

**Thursday, January 8, 2015**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 10:10AM in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Kathy Norem, Kent Danford and Donald Binkley present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Kent Danford.

**RE: 2015 APPOINTMENTS**

**REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to nominate Commissioner Danford as President and Commissioner Norem as Vice President. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Marty Lucas as their County Attorney. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARDS**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to reappoint Ken Porter to the Starke Drainage Board. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to reappoint Commissioners Norem and Danford to the various County Drainage Boards. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**COMMISSIONER TO CONTACT**

Commissioner Danford made a motion to appoint Commissioner Binkley as the Commissioner to Contact at the Jail. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to appoint Commissioner Norem as the Commissioner Contact for the Courthouse and Annex Building. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to appoint Commissioner Danford as the Commissioner Contact for the Highway Department and the EMS Department. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Commissioner Norem to be the Commissioner Contact for the old County Landfill, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

**BUILDING REVIEW BOARD AND FINANCE BOARD**

Commissioner Norem advised the Commissioners, by virtue of their Office, are members of the Building Code Review Board, and the County Finance Board.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Commissioner Binkley to be the Commissioner Representative on the Economic Development Board. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**KIRPC BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Commissioner Binkley to the KIRPC Board. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. There was a brief discussion in regard to if Joseph Wojdyla was interested in serving another term on the KIRPC Board.

**NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY & ARROWHEAD BOARDS**

The appointments to the North Central Community Action Agency and to the Arrowhead Board were tabled until they could do more research on those boards.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Commissioner Binkley made a motion to appoint Commissioner Binkley to the Workforce Development Board, seconded by Commissioner Norem. The motion passed with all ayes.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Byron Walters as the Trustee Appointment to the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to appoint Roger Chaffins to serve on the Planning Commission. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Norem to be the Commissioner Representative on the Planning Commission. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**HEALTH BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Debra Windbigler to serve on the Health Board, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to reappoint Bev Fraine to the Health Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Binkley and passed with all ayes.

**AVIATION BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Leigh Smith to the Aviation Board to fill the position due to the resignation of Harry Singleton. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to reappoint Lionel Smead to the Aviation Board. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**HOSPITAL COMMUNITY BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to reappoint Jerry Wilson (D) to serve on the Hospital Community Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Binkley and passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Larry Jernas (R) to the Hospital Community Board, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to reappoint Marvin Peters to the Alcoholic Beverage Board. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**SOLID WASTE BOARD**

It was decided to table the reappointment of Tim Cummins to the Solid Waste Board until it can be determined to he is still interested in serving on that board. President Danford will talk to Mr. Cummins to see if his interested in being reappointed to the Board.

**WAGE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Norem advised she had done some research in regard to the appointment to the Wage Commission and she made a motion to make the appointment on an "as needed basis" instead of on an annual basis. She advised there is only a Common Construction Wage Hearing when there is a particular construction project pending.

**PTABOA BOARD**

Commissioner Binkley made a motion to reappoint Ron Simoni and Ed Hasnerl to the PTABOA Board. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Commissioner Norem to serve on the LEPC Board, the Emergency Management Board, and the FEMA Board, with Commissioner Danford as the proxy on all three boards. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**STARKE COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS' COMMISSION**

Commissioner Norem advised she will be reviewing with the Auditor the proper membership on the County's Convention and Visitors' Commission.

#### **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BOARD**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Tony Radkiewicz as the layperson on the Community Corrections Board. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem advised she would speak with SCCC Director Hinojosa in regard to the ex-offender board vacancy.

#### **OTHER AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Commissioner Norem advised she will be willing to serve on the County's Safety Committee, and as President of the Board, Commissioner Danford will serve on the County's Record Committee.

#### **RE: REQUEST FROM SHERIFF DULIN**

Sheriff Bill Dulin appeared before the Board with the request to approve the creation of a new position for the Jail, that of Receptionist/Administrative Assistant. He advised the person would be working 30 hours a week and it would be paid out of the Jail's budget line item of Extra Help. He advised the receptionist would assist the 911 Dispatchers with the processing of paperwork as that was not a State qualified work assignment of the dispatchers and that could possibly cause the County to lose 911 funding. Commissioner Norem inquired if the position would be exempt or non-exempt and who would the position report to. It was determined the position is a non-exempt, hourly position. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the creation of the position, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes. Sheriff Dulin advised he had contacted the State Jail Inspector in regard to conducting a staffing analysis on the new jail. There was a brief discussion as to when some of the new positions need to be hired, such as the part time maintenance person for the new jail.

