

**Commissioner Meeting  
Special Session – Personnel Policy  
October 3, 2017**

**Present: Al Logsdon, Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Attorney Jeff Lindsey, Auditor Autumn Winkler, Kent Irwin**

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner President Jim Seiler at 9:00 A.M.

The board of commissioners has hired Kent Irwin with Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele & Associates Inc. to assist us with updating our personnel policy. Irwin came before the board to discuss FLSA, FMLA, and other state/federal regulations that we must comply with. There was discussion about areas of concern in the current policy and possible changes to be made. Irwin and his associate will review the current policy, take our list of concerns, and draft a revised policy for commissioner review. It will be 2018 before any formal action is taken on adopting a new policy and training employees.

Brown made a motion to close the special session. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 10:51 A.M.

**Commissioners Meeting  
October 3, 2017**

**Present: Al Logsdon, Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Larry Dale Kenney, Attorney Jeff Lindsey, Auditor Autumn Winkler**

Meeting was called to order by President Jim Seiler at 2:07 P.M.

**Minutes**

Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from September 19<sup>th</sup> as presented. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

**Claims**

Logsdon made a motion to approve Batch #3679 as presented. Brown seconded the motion, motion was approved. Brown made a motion to approve Batch #3674 as presented. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

**V.S.O – Butch Meredith**

Meredith came before the board to give an update on the engagement between his office and veterans. He has made a visit to Miller’s Merry Manor and is working on setting up a time to make a visit to the nursing home in Dale. He will be attending the Manufacturing Day tomorrow at the 4-H Center as another outreach to veterans. Meredith stated this is the most rewarding position he has ever had.

**Corey Hildenbrand – Petition to Pave Road**

Hildenbrand came before the board to present a petition from residents and property owners of East County Road 1550 N to request it be paved between N CR 1300E and CR Huffman Mill. Hildenbrand presented pictures to support the claim and inform the board how severe the road gets at times. Brown stated that the road is not in this condition now, Hildenbrand contacted him and the road crew worked on it. Hildenbrand asked what the next step is and Brown stated that they will take it under advisement and discuss it when deciding on next year’s roads.

**Legal Report**

Lindsey reported that he spoke with Ron Magnus and received a proposal to perform an appraisal on the Troy Refinery property. He will charge \$50.00/hr. and anticipates it being less than \$1,000.00. Logsdon made a motion to authorize Magnus proceed with appraisal. Brown seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Lindsey stated he reviewed the leases for the Community Corrections office and for the Prosecutor/Child Support offices and there are no provisions in the leases for improvements. We need to get an estimated cost for the repairs to get in compliance and sit down with the owners to discuss a strategy. Both leases will be up at the end of 2018, so we also need to determine if we plan on renewing those leases or if an alternative option will be available. Lindsey will draft a letter to the landowners to discuss this further.

Lindsey presented a letter of request to use the auditorium on October 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-10:00 P.M. A hold harmless agreement was completed and a liability insurance policy has been provided. Lindsey stated that if this request is approved he feels the board needs to establish some policies to implement at the beginning of the year stating allowed uses for the courthouse. In this era of non-discrimination we need to have a clear policy that is followed in all circumstances. Logsdon made a motion to approve the use of the auditorium. Brown seconded the motion, motion was approved.

#### **Catalyst Group**

Alan Meunier with the Catalyst Group came before the board to offer their services and request an update on the three properties of concern Hatfield. Meunier presented a flow chart to the board for blighted property cleanup.

Brown asked Plan Commission Administrator Kay Erwin if there had been any developments since last discussed, and Erwin stated that she is not the building inspector or solid waste so this is currently not in her hands. Solid Waste Director Debbie Steinkamp addressed the board and stated that what has to be determined with some of the properties is if they are being classified as a building or debris on the ground. That decides what ordinance needs to be followed. If it is considered debris that is what Steinkamp handles and has been providing to the board in previous meetings with the one property owner in Hatfield. Steinkamp stated that the initial letter was sent to the owner in December and there has really been no progress since then. There has been communication with the owner but no action is being taken. Seiler stated that common sense tells you if it was standing as a building and it falls it's a building, so we need to get the building inspector involved. Steinkamp stated that is not what was determined by the previous building inspector and commissioners and this property was given to her as a property maintenance complaint which is the process she follows. We have completed the full process of the property maintenance ordinance and are to the point of hiring our own contractor to clean up the property and sending the owner a bill. Brown stated that we may need to speak with the judge about possibly getting an order before cleaning up the property, because courts frown upon counties taking people's property. Steinkamp stated the county is not taking anyone's property only cleaning it up. Brown stated that an individual can claim that lumber lying on their property was worth a lot of money and the county owes them for that lumber. Steinkamp and Attorney Lindsey explained that we have gone through the process and provided all necessary noticing to the owner. Lindsey stated that we followed due process and the owner had 10 days to file a written appeal, if they did not file a written appeal we have the right to enter their property and clean it up. Moving forward if it is a building we need to have the building inspector involved as an unsafe building. Erwin suggested that since she is in office full-time and the building inspector is not, she will work with the building inspector and Solid Waste establishing what type of ordinance should be followed, how the building inspector would be paid for the process, etc. Brown asked Lindsey if we have completed all steps necessary to proceed with the cleanup on the Ball property and Lindsey stated yes. Brown made a motion to proceed with cleanup. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

