

Board of Commissioners
March 23, 2010 – 2:30 pm

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

Mass Casualty Response Trailer

EMA Director Perdue discussed the six Mass Casualty Response Trailers purchased by District 10 through a grant. One will be stationed at each county in the district that does not have a hospital, plus an additional one for Vanderburgh County. Perdue discussed the proposed Mutual Aid Agreement between Koch Development, Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service, Spencer County Emergency Management Agency, Santa Claus Volunteer Fire Department, Carter Fire District, and the St. Meinrad Volunteer Fire Department. Lueken said the agreement would need to be reviewed by attorneys that represent the various agencies, but would recommend the commissioners approve the concept of the agreement. Logsdon made a motion to approve the concept of the Mutual Aid Agreement for Mass Casualty Response Trailer. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Emergency Ambulance Service

Jane Stout reported that the Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service has been approved for the Paramedic Level, which means they can carry an increased level of pharmaceuticals and they are approved for more procedures.

Ambulance Lease Purchase

Stout and Lueken discussed documents needed for the approval of the lease-purchase of a new ambulance. Logsdon made a motion to approve the Lease – Purchase through PNC Equipment Finance, based on the recommendation of Lueken. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Stout explained that all of the ambulances in the fleet will now be alike and when a new one is needed, the box can be moved to a new chassis, which will save the county \$60,000 or more.

State Department of Health

Deborah Capps from the State Department of Health commended the Spencer County Health Department for their work on H1N1 clinics. She said they vaccinated 6,000 people through 36 clinics over a five-month period. She said they did a great job of getting the word out to the public about what needed to be done and then implementing the plan. Donna Etienne, representing the county Health Department, thanked all of the partners that helped with the vaccinations. Logsdon thanked the State Department of Health for their support of the local departments.

State Road 245 Proposed Closing

Melissa Wilkinson, Executive Director of the Spencer County Visitor's Bureau, discussed the proposed closing of SR 245 by INDOT. Wilkinson presented the resolutions passed by the Town of Santa Claus and the Tourism Commission, as well as a letter from the County Council supporting the Town of Santa Claus resolution. She said she has also received letters from the State Police, LEDC, the Chamber of Commerce, and the North Spencer School Corporation. All are concerned about the safety of the residents and students in the area that will be hard to reach during the road closing. Russ Winkler, Owner of Christmas Lake Golf Course, also expressed his opposition to the road closing. After brief discussion, Logsdon made a motion to have Rininger write a letter, similar to the letter from the County Council, in support of the resolutions. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Lamar Conservancy District Appointment

The Lamar Conservancy District requested the re-appointment of Lenn Stein to the District Board. Logsdon made a motion to re-appoint Stein. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Minutes

03/02/2010 minutes; Gogel made a motion to approve. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

GIS Data Sale

First American Core Logic requested permission to purchase the county's GIS data from WTH. They signed the required forms. Logsdon made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Luce Township Sewer

Lisa Gehlhausen, Indiana 15, asked the commissioners to sign and submit the \$9 million grant for the Luce Township Regional Sewer project. The grant must go through a local unit of government and the sewer

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district would be the sub-recipient. She stated the total cost of the project is estimated to be \$16 million. The State Revolving Fund will loan the district the remaining funds with a 20-year loan at 2.31%. Gehlhausen stated if the commissioners agree, the goal is to have the application submitted by March 31 and the answer is expected in 30 to 45 days. She explained the \$9 million is currently the maximum allowed in this grant. After this grant period expires the maximum allowed grant will be \$600,000.

Logsdon asked if the county would owe Indiana 15 anything if the grant were denied. Gehlhausen stated Indiana 15 would have no fee if the grant were denied.

LTRSD Board Member Ed Ingram asked Gehlhausen if the \$9 million amount would go down if the bids come in lower than \$16 million. Gehlhausen said the grant would pay 60% of the project, up to \$9 million.

