

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 6, 2009

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

AMEND AGENDA

The motion was made to amend the agenda. Sandy Heckard, Parks Department was added between item 6 and 7. Region 4 Work Force Development was added between item 11 and 12. Gene Powlen made the motion to accept the additions, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES & EXPENSE CLAIMS/PAYROLL

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

APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments were made by the Cass County Commissioners.

Melanee Howard(R)	Highway Clerk (1yr)	7-6-09 to 7-6-10
Dave Ingram(R)	Airport Authority (4yrs)	Exp. 6/30/13
CJ Gilsinger	Information Technology	Until Removed
Cindy Howard	Commissioners Secretary	Until Removed

Jim Sailors made the motion to accept the appointments as presented, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY

Steve Easley appeared before the Commissioners with his report. County roads 800 North and 800 East are now dry. Travel at your own risk signs are still posted. Pat Brown and Steve Easley have looked at CR 800 East and feel that the level can be raised with in house labor. The problem with CR 800 North is being referred to the Drainage Board for assessment. The voluntary IDEM site visit on June 17th went very well. Just a few items were noted and have been addressed already. A report of the finding should be coming in the next few weeks from Susan Lowmy who conducted the audit. Susan commented on the cleanliness and organization of the entire facility.

The appointment of Melanee Howard to the position of Highway Clerk was done at this meeting. The CCHD is still reviewing applications for the driver opening(s) and plan to fill the position by the end of July.

Jeff Smith gave an update on road work. To date nearly 465 tons of hot/cold mix have been applied at a cost of \$30,000.00. The scheduled RSA event was conducted in Cass County on June 16th and 17th. A detailed follow-up report with recommendations will be forthcoming from Jeff Shaw. Representation from the Federal Highway Department, INDOT- Laport, INDOT-Central Office, and Tom Wallace with the Cass County Sheriff's Department attended. The audit exercise was very informative and beneficial. The CCHD was made aware of "potential issues" that included levels of priority/severity, which should help in developing a plan to address and resolve these issues. The two INDOT representatives also suggested possible revenue source that could assist in funding the projects if the County elects to pursue.

The County has been informed that two of our stimulus projects are on the end of July bid letting list at INDOT. The status of the remaining projects) that fall within the budget limits previously communicated are not known at this time. Bidge and culvert inspections are under way. The USI Company has been doing inspections for the County. Particular interest to the County is the condition of bridges that will become part of the relinquishment to the County when the Hoosier Heartland goes through. Several "faded" road signs were replaced in and around the Twelve Mile area.

BRIDGE BIDS

The County Commissioners had taken the bids for bridges 13 and 23 under advisement. Gene Powlen made a motion to re-open the bids, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Gene Isaacs appeared before the Commissioners with a request to replace one part-time Corrections Officer and three part-time employees, these positions are already in his budget. Jim Sailors made a motion to replace, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Sandy Heckard appeared before the Commissioners to hire an assistant Park Supervisor. Jim Sailors made the motion to approve the hiring of a new Park Supervisor, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CJ Gillsinger appeared before the Commissioners to present a new salary ordinance for their recommendation to the Council. Salaries would be I.T. Manager \$42,000.00, P.C. Maint. Tech, \$27,000.00 and Web Site Editor, \$2,000.00. This is a reduction in the I.T. budget of \$21,242.00. Jim Sailors made a motion to give the new salary ordinance a positive recommendation to the Council, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLERK OF THE COURTS

Beth Lining appeared before the Commissioners to request permission for CJ Gillsinger to travel to Texas for training with Hart Civic. Hart is the software company for the County voting system. He would be there for 5 days of training. The cost would be around \$1500.00. This amount will cover airfare, hotel, meals and rental car. The cost of the training was taken care of with a \$3600.00 credit with Hart Civic. If Hart traveled to Cass County the amount would be much higher. Jim Sailors made a motion to approve the travel, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Stan Williams appeared to present a contract for contractual services. The Planning Dept. has requested to keep the former zoning administrator as a consultant. The contract is for \$20.00 per hour not to exceed the sum of \$800.00. Jim Sailors made a motion to accept the contract, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Stan also presented to the Commissioners two ordinances. Ordinance 2009-04 Amending the Cass County Zoning Ordinance with the Addition of a Wind Ordinance. There will be information on wind towers at the Cass County Fair along with this ordinance. Jim Sailors made a motion to accept the amended ordinance as presented, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The second ordinance is number 2009-05 Amending the Airport Overlay District in the Cass County Zoning Ordinance. Gene Powlen made a motion to accept the amended ordinance as presented, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Robert McLaughlin appeared before the Commissioners to present an amended ordinance pertaining to and regulating the design, construction, installation, maintenance and operation of on-site sewage systems. This ordinance had been tabled earlier in the year due to language. Jim Sailors made a motion to adopt the ordinance as presented, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

VACATE ALLEY

John Glosser was on the agenda in regards to an alley that he was requesting to be vacated. Mr. Glosser was not present. No action was taken.

REGION 4 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Roger Feldhaus appeared before the Commissioners to present information on the Region 4 Workforce Development. Mr. Feldhaus presented a well documented booklet with facts and valuable information for our local community. The State of Indiana has established law as to how this unit is to work. Workforce is a valuable tool to those within the community that have lost their jobs and are in need of additional schooling or interested in a new trade. Mr. Feldhaus extended an invitation to the Commissioners to attend a program in Delphi on July 29th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & ADJOURN

Dave Arnold took this opportunity to recognize Kevin Smith from the Pharos Tribune. Kevin will be leaving this month to go back to his home in England. Kevin had been following the Commissioner meetings for quite some time and will be missed. Jim Sailors made a motion to adjourn, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Dave Arnold, President

Jim Sailors, Vice President

Gene Powlen, Member

ATTEST: _____

Vaneen M. Ide, Auditor