

Vermillion County Commissioners

Meeting Agenda

November 29, 2016

8:15 a.m.

Commissioners Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. Call to order. The Vermillion County Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 8:15 a.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2016.
- II. Roll call. Members present were President Tim Wilson, Vice-President Harry Crossley, Tim Yocum, Auditor Phyllis Orman, Chief Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert, and Attorney Jon Spurr.
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting. Crossley made a motion to accept the minutes from the joint meeting on November 14, 2016 and the commissioners meeting on November 15, 2016, seconded by Yocum. Motion carried.
- IV. Approval of claims and payroll. Crossley made a motion to accept the claims and payroll for release on December 2, 2016, seconded by Yocum. Motion carried.
- V. Open issues
 - a) Property for Walking Trail. Yocum said he is still waiting on Hannum, Wagle and Cline to finish their part. He said they need to order prints from the rail road to complete the legal description. He said it will probably be another month before this part is completed. He said once done, Hannum, Wagle, and Cline will provide an overall map of the entire project. He said they will then set up a meeting to discuss further plans. Tom Milligan said at some point someone needs to take ownership of this project and take responsibility to make this happen. He said there is a lot of potential and it is off to a great start, it just needs a core group to take ownership. Yocum asked him to report on the trail progress and the Rise property. Milligan said the old roads and rail roads throughout the property are suitable for trail development. He said there is a lot of activity going on right now in regards to the trails. He said these things take time and are challenging.
 - b) Jail Water Pressure. Yocum said Hannum, Wagle and Cline are working on finishing the preliminary design plans and then they will bid it out.
 - c) Jail Geothermal and Energy Savings. Sheriff Mike Phelps said the final interviews are set up for next week and then the committee will make its final selection.
 - d) Eugene Covered Bridge Abutment. Nothing new to report.
 - e) Grant Writer. Wilson asked where we were on obtaining a grant writer. Tolbert reported that the commissioners were going to talk to West Central and the Council was going to seek advice from Dylan Riggen with Economic Development. The commissioners asked Riggen to attend a future meeting to discuss the issue further.
 - f) Technology Coordinator. Phelps said he is working on the job description and ad. He also stated that he will stay until February or March as the IT Tech for the county to help do the upgrades on the server.
 - g) Health Insurance. Nothing new to report.
 - h) Political Signs on County Property. Crossley suggested passing an ordinance that states there are to be no political signs on the courthouse property. Yocum said he

would prefer the ordinance to read “all county property.” Clerk Pruitt advised they check with the state on the laws regarding political signs. Phelps said they should investigate it and then go from there. Crossley said he would like to make a motion for an ordinance that states there are to be no political signs on the Courthouse property. Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Spurr will prepare the ordinance. The other county properties will be discussed later.

- i) Vermillion Rise. Dan Zwerner of Garmong gave a brief update on the spec building at Vermillion Rise. He said they are within days of wrapping up. They are 98% done. He said the marketing brochures are done and have been sent to over 500 site selectors. He said it is being marketed aggressively. He said state officials toured the site three weeks ago, and several more are scheduled to tour in the future. He said to be proud, it is doing what it needs to be doing. Milligan said they will be working on the landscaping to add curb appeal. Zwerner reported they are three months ahead of schedule.

VI. New business

- a) Lease Agreement for County Owned Property (behind jail). Spurr prepared a lease agreement between the county and Keith Hollingsworth. The lease states that for 2017 the commissioners wish to continue their lease with Hollingsworth with the stipulation that there is to be no hunting, target practice, or recreational shooting of any kind on that property. It also stated that if anyone had any interest in the property they must submit written offer before the end of October of that year and that Hollingsworth shall have the opportunity to continue his lease by paying 1% more than the highest offer made. Crossley made a motion to approved, seconded by Yocum. Motion carried. Spurr to complete the legal description and then the lease agreement will be mailed to Hollingsworth.
- b) Building Commissioner Job Description. The job description for the building commissioner states that the incumbent will not be required to work overtime and that any necessary overtime should be discussed and approved with the President of the Board of Commissioners in advance. There was some discussion on the Area Plan Commission’s role in the awarding of comp/overtime. Spurr suggested inviting that board to the next meeting for further discussion. Building Commissioner and APC Secretary, Penney Barton, said the commissioners could add a line item to her building commissioner budget for a secretary like what the Park Board pays. She said she doesn’t get much comp time, only from attending meetings. The commissioners tabled the matter until further discussion with the APC board.
- c) Commissioners Sale (SRI). Treasurer Wendy Farley said several taxpayers are interested in purchasing property that did not sell in the last tax sale and asked if the commissioners would be interested in holding a certificate sale. She said there are 104 eligible properties. She said they sold 30 at the last certificate sale. Yocum said he was in favor and suggested they promote it more by placing signs the yards of those properties for sale. Deputy Treasurer Stephanie Hillyer said they would need to consider the legality of that and said she would contact SRI if needed. Farley said it is advertised 3 times in the Daily Clintonian. Assessor Paige Kilgore said the Commercial news does a weekly insert for this area so that would be another option. Farley said the tentative date for the sale would be March 2, 2017 and if they wished to proceed they would need to set a minimum bid. Crossley made a motion to proceed with a minimum bid of \$150, seconded by Wilson. Motion carried.

d) Jail project consultant. Dan Zwerner of Garmong said 90% of his time is spent in the corrections world and that most counties are under pressure due to overcrowding of jails. He said he works with many counties such as Posey, Vigo, Delaware, and Jackson, as their consultant/corrections manager. He said the commissioners are responsible for providing the jail while the Sheriff is responsible for running it. He said his company can provide this service and serve in the leadership role which would include help with budgeting. Phelps said several companies will be approaching the commissioners in the next few weeks and would like to listen to them all before deciding. He said the jail project is going to be a long project and that they do need leadership. He said he has nothing against Garmong but would like to see what the other companies have to offer before making a decision. Zwerner said they took the RQAW specs from 7.5% down to 5%. Phelps said he would also like to tour the Posey County facility in the future. Wilson asked if they could use the spec building for the jail and Phelps said it is a 2 story building so it would double the staff.

VII. Adjournment.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the 13th day of December, 2016.

Tim Wilson

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor