

MONDAY

April 26, 2004

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The Board of DeKalb County Commissioners met in the Commissioners Court in the Court House in regular session, Monday at 8:30A.M. (EST)

**PRESENT**William C. OrtConnie R. Miles**ABSENT**Don Kaufman**MATTER OF COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN**

Members of the steering committee Brad Stump and Sharon Kline reported on progress with the new master plan. Brad Johnson of Ground Rules has presented contracts for the remainder of the work to be done to complete the project. The final costs for Mr. Johnson's services are \$18,000 for the remaining work for city and town jurisdictions and \$45,000 to update the ordinances. The first portion of the project is very close to being on schedule and completion to be submitted to the plan commission for approval. The remainder of the work will require additional appropriations from the council to pay for Mr. Johnson's services.

**MATTER OF LETTER OF APPROVAL – PRAISE, INC.**

Marsha Bursey of (PRAISE) Property Renewal And Integrated Scientific Evaluation, not-for-profit organization assists families in obtaining grants for down payments on homes. These persons would not likely be able to secure a conventional mortgage, but with the help of a federal grant through the USDA and a mortgage through the VA, FHA or USDA, families can obtain help to secure a down payment. The down payment of \$3,500 to \$7,000 is not paid back if the home is maintained for five years, or \$20,000 down payment if the home is maintained for 10 years. PRAISE councils and oversees the families with help to manage mortgage payments and keep the home maintained. Families eligible for this aid may not have owned a home within the prior three years. A motion by Connie Miles for the commissioners to sign a letter of authorization for PRAISE to assist persons in DeKalb County was seconded by William Ort and carried.

**MATTER OF REPORT – EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Agent Brian Miller presented a brief update on the year to date claims processed by Benicomp. Brian has attended seminars concerning insurance programs with a wellness plan and believes that there are numerous benefits tied to the product. Brian would like to bring back the review committee to discuss the wellness program as well as set up a testing program to provide information for employees concerning the various areas to be considered. This will include body mass index and weight control, control of blood pressure, cholesterol screening, and cessation of smoking. The county health department will sponsor a wellness day during the first week of June. It would be beneficial if this could be done in connection with and as an introduction to the new insurance wellness requirements, some of which may be implemented as early as 2005.

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## **MATTER OF SUNNY MEADOWS**

Herdsmen Howard Richardson gave the livestock report. The herd at Sunny Meadows consists of 50 milking cows, 13 dry cows, 10 bred heifers, 14 heifers (5 to 15 months), 10 heifers (1 to 5 months), 2 newborns, 25 steers and 3 herd bulls. There was one cow and 6 calves sold, and 8 calves died. The milk price is \$13.94 per hundred pounds.

Administrator Janel Snow would like to obtain Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification for 8 staff members. The commissioners agreed that the CPR class offered at the sheriff's department would be covered by contractual services within the Sunny Meadows budget.

Janel also requested admission to Sunny Meadows for a homeless person. The person is not disabled and will probably not qualify for ARCH, but Janel will attempt to obtain this assistance. The person was referred by the caseworker from the shelter, and would be able to perform work in exchange for room and board. A local physician would provide services and medication for hypertension for this person without charge. A motion by Connie Miles to accept Shirley S. Cline as a resident at Sunny Meadows was seconded by William Ort and carried.

## **MATTER OF SPECIAL CLAIMS**

A motion by Connie Miles to approve special claims was seconded by William Ort and carried.

## **MATTER OF HIGHWAY CONTRACT**

Eli Samaan of GAI Consultants explained that he had hoped there was no misunderstanding involving the proposal for County Road 11A and the widening of the bridge over Interstate Highway 69. Eli would like to submit a grant application for funding for this project, and explained the advantages of obtaining a federal grant early in preparation. The commissioners will consider the proposal when Commissioner Kaufman returns at the next meeting.

Superintendent Patton announced that he believed he has convinced the railroad to provide the \$125,000 necessary to repair County Road 71 when the railroad bridge is removed.

## **MATTER OF MINUTES**

A motion by Connie Miles to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2004 was seconded by William Ort and carried.

## **MATTER OF BUSINESS LOCATION**

Tyler Graves Project Manager of the Office of Domestic and International Recruitment of the Indiana Department of Commerce informed the commissioners that a business planning to make corporate investments of \$100,000,000 and employ about 62 persons would like to locate in the industrial corridor in Wilmington Township. Mr. Graves could not divulge the name of the company, but delivered packets to each of the commissioners containing details of the various grant opportunities, which might be offered to such companies. Among these are (SEF) Skill Enhancement Funding and (IDGF) Industrial Development Grant Funds for assistance with infrastructure. The commissioners indicated their interest in this development, and Mr. Graves will continue to pursue the company and its interest to locate in DeKalb County.

**MATTER OF PAYROLL**

A motion by Connie Miles to approve the payroll claims for the period ending April 22 was seconded by William Ort and carried.

**MATTER OF RESPONSE -- KEEPSRIGHTS**

The treasurer received correspondence from two individual owners of real estate in DeKalb County stating that they believe the payment of county real estate tax is an infringement upon their rights. In response Attorney Kruse drafted a letter to be signed by the commissioners. The letter indicates the responsibility of the taxes based on the property and that there are statutory penalties and consequences of tax sale if taxes are unpaid. A motion by Connie Miles to sign the letters of response to L.S. Michael Moor: Keepsrights and L.S. James A. Simper: Keepsrights was seconded by William Ort and carried.

**MATTER OF ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

Zoning Administrator Sally Rowe apologized for her absence at the morning meeting with the steering committee for the new county master plan. Sally's suffers from complications of Fibromyalgia and was unable to get to the meeting in a timely manner.

**MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business to come before the commissioners the meeting was adjourned.



William C. Ort

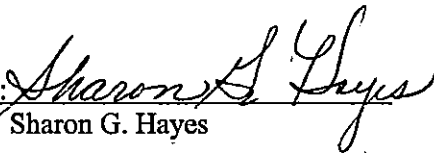


Connie R. Miles



Don Kaufman

ATTEST:



Sharon G. Hayes