

STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
August 20, 2018

The Steuben County Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 2018, 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 Ruth Beer, Steuben County Councilwoman, Kim Johnson, Assessor and Kim Meyers, Steuben County Auditor.

Judge William Fee said that he just has one thing to say, let's begin. Judge Fee said that Council has appropriated money, let's get started on whatever that next step is.

Ronald Smith said that the Courthouse Study Committee needs to be set up so they can focus on getting into the possibilities. He said that a serious look needs to be taken at the Masonic Lodge and all of the other issues. He said that they will then start looking for consulting firms to get into it and make proposals. James Crowl said that he thinks they need to go to consulting firms and ask them to look at it to see if \$7 Million will do it, that way we know up front.

Judge William Fee said that he doesn't want to see them chasing study after study and feels that they need to be careful about the next step. He said that they have an opinion about where it should be located and that opinion was paid for. James Crowl said that opinion cannot be afforded. Judge Fee said that he respectfully doesn't believe that is true, he said it depends on what is built. He said if they scale back and do something smaller it doesn't change the fact that is the best site for the project.

Lynne Liechty said that the current Courthouse had to be made ADA compliant sooner rather than later. Judge Fee said that ADA is at the top of the needs. He said that nothing has changed and there is a pressing need to move forward.

Judge Randy Coffey said that if somebody comes back and said we would need \$8.5 Million, then we need to talk. Lynne Liechty said that Linda Hansen eluded to what we have in the Cumulative Capital Fund.

Ronald Smith said that a letter needs to be composed and sent to the Consultants saying that Steuben County now has projected finances, these are the limitations, we have proposals that came to us from a prior consultant and we are interested in pursuing this. He said that the letter needs to state that they are not being hired as a consultant, but if they wish to participate, they need to show the Commissioners that they want to participate.

Judge Allen Wheat said that rather than picking consultants at random from the telephone directory they need to communicate with engineers/architects/consultants who have walked inside of a courthouse before. Judge Fee said that there are specialists on Courthouse construction. Ronald Smith said that when they have the AIC and IACC meetings, all of those people are there and there is a meeting coming up in September with another one coming in late November.

Brent Aldrich and Teresa Ulmer, EMS, submitted the proposed ambulance specs designed to replace the ambulance that was wrecked in the spring. Mr. Aldrich said that they are down to four (4) ambulances and all of them have heavy maintenance needs and one of them is damaged but is getting repaired October 4.

Lynne Liechty said that these specs are for a Type I which is a pickup chassis. Commissioner Liechty said she talked to Todd Crum and they went to the Type III. That has become the most popular which is a van type with a modular on the back. She said that the only reason she is bringing it up is because Type I runs from \$175,000.00-\$200,000.00 and if the power loader is put in there, that is an additional \$25,000.00. Commissioner Liechty said when a Type I was looked into, there was a possible problem fitting it in the Ambulance Bay.

Lynne Liechty said that she would like to take a look at all of the ambulances across the board and Todd Crum said that he could bring demo models in. She said that the only reason she is asking this is because through personal experience. Commissioner Liechty said that the van was smaller, but there was plenty of room and it was a smooth ride. She said that it is more of what they call a transport and Parkview is starting to go to the Ford model of the Type II Ambulance.

Brent Aldrich said that he has information from three (3) ambulance manufacturers and they all say that the Type II is not an emergency response vehicle. Mr. Aldrich said that it is used more for transportation than emergency response. Mr. Aldrich said that Steuben County EMS runs 3,600 runs a year and about 1,000 are transfers. He said that the only issue arises that when they are on duty, they may take a transfer and on their way back they catch an emergency run. If they are in a truck that is not equipped to handle the emergency run, he doesn't think it is right to have to go get another ambulance. Mr. Aldrich said that the Type II is not designed for emergency runs, there isn't enough equipment in it and even the companies that make them say they are not intended for emergency runs. Lynne Liechty said that is what Parkview is using for all of their runs.

Lynne Liechty said that the transfer vans run \$75,000.00 and if it is in diesel it costs \$2,000.00 extra. If the power load was put in it then there would be an additional \$25,000.00. Purchasing a Type II would save the taxpayers a lot of money. Commissioner Liechty said that when she talked to medics they told her that the Type II have gotten to be the most popular emergency vehicle. Brent Aldrich said that they are becoming the most prevalent, because of cost.

Lynne Liechty asked why they have to have diesel because it costs more to purchase and to repair. Brent Aldrich said when he talked to the manufacturers, they both say that they are cheaper to maintain and the diesels run significantly longer.