#### **Highway Report**

Kenney reported they have been working on CR 600N and will begin chip and sealing tomorrow. Rudolph finished CR 2200 today and moved to CR 875. They will begin on CR 2000 tomorrow and blacktop to SR 162 then finish up with CR 2100. Prep work should be finished on CR 925 by Thursday evening and blacktop will begin on Monday. Kenney is projecting that within the next 2 weeks they will have everything done, blacktop and chip/seals for this year. Kenney stated that the rail tankers he ordered should be in this week and he hopes to have those set by the end of the month. They will notify everyone when work is being done on those roads. Jack with United Consulting set an appointment with the commissioners and Kenney to discuss the bridge inspections on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M. at the Highway Garage. This will be an open meeting.

**New Business**

Brown made a motion to approve all claims paid since the last meeting. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

**Kay Erwin - ADA**

Erwin provided a cost estimate to redo the sidewalks in St. Meinrad. The sidewalks belong to the county and are our responsibility to make ADA compliant.

**Public Hearing – Road/Bridge Closure  
October 3, 2017**

The public hearing was opened and we will address each road/bridge individually.

CR 300N – Kenney suggested that we install a railroad tanker so we would not have to close the bridge and we could just close the small portion of road that is the large hill that leads up to Orchard Road. No other comments were made.

**CR 400N – CR 100E to 75E (Old 231)**

Frank Ingram was in attendance and expressed his concern with closing CR 400N. He has property on both sides of CR 75E and proposes that CR 75E should be closed before CR 400N. Bob Cochenour was in attendance and stated that they use CR 75E and not CR 400N as much to get to their grain bins. They do currently use the bridge located on CR 75E, but stated that the bridge is so short that when driving a semi or combine across the bridge there is not much concern, because the all the weight of the machine is not on the bridge at the same time. This possible closure will be investigated and discussed more in the future.

**CR 1000E – CR 900N to Old Lamar Hwy**

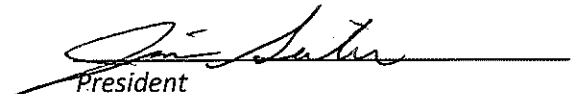
Citizens that live on and utilize this road daily came to express their concerns. If this bridge is closed it will cause significant detours for residence that live near the bridge and need it to travel north. Cochenour was in attendance and stated that they do not run equipment over this bridge because it is not large enough, but this bridge is used frequently. All citizens in attendance agreed that there is a lot more traffic on that road than one would think. They also expressed their concerns with dumping on that road which is already a big problem, but they feel would be increased if that bridge is closed. Brown stated that he fully understands their concerns and desire to keep the bridge open, but the county has to look at it from a safety standpoint and determine if it is unsafe to drive on. The board will continue to discuss this bridge and take the citizens concerns into consideration.


Seiler closed the public hearing.

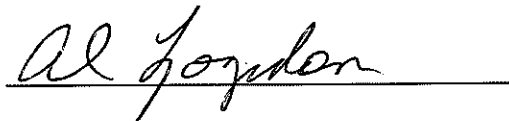
**Alvin Evans – Perry County Port Authority**

Evans came before the board to request Spencer County support regarding Hoosier Southern Railroad Bridge 8.1 and Bridge 11.7 Reconstruction submitted to the Department of Transportation. The Department of Transportation provides Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants to projects having significant economic impact. Evans presented Resolution 2017-05 for commissioner approval. Brown made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-05 as presented. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Brown seconded the motion, motion approved.  
Meeting was adjourned at 3:42 P.M.

  
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President

Attest:  
  
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Auditor, Autumn Winkler

  
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