

UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – AUGUST 1, 2016

PRESENT: Paul Wiwi, David Woeste, Alan Alcorn, Matt Snyder, Pam Tharp, Jim Crouch, James Williams, Jack Heeter, Jeff Mathews, Alvin Day, Jeff Bowers, and Gene Sanford

Wiwi called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Woeste moved to approve the minutes of the July 18 meeting. Alcorn seconded the motion and it carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY DEPT: Suzanne Brack appeared seeking to lower the speed limit on Bath Springs Road from Old 101 to Curry Road. She stated vehicles use it as a short cut between ramps at a high rate of speed. Lengthy discussion followed with the Commissioners finally deciding to ask County Attorney James Williams to draft an Ordinance for a 30 mph speed limit on this section of Bath Springs Road.

Discussion followed on adding another CDL Driver position at the Highway Department. After some discussion, Woeste moved to add an additional driver position at the Highway Department. Wiwi seconded the motion and it carried 2-1 with Alcorn opposed. The funding for the new position will be advertised and await County Council action.

Highway Supervisor Jeff Bowers reported that the Community Crossroads match grant was submitted timely and approved projects are to be announced by INDOT by the end of August.

HEALTH DEPT: County Attorney James Williams discussed County Health Board membership with the Commissioners. Since their last appointment did not have a medical background as statute requires, he suggested the Commissioners revisit the situation. He suggested the Health Board create a list of 5 possible appointees that meet the medical background and residence qualifications. The Commissioners could then fill the 2 vacancies from that list. He suggested a 30 day time period to get this done and the Commissioners agreed to the proposal.

The Commissioners then discussed the fee increases proposed by the health department involving food, septic, and contractor related fees. These Ordinance changes have been advertised and no one appeared to discuss them. After some discussion, Alcorn moved to approve Ordinances 2016-1159-1, 2016-1159-2, and 2016-3. Woeste seconded the motion and it carried 3-0.

County Health Nurse Kim Klein stated that the Health Department has begun a new vaccination program that accepts commercial insurance. The Health Department now receives \$10 for each vaccination given from an outside company that is doing the billing. She feels this will help the financial situation for the department.

PARKS DEPT: Williams then updated the Commissioners with negotiations involving the Parks Board and a local land owner who originally sold the ground for the new park. It seems the original agreement only addressed an easement for ingress and egress but not for utilities. Williams was optimistic that the issue could be resolved.

ELECTION: Clerk Loree Persinger informed the Commissioners of a situation involving the county voting machines. It seems that if a person votes a straight ticket there is a problem if there are at-large races involved. She stated that it is too late for voting machine vendors to correct the problem for this election, but if it is not fixed by next year the State Election Commission could decertify the county voting equipment which could result in a costly purchase of new equipment. She stated the county can make arrangements to overcome the situation for this year's election by counting those ballots affected by hand. This problem affects every Indiana county and it is hoped that the vendors can fix the situation for the future.

MISC: Alvin Day reported that the trailer that Fayette County had borrowed to use for its needle exchange program has been returned to Union County.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Attest _____, Auditor