

STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
June 1, 2016

The Steuben County Commissioners met at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1, 2016, in the Commissioners' Room of the Steuben County Community Center. Present this day were Commissioners Ronald Smith, James Crowl and Lynne Liechty. Also present were Kim Koomler, Steuben County Auditor, Lori Hickey, 1st Deputy Auditor, Erin Wray, Commissioners' Secretary and Rae Hall, Payroll and Benefits.

The Commissioners met to make a decision on a new County Park Superintendent. Interviews were held with eight (8) applicants on Thursday, May 26, 2016. James Crowl stated that last weekend over the Memorial Day Holiday, there were a lot of people out at the park and there was a lot of trash and a lot of complaints. The new Superintendent will not receive any training and that should weigh into the decision.

Ronald Smith requested that the Commissioners put down their first and second choice for the County Park Superintendent. Erin Wray, Commissioners' Secretary, tabulated the votes. The Commissioners first choice was applicant #2 and the second choice is applicant #8. James Crowl made a motion to offer the job of County Park Superintendent to applicant #2 and if he refuses the offer, the job shall be offered to applicant #8. Lynne Liechty seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes. The Commissioners requested that applicant #2 be notified as soon as possible.

Lynne Liechty said that the eaves at the County Park Home need to be cleaned. The Commissioners will leave it up to the new County Park Superintendent whether the carpets need shampooed or not. Commissioner Liechty also stated that the old County Park Superintendent left an old riding lawn mower that does not work and he either needs to come and pick it up or it will be disposed of.

Kim Koomler, Auditor, reported to the Commissioners that some issues have arisen with the authorization given Apex. Ms. Koomler said that she, Lynne Liechty, Rae Hall and Linda Hansen met with Apex about two (2) months ago and the Commissioners gave approval for them to do a price quote for the County's insurance. She said that in the meantime, Apex has been working with Jody Kinsey, USI and Karla Linville, Pro-Claim, to get the documentation that Apex says that they need. Apparently, they have come to a stalemate in which Apex is requesting information from Pro-Claim that Pro-Claim is not privy to give out because waivers of confidentiality have been signed. The information being requested is not public record and should not be shared with someone that is wanting to come in and quote prices against. Part of the information that Apex wants are the discounts that Pro-Claim offers Steuben County and the prorated amounts.

Kim Koomler said the last correspondence she had between Karla Linville, Pro-Claim and Bill Sylvester, Apex, is dated May 18, 2016, and there is a long list that Ms. Linville provided to Mr. Sylvester and that also includes a list of items not included with an explanation as to why they were not provided. Ms. Koomler stated that at that point, Apex should have moved forward with quoting and they are claiming that they cannot move forward without this additional information. The information that Apex is requesting is not information that is typically shared between competing companies and Ms. Koomler said that she is getting frustrated as she is getting a lot of phone calls trying to push her to make Pro-Claim give Apex the information they are requesting, which she cannot do.

Kim Koomler also reported that there's another side to it regarding balance billing/Medicare allowable. Ms. Koomler said a letter was received from Cameron Hospital regarding balance billing and Medicare allowable and they are saying that they will not comply. They say that they don't have to and they aren't going to.

Jody Kinsey, USI, had informed the Commissioners that there are ways to cut costs and one of which is switching to only one network instead of having both. Lori Hickey, 1st Deputy Auditor, said that pretty much all doctors accept both Lutheran and Parkview so it may be worthwhile looking into having only one network instead of both.

Kim Koomler said that it seems that the employees are happy with Pro-Claim and the Auditor's Office is very happy with them, how they handle everything and how easy they are to deal with.

Lynne Liechty made a motion to send a letter and inform Apex that the Commissioners are not moving forward with the insurance quoting process. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes. Ronald Smith said that a letter needs to be sent to Apex stating that Steuben County is going to stay with Pro-Claim and please cease and desist. Commissioner Smith also stated that it is in the best interest of the County to stay with Pro-Claim and to please not call the Auditor's Office.

Kim Koomler and Rae Hall said that they are supposed to have a meeting with Hylant, another insurance provider, tomorrow. Ms. Koomler requested the Commissioners to give her permission to tell anyone that approaches the County about insurance, that Steuben County is happy with what they have in place and are not interested in meeting or receiving quotes.

James Crowl asked for an update on the Renaissance Faire. Erin Wray stated that she sent an email to Kim Bordner regarding having a uniformed officer on premises if alcohol is served and she has not yet heard anything back.

Lynne Liechty emailed correspondence from Res Poly Flow. She said that she was in a meeting with Klink's, Ingledue and RES Poly Flow and they reported that they are looking at the end of the year and everything looks good. They are currently waiting for a letter from NES because it is a guarantee for them. They are trying to make a decision whether or not they will purchase the ground and buy the building or if it will be a lease arrangement until they can afford to do so.

Kim Koomler reminded the Commissioners that they have the agreement with RES Poly Flow regarding the payback of the funds.

Lynne Liechty stated that the letter she emailed is going to be sent to the newspaper.

Kim Koomler stated that before that information hits the press, RES Poly Flow needs to direct a letter to the Commission Board and to County Council. Ms. Koomler requested that it be on formal letterhead and include information regarding the payback of the \$1M and when that money will start coming back along with an update.

Mike Sevits is scheduled to start as the new Annex Maintenance Supervisor on Monday, June 13; however, that is when Rick Meyers will be on vacation. Gary Fair is trying to coordinate some training as Maria Spaulding has some knowledge of what needs to be done at the Annex.

Lori Hickey reported that today was Kristy Clawson's last day and she came over and discussed one of the grants. Ms. Hickey said that the funds have not yet been received and it is a reimbursable grant so the County has to spend the money first and then be reimbursed. Ms. Clawson put Ms. Hickey in contact with the grant person so it all goes through smoothly.

STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ronald L. Smith, President, South District

James A. Crowl, Vice President, Middle District

Lynne Liechty, North District

Attest: _____
Kim Koomler, Steuben County Auditor
elw