

# THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

November 11, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in **special** session at 6:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

## **JOINT MEET WITH NORTH JUDSON TOWN BOARD**

### **IN RE: ATTENDANCE**

In addition to the commissioners, the following people were also present: Wendy Hoppe, Dan Anderson, Jane Ellen Felchuk, and Connie Miller—all representing the North Judson Town Board; Charles Weaver, Starke County Economic Development Director; Martin Lucas, Starke County Attorney; Van Janovic, Ben Osinski, Ingrid Odenthal, and Raymond Christian.

### **IN RE: EXTENSION OF OAKHILL ROAD IN NORTH JUDSON**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Dan Anderson, President of the North Judson Town Board. The pledge of Allegiance was recited. Commissioner Mark Milo asked those in attendance to observe a moment of silence in honor of the Starke County Veterans--past and present.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss options for the extension of Oakhill Road. The west half of the road is owned by the Town of North Judson and the east half is owned by Starke County. The North Judson Industrial park is accessed by this road.

Several people in attendance gave brief historical perspectives of the intentions for the industrial park and road as well as discussions that had taken place over the years. Van Janovic (Territorial Engineering) had prepared plans, at the direction of local officials, in 1992. Those plans were provided during the meeting for review. One of the issues at that time was the owner of the rail (CSX) involved required a high speed crossing as part of the road improvement. The cost was deemed to be prohibitive. Subsequently, the town of North Judson has acquired ownership of the rail.

Mark Milo noted that he recalled past public meetings that were conducted in an effort to create an overall plan for the future direction of North Judson. Commissioner Milo's recollection was that the people of North Judson did not want industrial development at that time. His recollection was that the majority of the people preferred the Town be more of a retirement community.

Dan Bridegroom felt the Commissioners would be more than willing to work with the Town to achieve their goals for industrial development if they had a supported plan defining exactly what the goals were. Both Commissioner Milo and Norem agreed with that position.

It was suggested, and agreed upon, that perhaps the first step would be to apply to OCRA, with the assistance of KIRPC, for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive/strategic plan to utilize as a guide. The North Judson Town Board will make contact with Edwin Buswell or Randy Mitchell from KIRPC to inquire about an application for the grant.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Dan Anderson at 7:10 PM.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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Mark Milo, Member

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Dona Hoban, Auditor Pro Tem

November 16, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with all members present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

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## IN RE: MINUTES

Kathy Norem moved to approve the October 23 and November 2 meeting minutes seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

## IN RE: PAYROLL CLAIMS

Kathy Norem moved to approve the 10-31-09 payroll seconded by Dan Bridegroom with 3 ayes (MM with reservations). Kathy commented that the same two E.M.T.s are still getting all the overtime.

## IN RE: INVALIDATED TAX SALE PROPERTY

Jerry De Turk submitted a claim for interest on surplus from an invalidated tax sale. County Attorney Martin Lucas had researched this before the meeting and stated that the statute implies that the interest on the surplus should be paid although the court order was not specific. Kathy Norem moved to approve paying the 6% per annum interest on the surplus for the invalidated tax sale from the date of the sale to the date the surplus check was issued seconded by Mark Milo with 3 ayes.

## IN RE: YEARLY HIGHWAY BIDS

The following bids are for Starke County and for the Marshall Starke Co-op.

<u>ITEM #</u>	<u>RECEIVED FROM</u>
1	Central Paving, Logansport, IN
2	Bit Mat Products, Ashley, IN Asphalt Materials, Inc., Warsaw, IN
3	Petroleum Traders Corp, Fort Wayne, IN Good Oil, Inc., Winamac, IN Starke County Co-op, Hamlet, IN
4	Petroleum Traders Corp, Fort Wayne, IN Good Oil, Inc., Winamac, IN Starke County Co-op, Hamlet, IN
5	Rock Industries, Peru, IN Stockberger Group, Plymouth, IN
6	Rock Industries, Peru, IN Hanson Materials, Monon, IN Vulcan Construction Materials, Francessville, IN
7	Rock Industries, Peru, IN Stockberger Group, Plymouth, IN
8	Central Paving, Logansport, IN
9	St. Regis Culvert, Inc., Indianapolis, IN Debco Metal Culverts, Francessville, IN

Mark Milo moved to take all bids under advisement seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

## IN RE: HIGHWAY

The commissioners asked about striping Toto Road. The cost would be approximately \$7,000. The commissioners feel that since the road is so dark, that the striping is needed.

Steve Siddall, Highway Superintendent, stated that if you do both sides as well as the center it would be a much higher cost. He further stated that the highway department could come up with the \$7,000 which would include the entire portion of the new road from the stimulus project.

Mark Milo asked Steve to check what it would cost to go to Highway 23 which would be an additional 2 ¾ miles, but deducting the portion at Bass Lake, so it should still be about the same price.

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The commissioners requested having it quoted in sections for the center and both sides. The paint won't dry now so it will have to be done in spring.

## **IN RE: SNOW REMOVAL FOR STARKE COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

Starke County Community Corrections requested snow removal when the need arises. It was discussed by the commissioners whether the S.C.C.C. is a county entity or not. Their payroll and claims go through the county. Martin Lucas stated that if all the claims go through the county, that would make it a county entity. The commissioners instructed the highway to plow it when needed.

