

STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
May 19, 2014

The Steuben County Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 19, 2014 in the Commissioners Room of the Steuben Community Center. Present this day were Commissioners Ronald L. Smith, James A. Crowl and Loretta S. Smart. Also present were Kim Koomler, Steuben County Auditor, Donald J. Stuckey, County Attorney and Ruth Beer, County Councilwoman.

The Commissioners started the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of Ken Penick, Highway Superintendent.

Ronald Smith requested clarification on Sheriff's Department claims in the amount of \$10,925.00 and one in the amount of \$10,827.00, to verify that they were not duplicative claims. Auditor Kim Koomler verified that they were not duplicative. Ronald Smith also requested more information on a claim from All Appraisals Inc. Auditor Kim Koomler verified it was for the Assessor's Office for a professional contract. James Crowl made a motion to approve the claims submitted for payment this day totaling \$501,800.53. Loretta Smart seconded and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Loretta Smart moved to approve the meeting minutes as submitted for 5/5/14. James Crowl seconded the motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

The Commissioners discussed the job posting and description for the Highway Superintendent. James Crowl noted that there was no salary mentioned in the job description. It was determined that a salary range, starting with the prior superintendent's starting salary ending with what his ending salary was, shall be listed on the job description. James Crowl made the motion to add the salary range to the job description and to post the job posting. Loretta Smart seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Tami Mosier, Extension Educator, submitted a letter requesting to use one of the county's vehicles to transport 4-H youth to Purdue. They will be traveling by the county van to Noble County and take a bus to West Lafayette. Loretta Smart made the motion to allow Ms. Mosier to use a county vehicle to transport 4-H youth. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Ken Lowden has found a way to run Criminal History on all new hires. He has submitted a form to be added to the personnel policy manual. Commissioner Crowl asked if there was a cost for the services and where that cost would come from. Per the email from Ken Lowden, he can run the criminal histories on new hires that will have access to Probation, Courts, Sheriff's Department or Communications. Otherwise, John Gonya will be able to run the reports with this new form. James Crowl made a motion to approve the form to be added to the Personnel Policy Manual. Loretta Smart seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Jason Ireland, Steuben County Jail, submitted an Owner Agreement quote from Advanced Systems Group for testing and inspection of the fire alarm system for the jail in the amount of \$1,495.00. Commissioner Crowl suggested one company be contracted for all buildings for this service in the future. Loretta Smart makes the motion to approve the quote from Advanced Systems Group. James Crowl seconded the motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

The Commissioners were invited to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual DLZ Indy Golf Outing. The Commissioners respectfully declined the invitation.

Ronald Smith advised of the Public Notice that was posted for the Commissioners meeting with the Public Safety Committee, Monday, June 2, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Room. The meeting will be taking place before the Drainage Board Meeting that day. James Crowl stated that the Public Safety Committee Meeting should not take more than forty-five (45) minutes.

The Commissioners reviewed the Cum Cap and Commissioners' Budget, Building and Equipment Repairs commitments and information. Commissioner Crowl stated that he would like to see repairs for all three (3) parking

lots and a new parking lot added in the future. Gary Fair has checked into quotes for the repairs and the Highway Engineer is looking into options and working with the City of Angola for the new parking lot.

Ronald Smith requested that a letter be sent to Larry Harasim, the previous Veterans Service Officer, thanking him for his service to the county and the county's veterans.

James Crowl and County Attorney Donald Stuckey discussed the irrigation system run off issue that arises every year. Attorney Stuckey said there are Indiana Code Sections that gives the Sheriff authority. The Sheriff prefers that they deal with the issue as opposed to passing an ordinance. Ronald Smith said that he believes the Public Safety Committee should take the issue to the Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department can respond to the issue right away as opposed to having the County Attorney prepare a case and file it with the Court. Commissioner Smith asked if a notice should be posted to inform the public of this issue. Donald Stuckey said that the Sheriff's Department would probably warn people first before ticketing and/or filing charges.

County Attorney, Donald Stuckey, informed the Commissioners that he spoke to the attorney for iMAN regarding the contracts. The iMAN attorney did make adjustments to the contracts. Attorney Stuckey has a form they have agreed upon but hasn't seen the final contract yet. The Commissioners decided to wait until entire the revised contract is finished before moving forward.