Commissioner Liechty said that Steuben County EMS has trashed three (3) Ambulances in the last two (2) years and our insurance is going up. She said she is looking at the cost of insurance because it is much less on the Type II's, the cost of maintenance is less and the cost of gas is less as well. Brent Aldrich said that they have always used the diesel engines because they run a lot longer and anyone that works on vehicles will tell you that a diesel engine will run twice as long as a gasoline engine. Lynne Liechty said that when they are repaired, it is a significantly larger bill. Mr. Aldrich said that he hasn't seen that. Commissioner Liechty said that she has seen that because she has had diesels. Mr. Aldrich said that his family has diesels and it's never been an issue.

James Crowl said that he spends his life behind a diesel motor and in the EMS application, there are times when that vehicle has to sit and run and not move. Commissioner Crowl said that you cannot do that with a gas motor, a diesel you can, and that is one of the main reasons they have gone to diesel over the years. Brent Aldrich said that there is a lot of equipment that is plugged into electrical sources as well. Commissioner Crowl said that they must have the diesel motor for that reason. Lynne Liechty said that you can get a diesel motor in a Type II Ambulance.

James Crowl asked if it was fair to the taxpayers to buy an ambulance that is too small to use for emergency runs when we only have four (4) ambulances. Brent Aldrich said that he doesn't believe so, but that is not his decision to make. Mr. Aldrich said that in his opinion, their job to the taxpayers, is to provide 911 services for the community and the Type II and some of the Type III's are significantly smaller. He said if you talk to the people that work in them, everyone except two (2) or three (3) has hated working in them because they cannot treat the patient. Mr. Aldrich said that the Type II's are designed to put the patient in the ambulance and ride to the hospital; however, the problem is that patients sometimes go south when they leave the scene on the way to the hospital. He said that one (1) of the directors that he spoke to at Parkview said if the patient goes into cardiac arrest, you pull over, take them out on the side of the road and work it there because there is not room in the ambulance to do it. Brent Aldrich said that for airway procedures, extensive trauma, etc., there would not be room in a Type II. He also said that there is an issue with the side sliding doors with only having one point of egress because the cot takes up the entire back of the ambulance.

Brent Aldrich said that his opinion is that they need the larger box or they will have more time on scenes trying to provide care that they can't do while they are moving. Ronald Smith said that he believes they need to listen to Mr. Aldrich. Mr. Aldrich said that the specs that he turned in is for a Type I, pickup chassis with essentially the same box that they have now on the other four (4) ambulances. He said that they don't put the diesel in the vans and the maintenance is cheaper on the pickup. He said that they are longer, but it will fit in Ambulance Bay 5 and in the North Station. For them to fit in Ambulance Bays 1-4 they would have to remove the upper room.

Brent Aldrich asked Mike Sevits if there was a way to remove that room and extend the cabinets. He said that Mr. Sevits told him that the electrical box is up there and he thought they should extend the building instead. Mr. Aldrich said that he thought moving the electrical box would be cheaper.

Mr. Aldrich said that they do fit, but they can get a shorter box on the Type I if preferred. He said that the specs have 170" box but they do have a 156" box available.

James Crowl made a motion to approve the specs submitted by Brent Aldrich. Ronald Smith seconded that motion and the motion carried with two (2) ayes and one (1) nay.

Brent Aldrich submitted a quote from Stryker for the replacement of a power cot and power load. He said that they are currently in the process of having the cots that were involved in the collisions reviewed to see if they are adequate to be recertified. Mr. Aldrich said that the one that was involved in the rollover could not be used; however, the one that was involved in the accident on 120 disappeared with the ambulance when it should have been removed. He said that they do need to replace the power load, but they may not have to replace a power cot which would save approximately \$18,000.00. The Commissioners tabled the quote at this time.

Mr. Aldrich said that when the power loads and cots were purchased, they had a service contract; however, that contract has lapsed and was not renewed. He said that he has one quote, but he would like to check with other companies. The Commissioners gave him permission to get quotes from other companies.

Teresa Ulmer submitted a letter to WPS for approval and signature. The letter serves as notice that Steuben County Government is the owner of Steuben County Emergency Medical Services and that Steuben County is legally and financially responsible for the Medicare payments received in the event that there is an outstanding debt owed to CMS. Lynne Liechty made a motion to sign the letter. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Clint Knauer, Plan Commission, submitted rezone Ordinance Z-18-01 for Pine Manor, Inc. for second and third readings. Z-18-01 was passed on the first reading at the previous Commissioners' Meeting on August 6, 2018. James Crowl made a motion to approve Z-18-01 Rezone of Pine Manor, Inc. on second and third readings. Lynne Liechty seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes. Z-18-01 reads as follows:

Ordinance No. Z-18-01

It is hereby ordained by the County Commissioners of Steuben County, Indiana, that the following described real estate in Steuben County, Indiana, which is currently zoned Agricultural and Environmental Control shall hereinafter be zoned as Industrial 2:

A tract of land located in the Southwest Quarter of Section 05, Township 37 North, Range 12 East, in Jackson Civil Township, Steuben County, the State of Indiana, and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Commencing at a P.K. Nail located at the Southwest Quarter of said Section 05; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes 62 seconds East (Grid), along the South line of said Southwest Quarter, for 874.50 feet (recorded as 53 rods which is 874.50 feet) to the Southeast corner of a tract of land conveyed to the Indiana Department of Conservation – Division of Fish and Games, said point being marked by a Zeigler Marker Spike and being the **Point of beginning** for this description; thence continuing South 89 degrees 24 minutes 02 seconds East, along the South line of the said Southwest Quarter, for 1,449.69 feet to the Southwest corner of the Jackson Prairie Cemetery, said point being marked by a Zeigler Marker Spike; thence North 00 degrees 53 minutes 01 seconds West, along the West side of said Cemetery, said line also being parallel with the East line of said Southwest Quarter, for 470.00 feet to the Northwest corner of said Cemetery, said point being marked by a #5 Zeigler Rebar; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes 02 seconds East, along the North side of said Cemetery, said line also being parallel with the South line of said Southwest Quarter, for 343.00 feet to the East line of said Southwest Quarter, said point being marked by a Zeigler Marker Spikes; thence North 00 degrees 53 minutes 01 seconds West, along the East line of said Southwest Quarter for 2,189.86 feet to the Northeast corner of said Southwest Quarter, said point being marked by a Railroad Spike; thence North 89 degrees 13 minutes 34 seconds West, along the North line of said Southwest Quarter, for 1,777.25 feet to the Northeast corner of said Indiana Department of Conservation tract of land, said point being marked by a #5 Zeigler Rebar; thence South 00 degrees 32 minutes 55 seconds East, along the East line of said Indiana Department of Conservation, said line also being parallel with the West

line of said Southwest Quarter, for 2,664.92 feet to the **Point of Beginning**. Said tract containing 105.36 Acres, more or less, and is subject to all public road right-of-ways and easements of record.

Map #76-05-05-000-009/010.000-005

DATED: August 6, 2018

STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ronald L. Smith, Chairman, South District	<u>8-6-18</u>
Lynne A. Liechty, North District	First Reading
James A. Crowl, Middle District	<u>8-20-18</u>
	Second Reading
	<u>8-20-18</u>
	Third Reading

ATTEST:
Kim Meyers, Steuben County Auditor

I affirm, under the penalties for perjury, that I have taken reasonable care to redact each Social Security Number in this document, unless required by law Vina L. Conti

Mr. Knauer also submitted Clint Knauer also submitted rezone Ordinance Z-18-02 for Hochstettler for second and third readings. Z-18-02 was passed on the first reading at the previous Commissioners' Meeting on August 6, 2018. Lynne Liechty made a motion to approve Z-18-02 Rezone of Hochstettler on second and third readings. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes. Z-18-02 reads as follows:

Ordinance No. Z-18-02

It is hereby ordained by the County Commissioners of Steuben County, Indiana, that the following described real estate in Steuben County, Indiana, which is currently zoned Agricultural and Environmental Control shall hereinafter be zoned as Industrial 2:

Part of the Northeast quarter of Section 16, Township 37 North, Range 13 East, Steuben County, Indiana and more particularly described as follows: Commencing at Southeast corner of the Lot 26 in the Original Plat of Parkside Subdivision on Crooked Lake; thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 24 seconds West 40.00 feet by extension of the Easterly line of said Lot 26 to the Point of Beginning; on the Southerly right of way line of Parkway Drive; thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 24 seconds East; 30.54 feet along said extended easterly line to an iron pin; thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 53 seconds West 50.02 feet to an iron pin; thence North 65 degrees 56 minutes 58 seconds West 123.85 feet to a point on the extended westerly line of Lot 25 in said Parkside Subdivision, thence North 22 degrees 01 minute 59 seconds East 28.03 feet along said westerly line to on iron pin on the Southerly right of way line of Parkway Drive; thence South 67 degrees 58 minutes 01 seconds East 122.30 feet along said southerly right of way line to an iron pin; thence continuing along said right of way line South 89 degrees 45 minutes 36 seconds East 39.36 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 0.12 acre and subject to all easement and rights of way of record.

Together with part of the Northeast quarter of Section 16, Township 37 North, Range 13 East, Steuben County, Indiana and more particularly described as follows: Commencing at Southeast corner of Lot 26 in the Original Plat of Parkside Subdivision on Crooked Lake; thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 24 seconds West 70.54 feet by extension of the easterly line of said Lot 26 to the Point of Beginning; thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 24 seconds West 40.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 48 seconds West 199.40 feet to a point on the extended westerly line of Lot 25 in the Original Plat of Parkside Subdivision on Crooked Lake; thence North 22 degrees 01 minute 59 seconds East 97.17 feet along said westerly line, thence South 65 degrees 56 minutes 56 seconds East 123.85 feet; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 53 seconds East 50.02 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.25 acre. Subject to all easements and rights of way of record.

Map #76-06-16-000-002.190/002.200-011

DATED: August 6, 2018

STEUBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ronald L. Smith, Chairman, South District	<u>8/6/18</u>
Lynne A. Liechty, North District	First Reading
James A. Crowl, Middle District	<u>8/20/18</u>
	Second Reading
ATTEST:	<u>8/20/18</u>
Kim Meyers, Steuben County Auditor	Third Reading

I affirm, under the penalties for perjury, that I have taken reasonable care to redact each Social Security Number in this document, unless required by law Vina L. Conti

Frank Charlton, County Park Superintendent, submitted an invoice from Sevits Tree Service in the amount of \$4,800.00. Mr. Charlton said that this invoice was for the removal of three (3) trees, trimming of several trees and the removal of a large limb that extended over the road. He requested that the Commissioners pay for this invoice as he does not have the funds in his budget to do so. Lynne Liechty made the motion to approve the invoice and to pay for it from the Commissioners budget. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Mr. Charlton said that he has not done anything with the speed bump issue yet. James Crowl said that it is a touch situation because snow removal in the winter will be difficult. Mr. Charlton said that people are going through the campground to avoid the speed bumps. Lynne asked about the removable speed bumps. Frank Charlton said that he checked into that but he didn't want to drive stakes into the asphalt. Lynne Liechty suggested the stakes be driving into the dirt side. Frank Charlton said that he isn't sure if they would be wide enough. Lynne Liechty said that she would check to see what is available.

Lynne Liechty made a motion to approve the claims submitted for payment this day totaling \$382,660.38. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

James Crowl made a motion to approve the minutes from the Commissioners' Meeting on August 6, 2018. Ronald Smith seconded that motion and the motion carried with two (2) ayes.

The Commissioners signed the minutes from the July 16, 2018, Commissioners' Meeting and July 30, 2018 Special Commissioners' Meeting for the Index Book, which were approved at the prior meeting.

James Crowl made a motion to officially approve the Correction Action with Employee #0760130510. Lynne Liechty seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Rae Delaney, Payroll, submitted the August 17, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$390,594.92 for approval. Lynne Liechty made a motion to approve the August 17, 2018 payroll. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Zachary Mahan, GIS Coordinator, submitted a Contract Change Order for the Beacon Add-On Multi-Year Orthophotography Contract approved at a previous meeting. Lynne Liechty made a motion to approve the Change Order. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Jennifer Sharkey, Highway Engineer, introduced Jennifer Bowen, Construction Inspector from GAI Consultants for the 200 N Project. Ms. Bowman said that Frontier and Mediacom were out last week working on the utility relocation. She said that they began milling last week and put millings at everyone's driveway approaches. Ms. Bowman said that a new schedule was sent with the last weekly update and the the project completion date is set for November 30, 2018. She said that the school buses will be picking up kids from the east and west of the construction zone and if there is a chance that they can go through, they will be contacted.

Jennifer Sharkey, Highway Engineer, submitted Mediacom Utility Permit #2820 for approval. Lynne Liechty made a motion to approve the Utility Permit. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Ms. Sharkey reported that the next progress meeting on the Bike Trail Phase II will be August 29 with the contractors.

Ms. Sharkey stated that the application for the 2018 Community Crossings Grant has been submitted. She said that there were three (3) of them that needed a little bit more information so she plans on submitting modifications.

Jennifer Sharkey said that a response letter was sent to the Representative of 3rd Basin of Crooked Lake regarding the 400 W Bridge. James Crowl said that the bridge is in excellent shape. Ronald Smith said that the residents volunteered to accept the expense of any modification. Jennifer Sharkey said that she believes that the residents were looking at contributing financially. Ms. Sharkey said that one of the questions in the letter was if they should have a study done privately or is that something that the County should contract. James Crowl said that he is not interested in spending tax payer's money on the bridge. Lynne Liechty said that the letter stated that the residents were willing to take that expense on themselves.

Ronald Smith said that he is going to guess that the residents would like some feedback from the Commission Board as to whether or not consideration will be given for their participation to bear the expense. Commissioner Crowl said that the bridge is in excellent shape and that's what the Commissioners have to deal with. Lynne Liechty said she can't see spending any money on it either.

Jennifer Sharkey asked if it would be acceptable if the residents pursue a study privately and present it to the Commissioners, no strings attached obviously. Ronald Smith said that one concept is the fact that the residents are willing to step up and participate, including all expenses and for that reason he thinks that the Commission Board should give it consideration. Ms. Sharkey said that if a study is done privately she would suggest that it be conducted by a Licensed Bridge Engineer or consulting firm that way there is that credibility behind a study should they commission it privately. Ms. Sharkey said another suggestion is that the Commission Board could request the study be done by a consulting firm that is qualified to do this type of feasibility assessment; however, that cost would be borne by the property owners if acceptable. Ronald Smith said that the cost could be sizeable. Ronald Smith requested that this information be communicated to the Representative and that the Commission Board is giving the idea consideration as they realize the issues that are there.

James Crowl asked for the results of Jennifer Sharkey's study on dust control. Ms. Sharkey said that she can give a more formal report at the next Commissioners' Meeting. She said that she consulted with Kim Johnson, Assessor and Zachary Mahan, GIS, to find out how many home sites are on gravel roads. She said that number was over 1,000 and calculating 300 feet in front of each home, it is about \$6,000.00 a mile so she thinks they are in the \$300,000.00-\$400,000.00 range for material only.

Emmett Heller, Highway Superintendent, said that they are gaining on the chip and seal after being behind due to the weather. Mr. Heller reported on the progress of the FDR and chip and seal projects. He said that he has people set up to work on Friday if the projects require it. Mr. Heller said that Stoney Ridge and Heritage Hills have been prepped. He said that the sand seal and the paint markings are completed on 800 S from Ashley to Hamilton. Mr. Heller reported that they have started working on the culvert on 20 N and he is looking at the third and fourth week of September for that road to be closed.

Jennifer Sharkey opened the Salt Bids and they were as follows:

Cargill – Unable to Submit a Bid

Compass Minerals - \$93.03/ton
(After the meeting the bid was found to be \$99.03)

Morton Salt – no bid

The Commissioners took the bids under advisement for review and recommendation by the Highway Department.

Emmett Heller stated that currently they have 100 tons of salt and 300 tons of mix still on hand from last season.

Jody Kinsey, USI, came to discuss possible insurance changes for 2019. Ms. Kinsey submitted information showing different scenarios combining some of the things that were discussed last week during the joint Council and Commissioners' Meeting. Ms. Kinsey discussed options that included going to Parkview Exclusive Advanced, Parkview Exclusive Elite and/or increasing deductibles.

Ms. Kinsey said that these examples are potential claim savings and it doesn't mean that the costs will be going down in 2019 as they still have the renewal process to go through and those numbers won't be available until October. She said this is just a way to generate some claims savings on the \$2 million of claims that we have continually had over the last couple years.

Ms. Kinsey also submitted premium illustrations. She said that healthcare costs are continually increasing at a good eight percent (8%) inflationary costs and prescriptions are well into the high teens. She said that over the next several years there are going to still be some things that will have to be done to get costs controlled.

Ms. Kinsey said that currently the employer pays 98% of employee only costs, 85% of employee and spouse, 88% of employee and children and 81% of full family. She showed the Commissioners four (4) different contribution considerations including increasing the premium per paycheck by 25%, increasing the premium by 50% and leaving employee costs but increasing dependent percentage costs to either 80% or 75%.

Ronald Smith said that the difficult part of this is that it effects the employees so significantly and this is one of the harder decisions made this year. Lynne Liechty said that she would go with the lesser of the two (2) to begin with because of the shock value and she thinks that the employees would appreciate that. Jody Kinsey said that it would be much less disruption on the employees.

Kim Meyers asked for clarification on what they are deciding. She asked if they are going from two (2) networks to one (1) only and no change in deductible. Lynne Liechty said that was correct.

Jody Kinsey asked if there was any discussion as to which level they would like to choose. Ms. Kinsey said that she personally feels that her observation is that if they are going to make the change, she would rather see them capitalize on the better discounts. She said that she does understand fully that it does change the grandfathered status, but she thinks that can be positioned as a positive in that they are enhancing the preventative benefits for the benefit of the individuals and use that as part of the communication. She said that in the long run, if more people get into the doctor getting those preventative exams, it can avoid significant costs down the road.

James Crowl made a motion to change from a dual option network to the Parkview Exclusive Elite Plan Network. Lynne Liechty seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

The Commissioners decided to add the Sheriff's Department decommissioned Dodge Charger to the Commissioners' Fleet and auction the Crown Vic.

Donald Stuckey, County Attorney, submitted a RFQ for the demolition of the Old County Home. The Commissioners requested that wording be added regarding salvage rights and that any and all salvage shall be the property of the demolition company and shall be removed from the property. James Crowl asked if that includes the existing garage. James Crowl said that there is an old police vehicle in that garage that hasn't been moved in years. Lynne Liechty agreed that the RFQ should include the garage as well.

The Commissioners also requested that a letter be sent to the owners of the home located next to Community Corrections on South Wayne Street regarding the purchase of the property. Erin Schiffli said that

Donald Stuckey reported that when he went and spoke to the owners, they were not interested in the price discussed. She said that the Commission Board can only offer the average of the two appraisals and she has not heard any other updates on the matter from Donald Stuckey.

Ronald Smith said that the offer can't be enhanced, it is what it is. James Crowl said that the offer is solid and the ball is in their court. Ronald Smith said that the Commission Board should send a letter stating that they have followed due process as far as acquiring the property, these are the figures and if it is of interest, please follow up with us, otherwise we will consider the fact that our process cannot allow us to go forward and make it work.

Ronald Smith said that Steuben County has done business with a lot of consultants and one of them that has been involved with us on a number of projects is that of American Structurepoint. Commissioner Smith said that Joe Fragomeni from American Structurepoint would come to the Commissioners' Meetings. The Commission Board received word last week that unfortunately Mr. Fragomeni was killed in an auto accident last Thursday. Ronald Smith said that they are waiting for information as to when his viewing is because he was considered a friend.

Bill Schmidt asked if the Commissioners were going to be attending the hearing on the Machindoh Aquifer. Ronald Smith said that the Commissioners have to present to the County Council at 1:00 p.m., so they are able to attend the meeting on the Aquifer as well.

Commissioner Smith said that he attended a meeting on the Machindoh Aquifer in Bryan, Ohio and he received a great deal of information. He said that as projected, we are still like Angola, and are not sitting on the Aquifer that is being affected as it is to the east. Ronald Smith said that Wawnee and Hillsdale Counties were in attendance as were representatives from DeKalb, Steuben, Williams and Fulton Counties. He said that there were other people there that had some expertise on the issue as well. He said that Commissioner Brian Davis wanted to see what everyone wanted to do and what everyone was thinking.

Ronald Smith said that the perspective in Steuben County is that it is not something that we want to ignore, by any means. Williams County went ahead and passed an ordinance and no one else has done so. Ronald Smith said the Company that wants to do this \$300 Million project would need access and right of way to move the product from the Machindoh Aquifer to Toledo. That would be an ominous task and they would have to use eminent domain or possibly railroad right of way to get it done. He said for us to act ahead of time and start taking action against this company, would be inappropriate. Ronald Smith said that even if they petition for this, it would take 18-24 months for it to happen, so it isn't something that is going to happen overnight.

The Commissioners received the following correspondence: NEIndiana re: Caucus Meeting Follow Up; Janel Meyer, Soil and Water Conservation District re: Board Meeting Minutes; NEIndiana re: Advance Materials – Mayors & Commissioners Caucus; Janel Meyer, Soil and Water Conservation District re: Newsletter; Stacey Meek re: NICC Advisory Board Meeting.

STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ronald L. Smith, President, South District

James A. Crowl, Vice President, Middle District

Lynne Liechty, North District

Attest: _____
Kim Meyers, Steuben County Auditor
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