

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2020

8:15a.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Commissioner's convened in a regular meeting on March 3, 2020, at 8:15 a.m. in the Commissioner's courtroom. President Tim Wilson called the meeting to order.
- II. **Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.**
- III. **Roll Call.** Members present were President Tim Wilson, Harry Crossley, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson, and County Attorney Jon Spurr. Tim Yocum was absent.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2020 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Approval of Claims.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approval the claims for March 6, 2020. All in favor, motion carried.
- VI. **Approval of Payroll.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the payroll for March 6, 2020. All in favor, motion carried.
- VII. **Treasurer's Report.**
- VIII. **Open Issues**
 - a. **Health Insurance**
 1. **Committee Recommendation.** Anita Fultz, payroll deputy, told the Commissioners the committee recommends staying the USI this year. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Crossley to retain USI as the county health insurance agent for the current year. All in favor, motion carried.
 2. **HSA Contribution.** Fultz also said the committee recommended \$1000.00 for the HSA (Health Savings Account) for the employees on the HSA plan. Wilson asked if Council would have to approve that, Tolbert said it is already in the health insurance fund. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Crossley to approve \$1000.00 distribution to be divided into four payment of \$250.00 each quarter. All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Vermillion Rise.** Executive Director Bob Grewe told the commissioners that they have received inquiries about solar energy and they have been reluctant to entering into leasing hundreds of acres when solar projects don't really create many long-term jobs. Grewe said you might see more of these across Indiana as solar energy is on the rise, he said this is just an FYI. Grewe said he is requesting the commissioners to consider listing the shell building with a commercial realtor. He said Garmong isn't convinced this is necessary but Grewe said he is convinced it is necessary. He said they are not asking for any more money, just asking to defer the last two hundred thousand to be paid over two years if the building sells. Wilson said it isn't costing us any more money to do this and he is in favor of it. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the request for a commercial realtor and deferring the last \$200,000.00 to the county to be paid over a two-year period. All in favor, motion carried.
 - c. **VTA (Vermillion Trails Alliance).** Les Zimmerman reported to the commissioners that VTA is beginning to establish a partnership with the Parke Vermillion

Humane Society. He said their desire is to establish some walking paths through the area behind the shelter for volunteers to walk the dogs. The walking trails would be east of the gravel just north of Keith Hollingworth fence over to the rail road grade. Zimmerman stated it is public property but you the commissioners are in charge and we would like your approval. He said would not be trails that would involve paving, it would just be walking paths. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the walking trails for the Parke Vermillion Humane Shelter. All in favor, motion carried.

d. Jail Renovation/Expansion

- 1. Jail Funding.** Wilson said, "We the commissioners recognize the future need of approximately 150 beds per the feasibility study. We want to renovate and add to the existing jail, the result of which would provide for between 120 and 152 beds. There will be three alternates taken at the time of bidding in order to protect the budget and available income. Two of the alternates would allow for two 16 bed additions to the base of 120. The third alternate will be for the costs of shelling in the area for anticipated additional growth in the future. Included in the project will be an addition to the sheriff's administration, enlarged vehicle sally port, and a complete renovation of the existing building to include a new kitchen, laundry, upgrades to intake and booking, mechanical and electrical upgrades. These projects of both construction and soft costs are not to exceed \$22,500,000." A motion was made Crossley and seconded by Wilson to ask for approval from the Council of \$22,500,000.00 for jail renovation project. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to ask the Council to transfer \$2,500,000.00 from Rainy Day or General Fund to Cumulative Jail. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to use Rick Hall from Barnes & Thornburg if council will fund the jail project. All in favor, motion carried.

- e. Handbook.** Spurr said he is waiting on Scott Craig's rewrites. Craig was present and said he had one of the two done. Wilson said the committee is still working on the Handbook.
- f. Courthouse Phone System.** Paul Fouts stated that he needs to work with Spurr on getting the Request for Quote squared away. Spurr said we just need to fine tune it. Fouts said if the county has an existing RFQ that they have used, that would make it easier. Fouts said there are a lot of interested parties.
- g. IT Refresh – Purchase Policy / Ordinance.** Spurr said that he has a draft ordinance ready and also an insert to go into the handbook. Spurr said they should be able to get both of those done in a relatively short amount of time.
- h. FEMA/MVH Grant.** Emergency Management Director Mark O'Heir stated that he had a request for more documentation and he sent it in.
- i. Contract with Historical Society.** Spurr said he is still working on it.
- j. Highway Engineer.** No comments.
- k. Ambulance Service Contract.** Spurr said he sent Wilson and Eric Shaughnessy a draft clarification to appendix A per the Council's request, and then I think you and Eric are working on a draft appendix C per the Council's request to get done by July. Shaughnessy said appendix C is adding a third truck now but the Council wanted an exact dollar amount now using a current location verses an additional third location. Shaughnessy said at the joint meeting the Council wanted to see what the third ambulance would be using a current location. He said it's less

than the two other requests you approved, that the Council did not approve funding for. Shaughnessy said the amount for the third ambulance at a current location is only \$203,879.56. He said he left the dollar figures the same for the three-year extension because the Council had talked about having another joint meeting with the Commissioners. Shaughnessy said that after talking with Council members they said that at their meeting Monday night the Commissioners could explain that the request was for more but this is the figure you all would like to see approved (\$203,879.56) for this year.