Ronald Smith requested that a letter thanking Pastor Joel Greenwood and Glen Flint from Fairview Missionary Church for the excellent service they put on for Ken Penick.

Frank Charlton, Plan Commission Director, submitted Rezoning Ordinance Z-14-05 to the Commissioners for approval. KCM Rentals LLC has two lots out on SR 120 and the lots are currently zoned general business and manufactured home. The lots were purchased and they would like to turn the barn on the property into a horse stable and build a home. KCM Rentals LLC came in front of the Plan Commission on 5/7/14, there was a 6-0 vote approving the rezoning with one (1) absence. Loretta Smart made a motion to approve the first reading on Zoning Ordinance Z-14-05. James Crowl seconded and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

**Second and Third Readings  
Steuben County, Indiana  
Zoning Ordinance Z-14-05**

Thereupon, County Commissioner, James Crowl, moved that all rules of procedure of the County Commissioners which might prevent, unless suspended, that second and third readings of Steuben County Zoning Ordinance Z-14-05, regarding rezoning from General Business to Environmental Control and from Manufactured Home to Environmental Control, for final passage and adoption of said Ordinance at this meeting without reading the said Ordinance in full but reading the title only. This motion was seconded by Loretta Smart and was on the call of the roll adopted by the following vote:

Ayes  
3

Nays  
0

Under the suspension of the regular rules, County Commissioner, James Crowl, then moved that the Ordinance be read for the second and third readings by title only and thereby be ready for passage and final adoption in this meeting. This motion for the second and third readings for final passage and adoption of said Ordinance was seconded by Loretta Smart and on the call of the roll was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes  
3

Nays  
0

The County Auditor then read aloud the title of said Ordinance for the second and third readings. Thereupon, County Commissioner, Loretta Smart, moved for final passage and adoption of the Ordinance in full applicable regulations to establish such Ordinance. This motion for final passage and adoption was seconded by James Crowl and on the call of the roll adopted by the following vote:

Ayes  
3

Nays  
0

The President of the Steuben County Commissioners, Ronald L. Smith, declared publicly Zoning Ordinance No. Z-14-05, to have been duly passed and adopted. Thereupon, said Ordinance was signed by all members of the County Commissioners present and attested by the County Auditor. Zoning Ordinance Z-14-05 with original signatures is on file in the Auditor's office. Zoning Ordinance No. Z-14-05 reads as follows:

**ORDINANCE Z-14-05**

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 General Business & Manufactured Home shall hereinafter be zoned as Environmental Control:

Part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 26, Township 37 North, Range 12 East of the Second Principal Meridian, Jackson Township in Steuben County, Indiana, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a 1" Brass Plug marking the Southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02°23'14" West, (based on INDOT Project No. F-288-0 bearing of the South line of said Northeast Quarter and basis of bearings to follow); a distance of 550.00 feet (Deed) along the East line of said Northeast Quarter and within the right-of-way of County Road 600 West to a point on the North line of an existing tract described in Document Number 01-05-1073 in the Office of the Recorder of Steuben County, Indiana, said point being referenced by a Railroad Spike found 1.95 feet East; thence South 87°50'30" West, a distance of 232.50 feet along said North line and parallel with the South line of said Northeast Quarter to a point on a West line of said existing tract, said point, being referenced by a 3/4" pipe found 0.65 feet North and 0.43 feet West, said point also being the POINT OF BEGINNING of the herein described tract; thence South 02°23'14" East, a distance of 146.80 feet along said West line and parallel with the East line of said Northeast Quarter to a point on a North line of said existing tract described in Document Number 0105-1073, said point being referenced by a 3/4" pipe found 0.78 feet North and 0.81 feet West; thence South 87°50'30" West, a distance of 150.00 feet along said North line and parallel with the South line of said Northeast Quarter to a point on a West line of said existing tract described in Document Number 01-05-1073, said point being referenced by a 3/4" pipe found 2.00 feet North and 0.76 feet West; thence South 02°23'14" East, a distance of 334.50 feet along said West line and the West line of an existing tract described in Deed Record 215, page 282 in the Office of the Recorder of Steuben County, Indiana and parallel with the East line of said Northeast Quarter to a point of curvature of a non-tangent curve concave to the South and a radius of 2361.83 feet, said point also being on the North right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 20, and referenced by a 5/8" steel rebar found 0.13 feet South and 0.10 feet West; thence Southwesterly along said curve and said right-of-way line, a distance of 80.20 feet with a central angle of 01°56'44" and a chord of 80.20 feet bearing South 88°48'52" West to a point of tangency, said point being referenced by a right-of-way marker found 1.44 feet North; thence South 87°50'30" West, a distance of 810.40 feet along said North right-of-way line and parallel with the South line of said Northeast Quarter to a point, said point being referenced by a right-of-way marker found 0.76 feet North and 0.90 feet East; thence North 47°05'26" West, a distance of 49.45 feet to a 5/8" steel rebar set on the East right-of-way line of County Road 620 West; thence South 87°52'14" West, a distance of 20.00 feet to a 5/8" steel rebar set on the West line of the East Half of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02°07'46" West, a distance of 445.00 feet along said West line and within the right-of-way of said County road 620 West to a 5/8" steel rebar found on the South line of an existing tract described in Deed Record 193, page 505 in the Office of the Recorder of Steuben County, Indiana; thence North 87°50'30" East, a distance 1093.35 feet along said South line and parallel with the South line of said Northeast Quarter to the Point of

Beginning. Containing 10.883 acres more or less. Subject to the right-of-way of County road 620 West and subject to easements of Record.

Map #76-05-26-000-007/008.000-005

DATED: May 14, 2014

**First Reading: 5-19-14**

**Second Reading: 5-19-2014**

**Third Reading: 5-19-2014**

**STEBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Ronald L. Smith, South District**

**James A. Crowl, Middle District**

**Loretta S. Smart, North District**

**Attest: Kim Koomler, Steuben County Auditor**

Craig T. Benson came to the Commissioners regarding a proposed vacation of an alley way in Jones Addition to the Village of Spring Bank on Lake George. Mr. Benson's clients own the real estate to the east and the alley in question. Mr. Benson explained that the alley is a dead end piece of ground and does not go to the lake. The adjoining property owner has no objection to the vacation and will sign the petition. Mr. Benson stated that the Commissioners do have the authority pursuant to I.C. § 36-7-3-12(b) to consider a vacation without it first going to the Plan Commission. Mr. Benson also noted that there is a \$1,000.00 fee for this request to go before the Plan Commission. Mr. Benson understands if there was any controversy, the Commissioners would get input from the Plan Commission; however in this case there is no controversy. Mr. Benson does not believe his clients should have to spend \$1,000.00 since there is no controversy with this request.

James Crowl believes they are setting precedence since this normally goes in front of the Plan Commission and this is the reason why the Plan Commission was set up. County Attorney, Donald Stuckey, stated that the original intent of going to the Plan Commission was to get a recommendation to the Commissioners. Originally, it was designed for most of these easements that go to a lake because the vacation of those easements is normally contested. Bill Schmidt noted that on these vacations you never know who will contest the request. When the request goes to the Plan Commission, the public is notified and anyone has a right to attend the meeting and say something about it.

James Crowl noted that the Plan Commission goes and looks at the property before any decisions are made. He also stated that he has not seen the actual real estate, has only seen a document and doesn't feel he can make a decision until he actually goes and looks at the property in question.

Donald Stuckey stated that Mr. Benson is asking if he can file the petition to vacate, issue the notices and have a public hearing, he's not asking the Commissioners to vacate the alley today. Mr. Benson stated that if the Commissioners want to go and look at the property and make a decision on which process would be the proper way, his clients would not object to that.

Donald Stuckey stated that if Mr. Benson files the petition with the Commissioners and the Commissioners refer it to the Plan Commission for recommendation, there is no \$1,000.00 filing fee. Mr. Stuckey stated that if in the future, someone files a Petition with the Commissioners to try to avoid the filing fee, the Commissioners can deny the petition and it would then force the petitioner to file with the Plan Commission. No motion was made on the request to vacate the alleyway. Mr. Benson stated that he will proceed to file a petition with the Commissioners and the Commissioners can do what they wish.

Walter Elkins came before the Commissioners regarding plowing of an alleyway in Helmer, Indiana. He stated last winter the alley was never plowed. Mr. Elkins said that he spoke with the County Engineer and the Highway Superintendent was told that they were not going to plow the alley and that the county had dropped the alley from inventory. Mr. Elkins stated that the garbage trucks use the alley and he said that the County Engineer and the Highway Superintendent suggested that Mr. Elkins take care of the alley.

James Crowl asked Mr. Elkins if the sign on the alley was green or yellow. Mr. Elkins said the alley doesn't have a sign. James Crowl told Mr. Elkins that alleys with no signs are not public highways and the county trucks are not allowed to plow private driveways.

James Crowl asked Mr. Elkins if the county has been graveling and paving the alley and Mr. Elkins stated that they have been. Ronald Smith stated that more investigation into this issue needs to be done. James Crowl stated that if the County was doing something inappropriate and that's the County's mistake; however, because it's the County's mistake, that doesn't mean it will continue to be made. James Crowl told Mr. Elkins that if the alley is on the county's register, showing it is a designated road, the snow will be plowed.

Ronald Smith told Mr. Elkins that the Commissioners will check with the County Engineer, review reports and will communicate back to him.

Mike Hall, Community Corrections, advised the Commissioners that they do not have any estimates yet for the sewer repair.

Brett Hayes, Community Corrections, came to the Commissioners with a Larry's Lock and Safe Service Inc./Lakeland Electronics estimate in the amount of \$506.59, for the addition of a camera to the Work Release Facility.

For Larry's Lock and Safe to wire six (6) televisions, it would cost \$3,200.00.

Because it is an old building, network connections need to be updated and jacks installed where needed. Larry's Lock and Safe has submitted an estimate in the amount of \$1,029.00.

In order to get the Work Release Center technologically ready, Larry's Lock and Safe submitted an estimate in the amount of \$8,630.42. The total estimate from Larry's Lock and Safe comes to the amount of \$13,366.01.

Mr. Hayes also came to the Commissioners with a request to purchase televisions from Amazon because they are cheaper. For six (6) televisions from Amazon, it would cost a total of \$2,876.52. James Crowl asked Mr. Hayes if buying televisions from Amazon, would void any warranty with Larry's Lock and Safe. Mr. Hayes advised that it would not.

Mr. Hayes also stated that Community Corrections needs a computer to interface with the television monitor at the YIP House. In order for that to be done, a special video card is needed. Mr. Hayes requested permission to purchase the video card in the amount of \$59.99 and the six (6) televisions from Amazon with the Commissioners' credit card.

Mr. Hayes submitted a request for miscellaneous items needed in the amount of \$21.27.

Mr. Hayes also submitted a request for all the components needed to build two (2) computers in the amount of \$2,112.17. He stated one computer will run the camera software and the door key software, the other computer would go in the guard station.

Commissioner Smart asked what the total amount to be charged to the credit card was. Brett Hayes stated that the total amount would be \$5,048.69. James Crowl made the motion to allow Brett Hayes to accept the estimate from Larry's Lock and Safe in the amount of \$13,366.01 and to charge the amount of \$5,048.69 to the Commissioners' credit card. Loretta Smart seconded the motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Shelley Hansen, from Wells Fargo Insurance Service, addressed the Commissioners regarding the \$10,000.00 ceiling for medical equipment. Ms. Hansen stated that she had to explain to Mrs. Smith that any employer group that has twenty (20) full time employees or more, the employer group always pays primary to Medicare.

The County's insurance plan currently has a \$10,000.00 calendar year maximum for durable medical equipment. Ms. Hansen stated that Steuben County is the only employer group that she has that has a maximum on durable medical equipment. Ms. Hansen also stated that she has been on this account for thirteen (13) years and the \$10,000.00 maximum has always been there and it truly isn't a realistic number after thirteen (13) years.

Ms. Hansen said that the Commissioners could increase the maximum or they could eliminate the maximum. Loretta Smart asked if Ms. Hansen had a cost calculation. Ms. Hansen said she did a rough calculation for over a six (6) month period and it would be about \$40,000.00 in additional costs to eliminate the maximum. If the maximum was increased to \$20,000.00 the cost would be an additional \$10,000.00.

Loretta Smart asked Ms. Hansen when the policy renewed. Ms. Hansen stated that the policy renews in January. Ms. Hansen said by law, any modification requires a sixty (60) day advanced notice to the employees. If the change was made at renewal, there would not be a required (60) day notice. Loretta Smart made a motion to increase the maximum to \$20,000.00 and reconsider at the time of policy renewal. James Crowl seconded the motion. Ronald Smith recused himself from voting and the motion carried with two (2) ayes and one abstention.

Ms. Hansen reported that the Commissioners were having a good year with insurance. The loss ratio is at 59%. Two (2) employees are at 40% of the spec deductible but neither is ongoing.

Donald Stuckey, County Attorney, opened the one bid that was received for the County Park Internet Project from Loel.net. The Implementation Quote without optional deductions or additions \$66,530.00, with recommended deductions \$59,731.00, with recommended deductions and wireless feed \$66,081.00. The Internet service quote for all services with internet bandwidth distributed monthly, \$975.00, each additional, add \$35.00 and complete management of the system \$950.00. No decision was made on the bid today; however, the bid was given to Eric Ditmars for review.

Eric Ditmars reported that about twenty-eight (28) campers have started moving in. Half of the campers, basically the front row, have been asked to hold off until June 6 due to the Campground Project being behind. The electric is being put in right now and the sewer and water have been installed.

Several of those campers were upset and they came to Mr. Ditmars asking what was going to be done in the form of monetary remediation for the 21 days that they were asked to be absent during the normal season. Mr. Ditmars reported that they have extended the season for the back campers until the 19<sup>th</sup> of October. It figures out to be about \$13.73 a day for the people, with no weight toward the holiday weekend. At that cost it's about \$288.00 per camper and it affects around 50 campers for a total cost of around \$15,000.00.

Mr. Ditmars said he has had several complaints about the mud. Mr. Ditmars recommended to have the front row at a \$400.00 remediation for adjustment to be credited towards the following year and a \$100.00 remediation for the campers that are already there. He stated that would figure out to be about \$6,000.00 for a total of about \$26,000.00 adjustment for the following year due to being behind on the project.

Mr. Ditmars also reported that they gained six (6) or seven (7) campers, some have left, not because of the project, but there is always a turn over. Ronald Smith advised Mr. Ditmars to tell the campers that the Commissioners are taking his recommendation under advisement.

Mr. Ditmars also asked if the County Park will allow half season rates if they decide they aren't coming in due to not having grass, etc., and come in on July 7. The Commissioners agreed that they cannot allow half season rates. Mr. Ditmars stated that if they do not allow half season rates, some campers may be coming to the Commissioners if something is not done.

Mr. Ditmars also reported that the project is moving along and the contractors are working six (6) to seven (7) days a week.

David Knepper, with WeKon & Scott, LLC., came to the Commissioners regarding the old Dupage Property on Weatherhead Street and the taxes on that property. Mr. Knepper stated that in 2008 he hired an attorney

in Angola to address the tax issue and a letter was sent to the County. He claimed that he was not notified of the Commissioners decision in 2008.

In 2012, it was Mr. Knepper's understanding that there was a verbal agreement to accept the original letter; however, he was not available at that time.

Mr. Knepper would like to take care of the property's tax issue according to the letter from 2008.

Laurie Stoy, Treasurer, stated that her office has no authority to do anything on this issue. Ms. Stoy stated that there is \$22,000.00 worth of sewer liens on the property that have been turned over by the City of Angola. Mr. Knepper stated that there is no sewer service on the property and he doesn't understand that issue.

Ms. Stoy stated that right now with the additional penalties with missing the last tax deadline, for the two (2) parcels the total amount due is \$335,459.96. Mr. Knepper stated that he is only addressing the corner parcel. Ms. Stoy stated that the amount due, before penalties, is \$63,138.45.

County Attorney, Donald Stuckey stated that the original agreement in 2008 was not complied with or carried through. Mr. Knepper stated that he would like to comply with the agreement today and that he wants to pay \$5,000.00 for the corner parcel taxes even though the taxes due are \$63,138.45.

James Crowl stated that the letter Mr. Knepper is referring to was issued in 2008 and the \$5,000.00 was not paid at that time. Mr. Knepper stated he would be willing to pay the \$5,000.00 and if the last five (5) years have been taxed properly, he would pay those fees as well. Mr. Knepper feels that the property is not being taxed properly but he has not filed an appeal. He stated that he recently hired Attorney Helwig.

County Attorney, Donald Stuckey stated that he believes that Mr. Knepper is going to have to come back to the Commissioners with a proposal for the whole thing. Mr. Knepper stated that he has the corner parcel sold if the taxes can be taken care of. Donald Stuckey stated that Mr. Knepper needs to submit something in writing and then the Commissioners can evaluate it. Ronald Smith stated that the former proposal has been negated because Mr. Knepper did not follow through with the agreement. Donald Stuckey stated that he does not believe that the Commissioners are bound to an agreement from 2008 that was never accomplished. Mr. Knepper said that he will get a proposal in writing and give to the Commissioners to review.

John Callaway, with the Aviation Board, came to the Commissioners regarding the letter he sent to the Commissioners. Mr. Callaway reported that he went to the Aviation Board meeting on Tuesday night and he felt that things went south quickly. Mr. Callaway thinks that something needs to be done with the FBO. He stated he was out there all day on Sunday and he saw ten (10) planes and not one stopped at the fuel pump leading him to believe they are buying fuel elsewhere.

James Crowl asked if the letter that was given to the Commissioners was given to the Aviation Board. Mr. Callaway said he gave it to them at the end of the meeting and it was left on the table by the board.

Mr. Callaway also reported that the Aviation Board is wanting jet traffic at the airport, but currently a jet cannot land at the airport at night. It shows on the approach chart that it is not approved for night.

Mr. Callaway stated that if the Commissioners do not see it fit for him to have the opportunity at the airport as the FBO manager, something has to be done.

Loretta Smart feels that some considerations need to be made, James Crowl also agrees with that. James Crowl stated that it seems there is a problem of lack of friendliness at the airport and that needs to be addressed.

Ronald Smith stated that the Commissioners appoint board members and the Commissioners cannot change the FBO or the activities at the airport. Donald Stuckey, County Attorney, stated that the Commissioners can terminate the appointments to the board at anytime. Ronald Smith said that this issue will be addressed diplomatically and appropriately with the Aviation Board and thought a meeting with the Aviation Board should be scheduled.

Craig Benson, Attorney for the Aviation Board, addressed the Commissioners regarding the FBO contract. Ronald Smith stated that he was aware of the issues and that the five (5) year renewal has taken place and he said that the Aviation Board can continue addressing the Commissioners in written or oral form. There is a contract and it will be honored.

Mr. Callaway said that \$2,400.00 was spent last year to make sure the NDB approach was working and it is not approved for night approach. Mr. Callaway stated that the NDB is there for guidance to the airport and approach. If a pilot sees on the approach chart that it is not approved for night approach they will go to different airports. Walter Drewes stated that the NDB is a standby approach and the pilots are still able to use the GPS approach if needed. Mr. Callaway stated that GPS 2, 3 and 5 says not approved for night. Mr. Drewes said that they can use it because the NDB and GPS are two different types of approaches.

Loretta Smart stated that she believes that the Commissioners need to give merit to some concerns and a discussion needs to be had. The Commissioners do not want to continue rehashing this every month. Loretta Smart says that the Commissioners need to find out what things can be done to correct these issues and move on.

Ronald Smith stated that the Commissioners attended an advertised meeting around a year ago and he believes that should be done again and that the issue is not to deal with the negatives but to look towards the positives. A public meeting shall be scheduled with the Board of Aviation and the Commissioners.

Gary Fair, Community Center Maintenance, came to the Commissioners and stated that he attempted to put the fire exit only/not an entrance signs on the MSD tower stairs and Dr. Wilson instructed Mr. Fair that if the signs were posted, he was going to stop paying rent.

Ronald Smith stated that Dr. Wilson came to him and asked if the Commissioners would be interested in selling the building to the MSD of Steuben County. Dr. Wilson has to run it by his board, but they would like to take ownership. Ronald Smith said that it's something that would be taken into consideration due to all the repairs that it has needed. Ronald Smith also stated that issue will be dealt with further with Dr. Wilson and for now, that have to be granted entrance.

Gary Fair told the Commissioners that he doesn't feel that the MSD tower needs to be sold due to the upkeep. Mr. Fair stated that the building is used and the maintenance that is done is normal.

Ken Lowden, 911 Communications, came to the Commissioners about the iMAN contracts. Donald Stuckey stated that none of the blanks were filled in on the contracts and that the language was corrected but there were no costs and/or rates. Mr. Lowden said he would talk to Bill Geiger from iMAN about the language changes. Donald Stuckey stated if Mr. Lowden would do that he would recommend that the Commissioners sign the iMAN contracts. Ronald Smith said to get the contracts filled in and Mr. Lowden could bring them back.

Todd Zeiger, with Indiana Landmarks, addressed the Commissioners regarding the old County Home. Mr. Zeiger stated that one of their endangered listings this year is county homes. Mr. Zeiger said that their mission at Indiana Landmarks is saving historic, meaningful places if there is a new use for them. He also stated Indiana Landmarks is not about creating museums but creating economic development opportunities. Mr. Zeiger asked the Commissioners for some time or to creating a small, five to seven person, task force to find a new purpose for that building. Mr. Zeiger said that there has been a petition circulating locally with about 500 signatures, including the Governor's signature.

Ronald Smith stated maintaining old buildings is expensive and the old County Home has some issues that need to be addressed. James Crowl addressed Mr. Zeiger regarding the time frame he would request. Mr. Zeiger said that some of the applications are longer terms, it just depends on what type of path was taken. James Crowl stated that there is a leaking roof and it's only going to get worse. Mr. Zeiger said that he would be willing to help temporarily patch or fix the leak.

Loretta Smart stated that she feels that the Commissioners owe it to Steuben County to give this consideration and the time frame of six (6) to eight (8) months to see what can be done since it is a landmark.

Ronald Smith stated they are putting this on hold and are not going to put a time frame on this issue. He also thanked everyone for coming in and showing interest in the building and that the Historical Society shall be relied upon for making up the small task force.

Kristy Clawson, Emergency Management, came to the Commissioners for approval for the potential tornado siren placement for three (3) new sirens. Ms. Clawson stated that the total siren coverage after installation of the proposed new sirens will be 18,279 address points, which is a total of 73% of our population. Ms. Clawson stated that she worked with Chad Hoover to identify the vulnerable areas in the county by looking at outdoor recreational areas, the lakes, campgrounds, mobile home parks, etc. and they came up with the three new sites. Ms. Clawson also stated that she met with Tony from Integrity Communications and Bill Stackhouse from REMC and they did site inspections to see where it would be good to drop power for the sirens

Ms. Clawson stated that the first site is by Shelton's Fireworks on Old 27 and it would cover the Lake George area and that has 350 address points. The second location is by Lake Pleasant and that would include Manapogo Park along 760 N. and that has 509 address points. The third site is along 900 W. which would cover the West Otter Lake area and that covers 422 address points.

Ms. Clawson stated the sirens have a one mile radius but that depends on the weather conditions and the terrain, most of the time it goes further than one mile.

Loretta Smart moved to approve the siren locations. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

James Crowl addressed John Gonya and stated that a Public Safety Meeting is planned for June 2, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. but he wanted him to be aware that there are problems out there with the irrigation system runoff. Officer Gonya stated that he will address it with his officers.

Ronald Smith addressed Kristy Clawson and said that it has been agreed that it would not be in the best interest of 911 Communications to be placed in the County Park. As a result, the Commissioners have notified Herceg/Donahue that a change needs to be made and they are working on redoing the plans for the Community Building.

Jennifer Sharkey, County Engineer, requested approval for two Frontier utility permits, #2695 and #2696. James Crowl made the motion to approve the permits. Loretta Smart seconded the motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Ms. Sharkey stated that on the 200 W/200 N project, there is a quarterly report meeting scheduled with INDOT on Thursday, May 22, 2014. Ms. Sharkey stated she will be attending and Ken Herceg will attend via conference call. Ms. Sharkey stated they are waiting on the condemnation process and the letting is scheduled for January 2015.

Ms. Sharkey stated that the low bid on the Bike Trail was accepted on May 9, 2014. She plans on contacting INDOT to see what the next step is. Ms. Sharkey stated that a 20% match of the construction cost will be needed up front.

Ms. Sharkey stated that she was waiting on the draft report on the bridge inspection and that is expected in July, 2014.

Ms. Sharkey said that on the Maple Street Project, GAI is going to revise the budget to show what the cost is on State Route 120 and what the cost would be for the Maple Street Project. Ms. Sharkey stated these are just rough estimates because they have not done a full design of the road way, but this will help in getting financial assistance from other sources (i.e. IEDC, etc.) rather than just Steuben County.

Ms. Sharkey stated the application for CR 200 N was submitted and accepted by INDOT. The County should be notified in June if the project was selected for federal funds.

Ms. Sharkey addressed the Commissioners about the Tiger Grant for the Toll Road interchange on SR 327 north of Orland. She asked Dave Koenig to provide a background on the project due to the question on who should be the lead agency. Ms. Sharkey stated that if there is no discussion to be had or no questions, she will continue forward with the RFP to see what assistance could be received.

Ms. Sharkey also submitted the Highway Department's Annual Report to the Commissioners. Loretta Smart moved to approve the annual report. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Ms. Sharkey stated that she will be working on the summer projects list. She will be going through matching the list, made by Mr. Penick, to available funds.

Ms. Sharkey stated that signatories need to be transferred on the Steuben County Highway Department vending account that is with First Federal Savings Bank. Ms. Sharkey stated that she talked with the bank and in order to transfer the name, she need signed permission from the Commissioners. James Crowl made the motion to approve the changing of signatories on the Highway Vending Account held with First Federal Savings Bank. Loretta Smart seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Ms. Sharkey stated that birthing is being done on CR 200 W from 100 N to the city limits on that section that was paved a few years ago. In order to do that work, they will have to close down that segment of roadway for a day or two. Ms. Sharkey just wanted to let the Commissioners know ahead of time.

Ms. Sharkey also stated that the Highway Department would like to plant a tree in Ken Penick's memory. James Crowl stated there was a tree planted for Mr. Penick's son; however, it will be demolished by the work at the county park. James Crowl stated that he promised Mr. Penick that tree would be restructured. Ms. Sharkey stated that both trees could be planted at the same time and that they would like to have a plaque with the trees. She said she's not sure right now of the location, she felt that the County Park may have more visibility. Ms. Sharkey said she would coordinate with Eric Ditmars later this fall about planting those trees.

Ms. Sharkey stated that she thought it was previously approved to look for a new bucket truck due to safety concerns of the bucket truck they currently have and their mechanic has been looking into that. Ms. Sharkey stated that in the near future they will be looking for funding for two (2) dump trucks as well as a loader, but those are maybe a year or two away.

James Crowl asked about the new tractor and mower. Ms. Sharkey stated that she believed that has been ordered but was taking some time to get to the Highway Department. She stated that the Highway Department Mechanic is following up on that.

Loretta Smart thanked Ms. Sharkey for her leadership role in the wake of the unfortunate events surrounding the Highway Superintendent.

James Crowl asked if the Commissioners wanted to have another Tire Day. He stated that there will be a charge this time due to it being so overwhelming last time. Jen Sharkey stated that the Highway Department is on board with this as well. James Crowl said that he will bring this matter in front of the Plan Commission.

The Commissioners received the following correspondence: Vince Dunham re: Thank you for business; Jack Gerard, API re: Progress in Offshore Safety; Maumee River Basin Commission re: rescheduling of June meeting; EMC Insurance re: Notice of Claim; email from Debra Bucher re: condolences; Kronos email re: webinar; NIPSCO email re: ED impact from NIPSCO; email from Nitin Trimble re: condolences; Culinary Workers, Union, Local 226 re: concerns about Derek Stevens Las Vegas Investments; email re: Indiana State Fire Marshal to Provide Free Smoke Alarms to Volunteer Fire Depts; NACo Newsletter; NACo re: 2014-2015 Resolutions; email re: Indiana Building Safety; handwritten letter from PMB 101; email from Nicci Upp re: Annual Insurance Coverage Analysis; NACo re: Action Alert.

STEUBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Ronald L. Smith, President, South District

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James A. Crowl, Vice President, Middle District

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Loretta S. Smart, North District

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Koomler, Steuben County Auditor  
elw