Logsdon asked who would be in charge of making sure the district stays in compliance with all the requirements of the grant. Gehlhausen said Indiana 15 would oversee all compliance issues and approval of all bills.

Discussion was had on the approval of COIT funds by the county council.

Lueken discussed the sub-recipient agreement wording. He said the county would need assurance that any debt taken on by LTRSD would not come back on the county. Gehlhausen said it would be in the agreement. LTRSD Attorney Lindsey said the district would not ask the county to be responsible for anything. Gehlhausen said the sub-recipient always has the ultimate responsibility.

Gehlhausen read Resolution 2010-06 as follows:

RESOLUTION 2010-06

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND LOCAL MATCH COMMITMENT

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SPENCER COUNTY, INDIANA,
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE DISASTER RECOVERY APPLICATION TO
THE INDIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND RURAL AFFAIRS AND ADDRESSING
RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Spencer County, Indiana recognize the need to stimulate growth and to maintain a sound economy within the county; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding associated with the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 Public Law 110-252, approved June 30, 2008, and Public Law 110-329, approved September 30, 2008, for disaster relief of unmet needs resulting from tornadoes and flooding in the state, authorizes the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs to provide grants to local units of government to meet the housing and community development needs of low-and moderate-income persons; and

WHEREAS, Spencer County, Indiana has conducted a public hearing prior to the submission of an application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, said public hearing to assess the housing, public facilities and economic needs of its low- and moderate-income residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Spencer County, Indiana that:

1. The President is authorized to prepare and submit an application for grant funding to address wastewater improvement issues, and to execute and administer a resultant grant including requisite general administration and project management, contracts and agreements pursuant to regulations of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
2. Spencer County, Indiana hereby commits local funds up to \$7,108,000. These funds are derived from the following sources: State Revolving Loan to Luce Township Regional Sewer District. Spencer County also commits \$75,000 derived from County Option Income Tax Funds.

All funds have been committed to this project as matching funds for said program, such commitment to be contingent upon receipt of Disaster Recovery CDBG funding from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

Gogel made a motion to approve 2010-06. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

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Luce Township Sewer Easements

Lindsey requested the commissioners sign two easements to allow the LTRSD to cross county property. Lueken asked if the ground would be repaired back to current condition. Lindsey said that is part of the bid specs. Logsdon made a motion to sign the easements. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

EECBG – Lighting Grant

Gehlhausen congratulated the county on being awarded the EECBG grant for \$36,000 for lighting improvements in and around the courthouse. The grant is 100% reimbursable with no county match. Indiana 15's Mike Cummings will be attending the grant meeting on Friday, March 26 to get the information on the grant.

Public Safety Building

Gehlhausen said the Public Safety Building is still moving forward. The required environmental review is currently being done.

The meeting was recessed at 3:32 pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:40 pm.

SRI – Certificate Sale

Jim Hughes, current President of SRI, introduced Tim Rushenberg, former DLGF Commissioner, as the new President of SRI.

Hughes explained to the commissioners that after a property is put up for tax sale and is not sold, the county could hold a "certificate sale". The commissioners are given the option to lower the price of the property to an amount less than the taxes owed. The redemption period is shortened from twelve months to 120 days. The buyer could then receive a deed to the property with all of the former taxes owed cleared.

If the commissioners approve, a sale can be set up for May 25th. Discussion was had on the process of the sale. The commissioners discussed the price to be set on the properties. Hughes suggested 10% of the current taxes owed. He further suggested the commissioners agree to an internet sale, so the properties can be purchased online. Logsdon made a motion to approve the certificate sale to be held on May 25, 2010 at a price of 10% of the currently owed taxes. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

Villa Ova – Jike Court

Nathan Kirchgessner, a resident of Villa Ova Subdivision who lives on Jike Court, addressed the commissioners regarding the condition of the roads through most of Villa Ova Subdivision. Kirchgessner stated the school buses have threatened to stop driving down the roads because of the condition.

