to begin the process to deem this an unsafe premise. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Markel made a motion to reappoint Mike Reynolds to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Commissioner Gillaspay seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

County Surveyor, Dan Blann informed Commissioners that RQAW has stated that many utilities will need to be rerouted for the building of the new Judicial Center. RQAW has asked if the County Surveyors office would be able to assist in this process. Blann stated that, with the Commissioners approval, his office would be willing to work with the Utility companies and write easements, which would be reviewed by Attorney Bevers before being agreed upon. Commissioner Markel made a motion to allow

the County Surveyors office to perform this work. Commissioner Gillaspy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Commissioner Markel then handed out information that he found informative and important to the decision of changing the Employee Handbook in regards to firearms. Commissioner Markel stated that he would like for all to review the information. Commissioner Gillaspy then stated that he has reviewed the handbook and believes the current verbage is fine. Commissioner Gillaspy suggested an annual handbook orientation or training.

Commissioners recessed until the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 6:00PM.

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Matt Reedy

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Drew Markel

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Bob Gillaspy

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Kathy Hohenstreiter - attest