Commissioner Binkley made a motion for the Sheriff to go ahead and post the position of part time jail maintenance person, and hire the person. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Office Manager, Chris Smith Suprenant inquired as to the budget of the 911 Dispatchers' Clothing Allowance. She advised the State does not allow that expense to be paid out of the 911 funding and she didn't believe the Council included that expense in the Jail's 2015 Budget. She was advised to pay that expense out of the County Misdemeanor Fund, after having obtained Council appropriation approval.

#### **RE: EMS MONTHLY REPORT**

EMS Director, Keith Emith and Clerk MaryLynn Richie appeared before the Board. Clerk Ritchie presented reports showing the 2014 totals of runs and revenues received for the year. She advised there was a total of 1931 runs in 2014 compared to 1885 in 2013. She advised a total of \$685,540.15 in EMS fees was collected in 2014, thus meeting the projected revenue for the year which was \$680,000.00. Director Emigh advised a heater has been ordered for the EMS Base that was experiencing water freezing due to the pump being located on an outside wall. Commissioner Norem advised it would be very pricey to move the pump to an inside wall. Commissioner Danford advised he would meet with the Director to discuss the situation.

#### **RE: COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

Highway Superintendent Rik Ritzler appeared before the Board to present his department's monthly report. He stated at the time of the report only 200 tons on salt had been used by the Department compared to over 1000 tons used last year at this same time. He advised the department had taken advantage of the snow free weather in December and had been hauling all the stone for next summer's road improvement projects. Also thanks to the decrease in oil prices they may be able to increase the number of asphalt paving miles from 10 to 30 plus. Due to their ability to make their own asphalt and the more training for their paver operators they will likely see a decrease in their paving costs of about 25% per mile from last year's costs. He also noted they will be decreasing their chip seal miles from 63 to 35 while maintaining the crack sealing and re-graveling miles. He also presented to the Board the preliminary road improvement listing for their input. Superintendent Ritzler advised the winter snow plow training continued throughout the month of December. He note their training in January will focus on spring operations such as chainsaw, poison ivy and brush cutting, bucket truck safety, and lifting safety trainings. The Superintendent advised Purdue University is still working on the preliminary study of three different county intersections but they will need to wait until there is good weather in order to continue with the traffic count. Superintendent Ritzler advised of the following bridge replacement projects in the County: Bridge 31—reopened on November 26<sup>th</sup>; Bridge 86 – open for traffic; Bridge 70 – 50% completed; Bridge 79 – currently being designed; and Bridge 1 – currently being designed.

#### **EMA DIRECTOR, GRANT REQUEST**

Ted Bombagetti, EMA Director, appeared before the Board with a request for Board approval of Grant EDS # C44P-5-623B, a 2014 Homeland Security Grant, in the total amount of \$ 18,760.00 in which to update the County's public safety 800 EF Johnson radios to the new P25. Commissioner Binkley made a motion to approve the grant request, seconded by Commissioner Norem. The motion passed with all ayes.

#### **COUNTY CORONER VEHICLE REQUEST**

County Coroner, Adam Gray, appeared before the Board to request a County vehicle which could be used by the Coroner. He advised he has already had one call as Coroner and he borrowed a rig from the EMS Department. Commissioner Norem suggested he utilize the old Sheriff's van which had been used to transport inmates, but they would need to verify it is roadworthy first. President Danford stated the Highway Department Mechanics could check it out. Coroner Gray noted the windows would be required to be blacked out. Commissioner Binkley stated the Sheriff's K-9 Officer could use a different vehicle instead of the Durango, and pass the Durango on to the Coroner. Sheriff Dulin stated if that is the case he would like the vehicle's color to no longer be the two toned colors as that is the standard colors of the Sheriff's Department. Coroner Gray stated the Coroner's vehicle should not be a police vehicle. Sheriff Dulin agreed stating he would like a distinct line between the police and coroner's office. Coroner Gray noted the Highway Department is currently utilizing the old Sheriff's van as a transport when using the help of the County inmates. He also noted that the vehicle the County chooses will need to be equipped with lights and a radio.