Spurr said the Commissioners have the option to extend for three years but it doesn't have any money in the contract. Spurr told the Commissioners you could extend it for three years and continue negotiating with the Council.

Wilson started to make a motion to extend the contract for three-year, appendix A, and Shaughnessy said he wanted them to sign both. Spurr said you can sign both, but C is subject to funding, it wouldn't bind the Commissioners to anything if funding was not approved. Shaughnessy said they are to the point that we've carried this burden for almost a year to have that third ambulance that we've paid for, we're to the point we are not going to be having that ambulance and if we let people go because we have to go by what the contract says, then trying to fill the paramedic and EMT positions will not easily be done because there is a shortage nation wide on paramedics and EMT's.

A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Crossley to approve both appendix A and appendix C, which is subject to council funding. All in favor, motion carried.

- l. Drainage Issue.** Wilson asked Jared Dreher about a drainage issue on 800 N. Dreher said he went and looked at it last week when it was raining. The Commissioners agreed that it needs fixed.
- m. Tire Recycling Day.** The Commissioners suggested having a tire recycling day the last weekend in April or the first weekend in May.
- n. Clean Up Day.** Wilson asked about having a clean up day and Tolbert said you may have to ask for additional funding. Crossley said they would like to have two clean up days. Tolbert said they would definitely have to ask for additional funding if they have two clean up days. Wilson said to get the tire recycling out of the way and then we will set a date.
- o. County Property Lease Agreement.** Spurr said he has to get a one year and a five-year agreement drafted, one year for this year to be signed and a five-year contract for next year.
- p. Gate on North Side of Vermillion Rise.** No comments.
- q. Community Crossings Grant.** Crossley said all the paperwork is turned in.
- r. ResCare Contract.** Phelps said he emailed it to the administrator yesterday and they will get it to their legal team.

IX. New Business

- a. EOC Rental Contract.** Mark O'Heir said the last contract is up, he said this contract adds a \$150.00 payment which replaces our phone bill which was \$650.00 for internet, local phone and long distance.
A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve the contract for EOC rent. All in favor, motion carried.
- b. County Cemetery Board.** Robert Henry said a lot of the counties around here have a county cemetery board. They try to restore them and keep track of them and he is hoping the Commissioners would appoint some kind of board to take care of the cemeteries. Wilson asked about what kind of funding would you need? Henry said at this time you just need people; funding would be a year or

two down the road. Crossley asked if he had anyone in mind. Jared Dreher said isn't there cemetery boards already, Crossley said there are township trustees. Henry said this is where you have a central board that decides what is best for the cemetery. Henry said it might be easier to maintain these cemeteries with the Commissioners involved and we could keep track of every cemetery in the county. Wilson said he thinks Henry should be in charge of that board and find someone to work with you. Henry said he would be willing to do it for a while.


- c. **Road Cut Permit – AEP Indiana Michigan Transmission Company, Inc.** Wilson acknowledged receipt of the road cut permit for AEP Indiana Michigan Transmission Company, Inc.
- d. **Sheriff's Department – Police Vehicles.** Sheriff Mike Phelps said the quotes he gave them is pricing on two vehicles, he said he hasn't decided on the third one yet. Wilson said if the money is in your budget you can go ahead and purchase what you want.

A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to allow the purchase of the two vehicles for the Sheriff's Department. All in favor, motion carried.

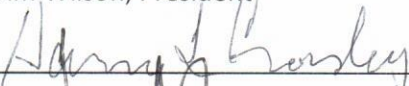
- e. **Demolition Project-Cayuga Property.** Terry Jones from the West Central Indiana Economic Development District said the selection committee, made up of Jon Moore, Oren Sutherlin and Tim Wilson, completed their interviews, they came back with a recommendation of HWC Engineering to do the engineering demo specs that are required per the state for that grant. Jones said he's got to do the procurement when using grant funds to pay for those services. He said they are seeking acceptance of that recommendation. He said they won't sign the contracts until the grant gets funded but we will at least get the terms agreed to. A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to approve HWC Engineering for the demolition project at the Cayuga property. All in favor, motion carried.
- f. **Community Development Block Grant – Planning Grant.** Wilson read a letter from the Office of Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch. The letter stated that Vermillion County has been awarded a planning grant from our Small Cities and Towns Community Development Block Grant program in the amount of \$50,000.00. The planning grant is for the development of a Comprehensive Plan to address future community service needs in the incorporated limits of Vermillion County.

- X. **Adjourn.** A motion was made by Crossley and seconded by Wilson to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 17th day of March, 2020.



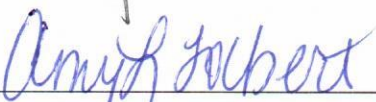
Tim Wilson, President



Harry Crossley



Tim Yocum

Attest: 

Amy Tolbert, Auditor