

Board of Commissioners

May 19, 2009 – 2:30 pm

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

Data Sale

Gogel made a motion to sign the agreement to sell data through WTH to Group 1 Software, Inc. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Fitness Equipment

Kellie Singleton discussed the possibility of having fitness equipment in the basement of the courthouse for the courthouse employees to use. She presented a draft of the guidelines and hold harmless agreement. Discussion was had on equipment, hours, and who would be allowed to use it. Concern was expressed on the liability and access to other offices. Logsdon made a motion to table until it can be researched further. Gogel seconded. All in favor. Perdue also asked the commissioners for \$150 for platforms and mats. Logsdon asked if wellness insurance would cover the expense.

EMA Grant

Perdue asked the commissioners to sign a 100% reimbursable grant for \$14,863.62 to be used for the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program. Gogel made a motion to approve. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Panic Bar/Door Installation

Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor Bill Glenn and Perdue discussed the installation of panic bars on the courthouse doors, which would enable the courthouse doors to be locked and still allow people to leave the

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building and the doors lock behind them. Glenn had a bid from Architectural Sales for a total of \$5,060. Perdue also received a quote from Felts Lock for \$4,723.70. Glenn said that the locks quoted by Architectural Sales are industrial bars and are better suited for the courthouse. Logsdon made a motion to accept the quote from Architectural Sales on the recommendation of Glenn. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Courthouse Maintenance

Glenn discussed some items that will need attention in the courthouse: build up in the pipes, lack of insulation in the attic. Logsdon asked him to make a list and make a report at the next meeting.

Ride Solutions

Kelly Mitchell, CEO of SIRS, and Becky Guthrie, with Ride Solutions, asked the commissioners to support the Ride Solutions application to INDOT for rural public transportation in Spencer County. Ride Solutions serves everyone Monday through Friday, 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. SIRS would partner with Ride Solutions. Mitchell listed the benefits of the service, such as: affordability for residents, supports local businesses, expanded hours, helps people who are not covered by the Council on Aging. They are asking for a \$5,000 annual commitment from the county. Guthrie said the only hole in their coverage area is Spencer County.

Councilman Bunner stated that the Council on Aging analyzed the benefits of partnering with Ride Solutions and spoke with others who have partnered with Ride Solutions and the conclusion has remained the same as before; they see no real benefit in the partnership. He said a feasibility study needs to be done.

Further discussion was had on the benefits and limitations.

Logsdon asked how much the county would be expected to contribute each year. Guthrie stated it would be \$5,000 each year starting in 2010. Logsdon asked Bunner how much revenue the Council on Aging would lose if Ride Solutions would start in the county. Bunner stated that as long as they did not encroach on the Medicaid type runs then the Council on Aging should not lose anything. Guthrie agreed and stated that Ride Solutions will not be doing Medicaid runs in Spencer County. Medicaid runs would be referred to the local providers by the dispatchers.

Discussion was had on the logistics of the partnership between SIRS and Ride Solutions.

Logsdon made a motion to fund Ride Solutions with \$5,000 for one year, the cost to come from the commissioners' budget. Rininger seconded. The motion passed 2 to 1, with Gogel opposed, stating that he sees this as the beginning of the end for the Council on Aging. Guthrie asked for a letter of recommendation to INDOT from the commissioners. Logsdon stated that participation is contingent on the county council agreeing to fund the \$5,000.

Engineer Report

Base Road – Engineer Lloyd reported that she re-submitted the application for the Base Road project. A letter from Gogel, Councilman Kroeger and other prominent local Republicans will send a letter to the governor asking for his support.

Chrisney Water Project – Lloyd received a truck-hauling permit for the bonding of CR1000N from the Town of Chrisney for a water project. They are requesting a 100% surety bond for \$60,000. Logsdon made a motion to allow. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

INDOT Detours – INDOT has sent notification that they will be closing two roads and the county will need to apply for the unofficial detours. The first is the bridge replacement on SR 245 between Santa Claus and Dale, the unofficial detour will be CR 550 E and CR 1675 N. The seconded is for the culvert replacement on SR 70 where it meets SR 66. CR 1000 E will be the unofficial detour.

Bridge 151 – Lloyd reported that United Consulting has sent a proposal to correct the problems with the flood way permit and Bridge 151 for a fee of \$8,000. They will take care of all the environmental work, reporting, and anything else needed to keep the county in good standing with DNR. Lueken had some concerns. Discussion was had on why it is needed and other alternatives. The commissioners directed Lloyd to collect more information on the original contracts.

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Huffman Drain & CR 200

Logsdon discussed the flooding problem experienced by a landowner on CR 200 N. The water is not getting to Huffman Drain to drain to the river. The drainage advisory board is working on a plan to clean out the drains further but the ground is currently too wet.

Santa Claus Water

Rininger asked Lloyd about concerns which landowners along CR 800 have regarding the placement of the pipes for the Santa Claus Water Project by the contractors. Lloyd stated that there is an assumed right-of-way 20 feet from the centerline on both sides of the county road. She measured the distance and in most cases, it is right along the edge of the right-of-way. The landowners think the pipes are in their personal property. Logsdon stated that the landowners need to contact the Santa Claus Attorney with their concerns.

Legal Report

231 Plaza – Lueken reported that the defendants have corrected the errors for which they were cited and the county response is being prepared.

EEOC – A report was submitted by the Alliance attorney to the EEOC with regard to the unsuccessful mitigation in the Morrison claim. The letter stated that Spencer County is without knowledge of the extent of any hearing loss suffered by Morrison. It further stated that complaints were received regarding Morrison and the complaints did not reference any disability, but rather his refusal to service Spencer County Veterans in a prompt and useful manner. It further listed other reasons for not re-appointing Morrison. Lueken stated that the complaint will continue through the EEOC process.

Driving Policy – A meeting will be held on June 2nd after the commissioner meeting of the committee working on the driving policy.

Luce Township Sewer

Ed Ingram, LTRSD board president, reported that there are two new members of the LTRSD board, Nora Yeager and John Wood. He said the board is looking for a secretary of the district and a treasurer for the board is also needed. Currently the district is looking for a new office space.

At the last meeting Algae Wheel gave a presentation, but no action was taken.

The phone survey results were discussed. Only two dozen people were willing to answer the questions. He stated that only two landowners have signed their easements since last year.

Nora Yeager is drafting a Memorandum of Understanding to take to the County Council to justify any further funding and John Wood is working on a timeline.

The next board meeting will be May 28th.

Gogel stated that a plan to get easements seems to be what needs the most attention. Ingram stated that people have been contacted three or four times to sign easements. Gogel said people need to be told how important this is and easements are needed. Ingram stated that the problem is that the sewage in the current plan is being piped to Rockport and he will not sign his easement as long as it is going to Rockport. Ingram said, in his opinion, sewer systems could be put in individual towns for cheaper. Gogel said the project needs to be bid before anyone can say what will be cheaper. The people have to trust the board that they will not move forward with a project that is too expensive.

Logsdon stated that Ingram has not signed his easement and so he has not made a commitment to have a sewer system. Ingram says he is committed to have a system, just not this one. Logsdon said Ingram cannot be committed to a system and not sign his easement. If the president of the sewer board would step forward and sign his easement and tell the community that there will be a system under his leadership, then maybe the community would follow. Real positive leadership is needed.

Further discussion was had on the signing of easements. Logsdon suggested speaking to Rural Development about the number of easements needed. Ingram discussed the contacts he has made. Discussion was had on the agreement with the City of Rockport.

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Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Gogel seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Board of Commissioners,

President

Attest: _____

Cindy Shelton, Auditor

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