Discussion was had on how the roads are not on the county inventory because they were never brought up to county specification by the developer. Bringing the road up to county standards is required before the county will agree to add the road to the inventory.

Kirchgessner and the other residents present stated they understood why the county could not take over the road and they have maintained the roads themselves until this past winter. The roads now have gotten so bad they cannot repair them with the equipment they own. Potholes are up to 18 inches deep in some areas. A buried phone line has been exposed. The drains are no longer open.

Discussion was had on whether the subdivision is the responsibility of the City of Rockport or the county. Even though the residents have city utilities, the city has not annexed them. They still live in the county.

Superintendent Painter stated the county does maintain Grissom and one block of Hart Street. Logsdon asked Lueken if the county would be legally obligated to take over the roads if they helped the subdivision with a "Good Samaritan" gesture. Rininger said the county has assisted them in the past. Logsdon said they are paying county taxes and he asked if we could spend one day helping them out. Logsdon asked Painter to work with the residents and see if, when the weather is right, the county could spend a day grading the roads and helping them get it back in better condition.

Highway Report

USDA Rural Development / Paul Gogel – Superintendent Painter said he was contacted by the USDA Rural Development and asked what the impact would be if Paul Gogel opens retreat cabin west of Holiday World. The retreat is located on state roads. The commissioners told him to respond that there will be no impact on the county roads.

CPI Seminar – CPI will be putting on a seminar on March 31.

Rock Budget – Painter reported that \$82,561.65 has already been spent on rock out of the LR&S Budget.

Part-time Help – Painter said that during the budget approval process, part-time help was taken out. In the past part-time people were hired to spray weeds. If the weeds are not sprayed, they will get out of control. He said it costs approximately \$3,721 for one person. Discussion was had on whether it would be better to hire one or two people. Painter said the highway still has some unappropriated funds available. The commissioners told him to request an additional from the unappropriated balance.

Engineer Report

Unofficial Detour – Engineer Lloyd discussed setting up old highway 66 as an unofficial detour for SR 66 that had a cave-in. She said the road could be closed until June or July. Logsdon made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded. All in favor.

INDOT / Jobs Bill – Lloyd said the Jobs Bill did pass but it did not include as much money for transportation as originally thought. INDOT will not be accepting new project submissions, but Spencer County has two projects already submitted that were not funded in the first round.

Bridge Software – Lloyd said she has found bridge engineering software that costs from \$2,000 to \$8,000. The county currently spends \$5,000 to \$10,000 on engineering for each bridge. She said if the software was purchased, she would also have to upgrade her auto-cad at a cost of approximately \$5,000.

Legal Report

ATV – Lueken stated the legislation was passed limiting the liability of the county, if a person was injured while riding an ATV on a county road.

231 Adult Plaza – Lueken reported the State Supreme Court denied the 231 Plaza's appeal. The Plaza has 90 days to make its final appeal to the US Supreme Court.

Impact of Smoking

Logsdon gave the commissioners information provided by SIHO regarding the impact of smoking on the county's self-insured health insurance plan.

Animal Control Building

Phil Brown discussed the Animal Control Building. Brown stated the fund does not have enough money to bid the complete job. Gogel said the plan was to get it under roof with hope that the communities would see the progress and be willing to contribute to complete the project. Logsdon discussed using connections through Habitat for Humanity for volunteer labor. Lueken will research the laws governing the bidding process. Discussion was also had on funding the shelter when it is complete.

Logsdon left the meeting.

Verizon Contract

Shelton asked the commissioners to sign the renewal for the E911 contract with Verizon. The monthly rate went down from \$191.17 per month to \$144.96 per month. Gogel made a motion to approve. Rininger seconded. All in favor.

Polling Places

Clerk Harney asked for approval of the polling locations. Gogel made a motion to approve. Rininger seconded. All in favor.

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Gogel made a motion to adjourn. Rininger seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Board of Commissioners,

President

Attest: _____

Cindy Shelton, Auditor

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