

Board of Commissioners
August 4, 2009 – 8:45 am

Meeting called to order by President Rininger. Commissioners Rininger, Logsdon, Gogel, and Board Attorney Lueken were present.

Claims

Gogel made a motion to approve claims. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Minutes

7/7/2009 minutes; Logsdon made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

7/21/2009 minutes; Logsdon made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Meeting Dates

The Indiana Association of County Commissioners Conference is held the first week in December when the first commissioner meeting in December is scheduled. Logsdon asked for the meeting to be moved to the prior day, on November 30. Discussion was had on the timing of the end of year meeting. Logsdon made a motion to move the December 1 meeting to November 30, and set the end of year meeting for December 29. Both meetings will begin at 8:45 am. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Bid Opening

Engineer Lloyd stated that three companies requested bid packets for the work to be done on various roads in Lamar and Newtonville. The engineer's estimate is \$117,652. Lueken opened and read the bids as follows:

J H Rudolph	\$84,669.00
Metzger Construction	\$102,042.00
Gohmann Asphalt	\$79,542.00

Discussion was had on if the low bidder was "responsible". Lloyd explained that on the Reo Heights paving project Gohmann Asphalt did not follow the specifications. She reported that the job is now complete and the road does look fine, but it is a matter of trust. She has made it clear to them that they will be watched closely on future jobs. Logsdon stated that the commissioners are in a bad position, because they need to be good stewards of the taxpayer's money but the contractors need to know that the specs must be followed. Lloyd stated that she thinks her point was made and that Gohmann will be following the specs from now on. Logsdon made a motion to have the engineer send a letter stating the displeasure of the commissioners and the expectations of the current and any future jobs. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Rininger asked for public comment. None was offered. Gogel made a motion to award the project to Gohmann Asphalt, stating that he has reservations about doing it. Logsdon seconded, again with reservations. All in favor.

Health Insurance

Christine Zimmerman, president of the insurance committee, reported to the commissioners that the committee is recommending an increase in premium of \$10 on employee only coverage, \$20 on employee plus spouse coverage, and \$30 on family coverage. Discussion was had. Gogel stated he is concerned about the timing, because the council may decide not to give raises for 2010. Zimmerman stated the committee considered making the recommendation contingent on the employees receiving a raise. The commissioners commended the insurance committee on their efforts to consider the long-term welfare of the county. Logsdon made a motion to table the decision until December. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Driving Policy

Lueken discussed the changes he made to the policy. A draft has been sent to the county's liability carrier, Alliance, for review. Logsdon made a motion to table the policy until it has been reviewed by Alliance.

Energy Block Grant

Mark Heirbrandt of Ameresco spoke to the commissioners about the Energy Block Grant. The grant is a maximum of \$100,000 and a new roof for the courthouse would qualify. Ameresco did an energy survey for the courthouse two years ago and it can be used for this grant. Logsdon made a motion for the auditor and Ameresco to work together to submit the grant.

Highway Report

District Roads – Highway Superintendent Painter gave each of the commissioners a list of his recommendations for the roads in their districts.

Chip and Seal – Logsdon asked the papers to write articles explaining why the county puts a chip and seal surface on top of an asphalt road. He stated he would like people to understand how it extends the life of the road and saves the county money in the future.

Fuel Tax – Painter further discussed the declining revenues from the fuel tax.

Engineer Report

Intersection of Eureka Road & SR 161 – Kenny Young asked the commissioners to consider installing rumble strips to alert people driving up to the intersection of Eureka Road and SR 161. The danger of the intersection was discussed. Engineer Lloyd stated that there are "Stop Ahead" signs before the intersection but it remains a problem. Logsdon asked for Lloyd and Painter to find out what effect the rumble strips have on maintenance of the roads.

Gas Lines & Electric Lines – Kenny Young asked the commissioners to make it a county requirement that when gas lines or electric lines are buried two feet or deeper a trace line is buried with them. Discussion was had on if the plan commission or the commissioners are the board to enact the requirement. Logsdon said he would take the suggestion to the plan commission for discussion. Lloyd will check with other counties to see who has a similar requirement.

Stimulus Funds – Lloyd stated that five county roads were put out for bid by the state, not four as previously reported. The bid was won by JH Rudolph. The bid came in under the original estimate by approximately \$400,000. Lloyd is in contact with INDOT about using the balance to fund another road, but she said there are no guarantees.

CEDIT – Lloyd stated that even though the roads being funded with stimulus money were on the CEDIT plan for 2009, she does not recommend moving up any roads scheduled for 2010. She would like to meet with the commissioners to discuss the possibility of adding new roads to the plan, either permanently or temporarily. The commissioners decided to have a planning meeting prior to the next commissioner meeting on August 18, at 1:30pm.

Base Road Project – Lloyd reported that the additional funding requested for the Base Road project was declined because of the uncertainty of whether it will be needed for the potential new industry. She stated she is confident that if new industry does decide to locate in the county the additional funding could be secured.

SSHS – Lloyd stated that South Spencer High School has been trying to convince INDOT to install a light at the intersection of SR 66 and Orchard Road. INDOT has refused but has suggested that the school look

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into extending SR 161 straight through the existing light and add another entrance to the school. INDOT and SSHS will be meeting and asked if the commissioners would like to send a representative. Logsdon stated that the school and INDOT need to work this out initially between themselves.

Legal Report

Mobile Home Square Footage Ordinance – Lueken discussed the ordinance proposed by the Plan Commission regarding the minimum square footage for a mobile home. Lueken stated that a citation in the ordinance needed to be changed. Discussion was had on the minimum size requirement for stick built homes. Gogel made a motion to table the ordinance. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

US 231 Corridor Ordinance – Lueken stated that he had some changes to discuss with the Plan Commission on the US 231 Corridor Ordinance. Logsdon made a motion to table. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Arts Council Award

Rininger stated that the Spencer County Public Library has received an Arts Council Award and the commissioners have been invited to attend the reception to be held on September 3, 2009.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Gogel seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 am.

Board of Commissioners,

President
Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor

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