

## **CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**MAY 4, 2009**

The Cass County Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. in attendance were Dave Arnold, Gene Powlen, Jim Sailors, Attorney John Hillis, and Vaneen Ide Auditor. Dave Arnold opened the meeting with the Pledge of allegiance.

### **CHANGES TO AGENDA**

EMA – Excess property and generator bids were added to the current agenda before the start of the meeting. Gene Powlen made a motion to accept the changes, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MINUTES & UTILITY/PAYROLL**

Gene Powlen made a motion to accept the minutes, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Jim Sailors made a motion to accept the Utility and Payroll claims, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### **CASS COUNTY SEAL WINNER**

Dave Arnold announced the winner of the Cass County Seal. This was a very difficult decision there were 10 entries and all of them were outstanding. The county picked Leandra Baber's design and will use it as the base for the new county seal. Leandra is a student at Lewis Cass High School.

## HIGHWAY

Steve Easley appeared before the Commissioners with the Highway report. Steve gave a brief update of Co Rd 800 N. it is passable, but risky. 800 E. the water is higher than the road grade and this will need to be addressed. The oil bids were received. There was a 47% price increase from last year and only an 8 cent difference from the highest to the lowest bid. The Commissioners accepted all bids for oil; Gene Powlen made a motion, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The Highway is still accepting applications for a driver and secretarial position. Malinda Knebel has given May 29<sup>th</sup> as her final day of employment.

The CCHD has voluntarily signed up to participate in an IDEM Compliance and Technical Assistance visit on June 17<sup>th</sup>. This visit pertains to a new initiative from the Indiana Office of Land Quality's Industrial Waste Compliance Section, to ensure all county highway garages state wide are in compliance with the handling and use of solid and hazardous wastes items they may be generating. This will be the first time a visit of this nature has been scheduled at this site. Because of potential unknowns we elected to take advantage of the free assistance.

A "Total Patcher" equipment demonstration is planned for May 5<sup>th</sup>. Most of the surrounding counties are using this equipment to offset expenses related to road patching. Users claim the unit to be more efficient, allows for greater worker productivity, and reduces the overall costs of patch work while providing longer lasting repairs. The highway department has monies budgeted to purchase a unit in 2009.

Jeff Smith gave the Commissioners the update on upcoming highway projects. The work on Co. Rd. 300 S. is proceeding as planned. Application to INDOT for additional funding is due later this month. Steve attended a meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> regarding INDOT'S plan for culvert work in front of the State Hospital. The road carries approx. 15,000 vehicles per day, the use of local detours may not be adequate. The Federal Highway has tentatively scheduled a visit to Cass County the first week of June with a Roadway Safety Audit team. They will review for any potential hazards at CR 200 E between CR 600/CR650 South (on 5% list for accidents) as well as Logansport Road between Long tree Lane and CR600 East. This review will be done at no cost and may result in opportunities to apply for federal funds to correct issues that may be contributing to accident rates in these areas. This team consists of volunteers from various entities who provide a 3<sup>rd</sup> party opinion.

Signature for a negative change order was requested for 600 East and presented to the Commissioners. The redesign was \$203,000.00 less than originally budgeted. Gene Powlen made a motion, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **SHERIFF**

Sheriff Gene Isaacs appeared before the Commissioners to request replacement of two full time corrections officers. These positions are already in the budget. Jim Sailors made a motion, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **ASSESSOR**

Judy Lewis appeared before the Commissioners for additional help for summer. This position is in the budget and Amanda Vianco has worked for the Assessor before. Jim Sailors made a motion, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **ADULT PROBATION**

Dave Wegner appeared before the Commissioners for signatures for the EDS –D25-10-007 Grant. This grant is for a total of \$711,804.00 and will begin July 1, 2009 and run through June 30, 2010. Jim Sailors made a motion to accept the grant contract, Gene Powlen, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **EEL TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

Tom Kneper appeared before the Commissioners in regard to a claim that had been denied. Attorney John Hillis swore Tom Kneper in. Tom pleads his case and reason behind the denial of Gwendolin Hamilton's request. Ms. Hamilton of 116 W. Tipton, Logansport, IN was present, Attorney John Hillis swore her in before she began to respond to Mr. Kneper. The Commissioners asked a few questions of Ms. Hamilton and Jim Sailors made a motion to uphold Mr. Kneper's decision of denial. Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Neil Ewing did not appear.

### **CLAY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

John Carson appeared before the Commissioners in regard to a claim that had been denied. Attorney John Hillis swore John Carson in. John pleads his case and the reason behind the denial of Jim Higgins request. Mr. Higgins of 1715 Commerce Court, Logansport, IN was present, Attorney John Hillis swore him in before he began to respond to Mr. Carson. The Commissioners asked Mr. Higgins some questions and Jim Sailors made a motion to pay Mr. Higgins claim, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion did not carry unanimously; Dave Arnold had the no vote.

### **PHONE BIDS**

There were two bids received. One was not considered from CBTS in the amount of \$155,290.00. This bid was not submitted in proper bid form. John Hillis Attorney for the County opened the one bid from:

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|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Advance Products Group New Paris, IN | \$92,042.99 |
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Jim Sailors made a motion to accept the bid, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The Commissioners gave this bid a positive recommendation to the Cass County Council.

### **EMA**

Alvin Beckman presented the Commissioners with a list of Surplus Property to be addressed. Gene Powlen made a motion to declare the property surplus, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The Commissioners accepted the bid from Shepler Construction Co. INC of Logansport, IN for relocation of the generator. The bid was the lowest in the amount of \$15,450.64. Jim Sailors made a motion to accept the bid, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The Commissioners also gave this a positive recommendation to the Cass County Council.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ADJOURN**

Brad Farrer presented the Commissioners with an update on the Fair Ground. The restrooms will be ADA compliant along with updating of the Community Center. They will begin raising monies for Artist's renderings through private donations. There were no other comments. Jim Sailors made a motion to adjourn, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Dave Arnold, President

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Jim Sailors, Vice President

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Gene Powlen, Member

ATTEST:

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Vaneen M. Ide, Auditor