

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 1, 2010

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

AMEND AGENDA

The Park Department was added to the agenda between item 6 and 7. Jim Sailors made a motion to approve the addition to the agenda, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Gene Powlen made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL

Jim Sailors made a motion to approve the payroll and claims as presented, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSOLIDATED UNION

Michael Bowditch appeared before the Commissioners on behalf of himself and Tom Colman. Michael thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to serve Cass County and its insurance needs. It was the recommendation of Michael and Tom to retain the current companies that insure Cass County. They also recommended keeping the Worker's Compensation Insurance with IPEP. The renewal of this premium will result in a slight increase over last year's premiums. This increase in workers compensation insurance can be attributed to an increase in this policy year's experience modification rating factor for the county, which is due to losses sustained in the 2006-2007 policy term. Jim Sailors made a motion to retain Consolidated Union for property and casualty insurance, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY

Steve Easley appeared before the Commissioners with a brief update. Steve has filled 2 of the 3 open positions at the CCHD. The condition of Logansport Road was discussed and INDOT and the

company that provided the road material have been contacted and are investigating why the product is not holding up. It is believed that a bad batch of road material is to blame.

Jeff Smith appeared and addressed the Commissioners with updates. INDOT has notified the highway department that the 2 Norfolk-Southern railroad crossing in Clymer's have been placed on the list to have active warning devices installed. At least 40 intersections where yield signs are located in the county should be considered for stop signs. Dave Arnold would like more study done on this before we begin to change signs.

I.T.

Cj Gilsinger appeared and requested he be allowed to hire extra help. This is a budgeted item in the data processing budget. Gene Powlen made a motion to hire part time person, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PARK DEPARTMENT

Sandy Heckard appeared before the Commissioners with a request for permission to replace the assistant park superintendent. Kerry Camichael resigned. Jim Sailors made the motion to allow the replacement of the assistant park superintendent, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Gene Isaacs appeared before the Commissioners with the request to restructure the Jail staff. He had met with Personal Committee in regards to this restructuring. The salary ordinance will have to be amended to accommodate a tier system in the pay. Jim Sailors made a motion to give this positive recommendation to the Cass County Council, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously. It will be up to the Council to allow the change in salaries.

E-911

Sandy Ford assistant 911 director appeared before the Commissioners with a request to fill a vacancy. The Commissioners discussed the matter and feel that the current staff of 14 is adequate to handle the E-911 dispatch center. Jim Sailors made a motion to freeze the position until further notice, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS BUREAU

Toni Savine from the Tourism Board presented the Commissioners with their 2010 budget. The Commissioners felt that the Inkeepers tax monies need to be distributed differently. 10% of the Visitors Bureau budget was given away in what they call grants. No action was taken.

APPOINTMENT

Gene Powlen made a motion to appoint Dave Price to the Visitors Bureau, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Ain Shaver appeared before the Commissioners and presented Ordinance 2010-01 for their consideration. This Ordinance is amending the Cass County Zoning Ordinance for the Addition of Model Home Standards. Gene Powlen made a motion to approve the Ordinance as presented, Jim Sailors seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EMA

Alvin Beckman appeared before the Commissioners with a grant. This grant is for the modems that will be installed in public safety vehicles. This modem contains a GPS transmitter so that the location of public safety vehicles can be monitored if radio contact is lost during an emergency or during routine duties. Jim Sailors made a motion to approve the signing of the grant, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EEL TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

Tom Knepper appeared before the Commissioners in regards to a poor relief claim that he denied. John Hillis, attorney swears in Tom Knepper. Tom informed the Commissioners why he denied the claim. At this time Orlando Saavedra was called to give his testimony, John Hillis swears in Mr. Saavedra it was at this point the proceedings were stopped until an interpreter could be found. Mr. Buddy Holder was found and he interpreted for the proceedings. Mr. Saavedra of 3445 Lindsay Drive, Logansport, IN presented his side and why he should not be denied. Jim Sailors made a motion to uphold the decision of Tom Knepper, Eel Township Trustee, that Mr. Saavedra's request for relief be denied, Gene Powlen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

FOUR COUNTY

Dick Rusk appeared before the Commissioners to present them with information regarding the work that Four County provides for Cass County. Mr. Rusk is a member of the Four County Board. The booklet provided a detail account of the services and number of people served by Four County. Mr. Rusk introduced Lary Ulerick and he gave a brief summary of the services. It was noted by the Commissioners that Four County does an excellent job for the citizens of Cass County.

ARROWHEAD R.C. REPORT

No one appeared

VACATE ALLEY

Steve Shipman of Onward was present to request that an alley adjacent to his property be vacated. John Hillis, attorney informed Mr. Shipman of the proceedings and instructions that he should follow. Mr. Shipman will appear at a later date when the required steps are completed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & ADJOURN

There were no public comments. 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