#### **RE: AUDITOR'S BUSINESS: MINUTES, PAYROLL CLAIMS**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the pay claim for the pay period ending on December 20<sup>th</sup>, with a pay date of December 24<sup>th</sup>, in the total gross amount of \$188,024.58. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the pay claim for the pay period ending on January 3, 2015, with a pay date of January 9<sup>th</sup>, in the total gross amount of \$195,421.95. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the Contract with Purdue University for the Cooperative Extension Service. The period of the contract is for one year, January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Ron Gifford of the Starke County Economic Development Foundation appeared before the Board to request their participation in a newly formed program, Indiana College Success Coalition. He advised the common goal of the coalition is to increase the percentage of students entering college in the fall following their high school graduation; and then to complete their education by earning a college degree or certificate within the first four years of college. He noted he is requesting the Board’s support of this program. Commissioner Norem made a motion for the Board of Commissioners to become members of the Coalition. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Mr. Gifford advised there is an online application that would need to be completed by the Board. Commissioner Norem advised that President Danford would complete the application.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the renewal of the Starke County Health Food Inspector. The contract is for a period of time from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The present County Food Inspector is Dave Kesvornas.

Commissioner Norem advised Council President Dave Pearman has volunteered to serve as the Chairman of the County’s Indiana Bicentennial Celebration Committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Betty Dotlich inquired as to what was involved in being a member of the KIRPC Board. The Board advised it would require her attendance at a quarterly meeting of KIRPC which is held in Monon. They noted she would be eligible for mileage reimbursement, but serving on the Board is not a paid position. Mrs. Dotlich volunteered to be the Commissioner Appointee to the KIRPC Board. Commissioner Norem made a motion to appoint Betty Dotlich to the KIRPC Board, seconded by Commissioner Binkley. The motion passed with all ayes.

There being no further business, Commissioner Norem made a motion to recess the meeting until 2PM, at which time the bids for the interior build out of the Jail Courtroom will be opened. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting was recessed at 11:20AM.

At 2:00PM President Danford reconvened the meeting and advised the bids for the interior construction of the Jail Courtroom have been received and will now be opened. Also in attendance for the meeting were Dion Katsourus and Derek Anderson of the Skillman Corporation. County Attorney Marty Lucas opened each bid and read aloud the results. They are as follows:

**BC 01: General Trades**

Company	Base Bid	Alternates: 1	2	3	4	5
Brown & Brown	\$205,400.		\$12,100.	\$2,600.	\$18,100.	\$6,700. \$5,500.
Gariup Construction	227,250.	11,400.	2,400.	22,800.	2,000.	5,000.
Gibson-Lewis	187,800.	12,500.	2,600.	11,200.	6,100.	6,000.
Gough	198,770.	18,500.	6,000.	15,800.	6,500.	10,000.
Larson Danielson	186,993.	16,336.	6,012.	12,217.	5,288.	5,289.
Pangere Corporation	184,700.	22,000.	4,200.	13,946.	8,787.	5,300.
Ziolkowski Const.	216,700.		12,980.	3,190.	16,000.	6,200. 8,180.
Michiana Const.	167,500.	35,000.	8,500.	7,400.	4,700.	5,000.

**BC 02: Mechanical**

Circle R Mechanical \$ 49,290.  
Gatlin Plumbing & Heating \$ 56,800.  
Mechanical Concepts \$45,985.  
DA Dodd, Inc. \$ 48,265.

**BC 03: Electrical**

Circle R Electric \$ 129,400.  
Continental Electric \$ 93,900.  
EMCOR Hyre Electric \$ 79,672.  
Sweeney Electric \$ 124,250.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to take the bids under advisement and have Skillman Corporation verify the bids are compliant with the bid specs. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

There being no further business, Commissioner Norem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20PM.

**January 8, 2015**

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Kent Danford, President

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Kathryn Norem

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Donald Binkley

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Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor  
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners