

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

December 4, 2014

The Board of County Commissioners of Clark County, Indiana met in Regular Session on December 4, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 404, Clark County Government Building, Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners – Jack Coffman, John Perkins, and Rick Stephenson was absent, County Attorney Jacob Elder, Auditor R. Monty Snelling, Commissioners’ Secretary Allison Richey and Payroll Clerk Mischell Settles.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Dickey and prayer was led by Commissioner Coffman.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Commissioner Perkins motioned to approve the November 20, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0. Commissioner Stephenson was absent.

**Amendment to the Agenda**

Commissioner Perkins motioned to accept the agenda as presented. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0.

**Approval of Claims/Payroll**

Commissioner Perkins motioned to approve the claims and the payroll for November 28<sup>th</sup>, with the exception of one that Auditor Snelling brought to the Board's attention. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0.

**Public Comments Relating to the Agenda:**

**Bill Crace** wanted to issue a caution regarding the drainage issue. He stated that the fee, that is now pending, may start out small, but would grow and become

something bigger after some time. EPA would get involved and they would need more funds for their monitoring fees.

**Councilperson Kelly Khuri** had some questions about the drainage issue also. She wanted to know if the template was modeled from Monroe County. Attorney Elder stated that the drainage fee has already been approved, but the Commissioners need to approve the fee applied to the Property Taxes. Councilperson Khuri was not questioning the fee, but what exactly was in the Ordinance.

**Loren Christman** from Charlestown, Indiana was questioning the drainage fee. Commissioner Perkins stated that there is a drainage fee already established for property that has joined parcels they would consider as one parcel.

**Dana Coots** from Charlestown, Indiana stated that he has 3 farm locations and 8 parcels. He asked again if Commissioner Perkins said that joining farm parcels would be considered one. Commissioner Perkins confirmed that is what he said. Mr Coots also stated that he had a small adjoining right of way and Commissioner Perkins stated that those have been taken into consideration and forms will be filled out to address these issues.

**Gina Deveay** wanted to know about the tax and how is it going to benefit. Commissioner Perkins explained that it isn't a tax, but a fee and it is coming from the EPA. This issue would be further explained by Brian Dixon, the County Engineer.

**Bill Atkins** stated that he believed that some property on Coopers Lane, consisting of 6 acres, was asking for a \$600 fee for that property. Commissioner Perkins stated that would not be a drainage fee, because we haven't implemented it yet. Mr. Atkins asked if there was a tax now and Commissioner Coffman stated that there is no tax in that area, only in the Muddy Fork area.

**Brian Dixon** explained the drainage fee. It is for water quality not quantity. There is a EPA unfunded mandate for cleaning the county's water run off into the streams. This mandate has come from the EPA to the state and if the County doesn't act, there will be fines imposed. Attorney Elder stated that the questions are good questions, but the Drainage Board has already approved the fee, not the Commissioners.

**Commissioner Coffman** advised that if there are more questions, to either attend the drainage board meeting or email the Commissioners.

## **I. Administrative Agenda**

**A. Steve Mason** presented the State Jail Inspector's Report from the IDOC. He addressed certain issues brought to their attention on this report. They were graded on 279 aspects and two were recommended to be corrected. One was to take the papers down that were tapped on the window and two was to add a thermometer in the food vending machines.

**B. Commissioner Coffman** presented the Commissioner meeting dates for the 2015 year. It was decided that at the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting they will authorize the Auditor to pay the claims and payroll that would have been approved on the meeting date of January 1, 2015. Commissioner Perkins motioned to eliminate the December 31 meeting and to cancel the January 1, 2015 meeting and to authorize the Auditor at the next meeting to pay the claims and payroll. This would change the date of the first meeting in 2015 to January 5, 2015. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0.

### **C. Matters tabled from prior meeting: None**

**D. Commissioner Perkins** motioned to table the Ordinance for the Drainage Fee for the next meeting. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0

**E. Sheriff Brian Meyer** appeared before the Commissioner to ask for a full audit of the Sheriff's Department. He feels that the department would benefit from this as well as the new incoming Sheriff. Commissioner Perkins motioned to authorize Jill Oca to do the audit and approve the payment of the audit to come out of Commissioner's contract services. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0.

**F. Auditor Snelling** suggested that the drainage fees be lined out for the parcels before the bills go out. Auditor Snelling would like to contact Low Associates to work with that issue.

**G. Attorney Elder** presented the contract for a lease agreement with Board Of Commissioners and River Ridge to store salt and some equipment.

The contract is for \$1.00. Commissioner Perkins motioned to approve the contract. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0

**H. Officeholder/Department Heads Present at Meeting:** Councilperson Khuri and Sheriff Meyer. Councilperson Khuri asked what building is the salt being stored. Commissioner Coffman said it is the same one as the tornado supplies had been stored. Also, she wanted to know about the audit. She asked if she heard that the audit is 90% completed and Commissioner Coffman said that most of the equipment has been done. Councilperson Khuri wanted to know what was investigated besides assets and Commissioner Coffman said all of their funds.

**I. Ratifications and Approvals: None**

**J. Appointments: None**

## **II. Technical Agenda**

**A. Matters Tabled from prior meeting: None**

**Brian Dixon** presented an INDOT project for the bridge over Silver Creek at State Road 403. The amount to pay for the additional construction of the project would be \$125,000.00 paid out of the Relinquish fund. This project is scheduled around late 2015. Commissioner Perkins motioned to approve the INDOT project along with a confirmation letter to INDOT with approval of the President to sign the letter. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0

Next, **Brian Dixon** presented the plans for the Wieseka Hill Bridge project with a request to divide it and pull the paving section out to give the County the opportunity to do ourselves. Commissioner Perkins motioned to allow the Wieseka Hill Bridge project out for bid. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0

Next, **Brian Dixon** presented a contract regarding the New Washington safe crossing schools program to be sent to INDOT for approval. After they approve it, the Commissioners can approve the document and we can proceed with the project. Commissioner Perkins motioned to approve the letter to be sent to INDOT to approve a contract for the Safe Crossing Schools program. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0.

Commissioner Perkins commented on the success of the process of the acquiring the funds and the enthusiasm of the residents of the New Washington project. They received \$880,000.00 for the safe school projects.

### **III. Public Comments:**


Bill Crace confirmed that they have a contractor for the New Washington project. Commissioner Coffman said that the bids have already been taken commenting on what a great project we can have for the amount of funds we received.

Someone in the audience asked about the drainage issue; what caused the dirty water? Construction issues, pesticides, normal pollution from storage of people's property or accidents such as paint. Studies have been done on the Ohio River and they have shown it is getting cleaner because of the programs being put in place.

Commissioner Perkins motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Coffman seconded. Motion approved 2-0.

To the extent the Board held an executive session of any type under (IC-5-14-1.5-6) or otherwise, the Board thereby certified that no subject matter was discussed therein, except that posted in the notice for sessions or meeting (IC-5-14-1.5-6).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA

  
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JACK COFFMAN, PRESIDENT

  
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*WAS Absent*

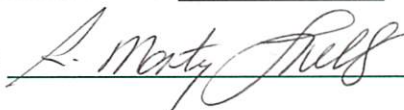
RICK STEPHENSON,

VICE-PRESIDENT

  
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JOHN PERKINS, MEMBER

SIGNED THIS DAY 12-18-14

ATTEST:   
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R. MONTY SNELLING, CLARK COUNTY AUDITOR