## **IN RE: STARKE COUNTY LANDFILL**

The commissioners received notification from the state that if the monitoring isn't continued the county would be in violation of state law. There are other items needing done that would also put us in violation. The commissioners discussed the situation with Martin Lucas. He stated that a certified letter should be sent to Mr. Sniadecki, the new owner's attorney, what we want to do and send him the plan. The commissioners want to have Superior Environmental develop a plan answering I.D.E.M.'s concerns.

Kathy Norem suggested just buying the property if the price is reasonable and then we could get on the property to do what needs to be done. We could maybe qualify for grants in order to get the final closure of the landfill.

Dan Bridegroom asked Martin Lucas to draft a letter to the other attorney and to I.D.E.M. including a summary plan with it. Mark Milo feels we should just have Superior send the plans. The commissioners asked that Superior come to the next meeting.

## **IN RE: KOONTZ LAKE REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT**

The Koontz Lake Regional Sewer District had submitted a P.U.D. (Planned Urban Development) for the commissioners' consideration at the last commissioners' meeting. It was discussed as to why they would need the 5 acre area to be a P.U.D. Kathy Norem thinks this one unit P.U.D. would be setting a precedent for spot zoning.

The Planning Commission is who suggested a P.U.D.—the K.L.R.S. only requested light industrial zoning.

Kathy feels that Dan Bridegroom should bring the commissioners' concerns to the next Planning Commission meeting. She feels the commissioners are obligated to question the use as it is not a conventional use.

## **IN RE: JAIL CONTRACT FOR HEALTH CARE**

Oscar Cowen, Sheriff, has brought a proposal reducing coverage for the Jail health care for an approximate decrease in the cost of about \$7,000 annually. The commissioners would still be held responsible for the lost coverage. The board needs to decide whether or not to agree to the amendment. They feel that the savings are not worth the risk. The commissioners do NOT want to change the terms of the contract.

## **IN RE: STARKE COUNTY BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Kathy Norem is preparing a listing for needed board appointments to post for the media and on the web site. She is doing this in order to get more people to apply for the boards.

The commissioners are in receipt of a letter from Herb Freeman that he is resigning from the A.B.C. board.

## **IN RE: C.A.M.S. (CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY)**

Commissioner Kathy Norem discussed forming an E.M.S. committee in regards to C.A.M.S. State Representative Nancy Dembowski told Mark Smith that there might be something through O.C.R.A. to upgrade the E.M.S. to Advanced Life Support.

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Kathy stated that for the committee she would like to see at least one council person, at least one commissioner, and someone from the hospital, E.M.S. services, the fire department and the police department. Mark Smith said that he would like to be a council representative as well as Judy Benninghoff and Bill Dulin. Kathy Norem and Dan Bridegroom would like to be commissioner representatives. Mark Smith stated that there really needed to be representation from each fire department.

Kathy Norem updated the council on the current status of the C.A.M.S. She reported that only one company bid for the position and that this company wasn't on the same page as we are as they didn't adhere to our specs. They said they would redo their presentation.

Kathy asked K.I.R.P.C. to rebid it and expand the R.F.Q.S to include other firms including Umbaugh & Associates. She said this would put us about 30 days behind but felt it needs to be done.

The commissioners need to supply a letter of support for this project.

## **IN RE: INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

Dan Bridegroom received letters from the Indiana Board of Health regarding the Bass Lake Beach and Campground. Dan wants a letter sent to Callahan and the state that we will comply with the state.

## **IN RE: PETITION TO CLOSE 1100W**

Dan Bridegroom reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. Chesak. He is withdrawing his support of the gate closing C.R. 1100W. He no longer wishes to be a party to the gate.

## **IN RE: EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

Kathy Norem wanted to know when they were going to work on finalizing the employee handbook.

## **IN RE: COUNTY DOG PROBLEM**

Mark Milo stated that we are having an ongoing problem with people reporting dogs to the sheriff's department and the dispatchers telling them to call the commissioners. Mark stated that there are Indiana laws to cover it. The commissioners would like Oscar Cowen, Sheriff, to come to the next meeting.

## **IN RE: DOG HIT AND KILLED C.R. 700N & C.R. 900E**

A dog was hit and killed at C.R. 700N & C.R. 900E. The owner put sand on the area to cover the blood so his children wouldn't see it. The Sheriff's department called the highway department to go out and blow the sand off the road. The commissioners will talk to the Sheriff about this.

## **IN RE: HORSES ON PROPERTY AND DISPATCHERS DIDN'T DISPATCH**

Darryl Bailey reported that he called the sheriff's department to report some horses on his property. They said they would send someone out. He tied the horses to his semi trailer and waited. He finally had to leave for work and called again as he couldn't leave the horses tied to the trailer. When an officer arrived, he said this was the first he had heard of it—he never got the message from the first call. He stated that the dispatchers don't always dispatch the calls as they should.

## **IN RE: 2010 CENSUS**

Dan Bridegroom reported receipt of maps from the U.S. Census Bureau. They want us to put together a committee to get information out to the public to make sure that everyone is counted. Every person missed loses money for the county, cities and towns. Kathy Norem would like the census lady to come back and explain what they want from the commissioners.

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There being no further business to come before the board, Mark Milo moved to adjourn  
seconded by Kathy Norem with 3 ayes.

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem, Vice President

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Mark Milo, Member

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Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor &  
Secretary to the Commissioners

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