

MONDAY

June 7, 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. Ort

Don Kaufman

ABSENT

Connie R. Miles

MATTER OF COMMUNICATIONS TOWER

Steve Woody of ERS Telecom Properties stated that his company would be interested in building a communications tower in DeKalb County. The tower could accommodate an antenna for County E911 services. Mr. Woody is acquainted with Mr. Phillips who would also like to construct a tower. The question of location for the tower on county property has posed a concern. The state has made preparations for locating towers for state police communications in the counties, but there is a question of whether there are only particular companies authorized for this service.

Larry Wheeler is a consultant for the DeKalb County Hoosier safety project, and will investigate the sites proposed for tower construction and advise the commissioners on the most advantageous location. This will give the commissioners a better understanding of choices to be made if county property is recommended.

MATTER OF SPECIAL CLAIMS

A motion by Don Kaufman to approve special claims and the percentage of Dan Fry's cellular phone bill was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF GENERAL CLAIMS

A motion by Don Kaufman to approve general claims was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

A motion by Don Kaufman to approve, and for the President Ort to sign an LPA claim vouchers for \$542.45 for construction engineering services for Bridge 73 on County Road 68 and for \$1,775.42 for the Spencerville Covered Bridge was seconded by William Ort and carried.

Other highway business included a request by R & D Concrete to chip and seal County Road 64 between County Roads 35 and 39.

MATTER OF REZONING

A motion by Don Kaufman to continue a rezoning hearing to June 21, 2004 at 9:30 for Charles H. and Debra J. Hurraw was seconded by William Ort and carried.

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MATTER OF PAYROLL

The commissioners signed the payroll docket for checks issued May 31st and May 17th.

MATTER OF COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

On June 3, 2004 the plan commission approved the first portion of the new county master plan. At this time the commissioners heard a listing of changes made to the plan and discussed the possibility of adding weight limits to the county roads. As this meeting was advertised as a public hearing for the plan comments from the public were accepted.

Mike Walters of Auburn reinforced portion 7.1.5 of the plan for a feasibility study for rural waste collection. Mr. Walters feels that this is an important issue for the future.

A motion by Don Kaufman to continue the hearing to June 21st at 9:45 due to the absence of Commissioner Miles was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF DEKALB EASTERN SCHOOLS

Dr. Jeffrey Stevens spoke to the commissioners on behalf of the DeKalb Eastern School Board in concern for the commissioners' intention to refinance the TIF bonds for the Wilmington Township industrial corridor. At the same time the CEDIT funding pledged to the TIF area would be returned to county use for much needed capital projects including road repairs.

Members of the board include Fred Surface, Rick Fuller, Lee Impton, Donna Garman and Edwin Washler who believe refinancing the bonds will lengthen the time the school will wait for greater tax benefits from assessed values being added to the tax base for the school system. Refinancing would still allow the bonds to be paid well in advance of the original prediction. However, the redevelopment commission could decide not to remove the TIF designation and continue to collect the revenues for infrastructure improvements, although the CEDIT monies would be released from the current resolution when the bonds are paid. The school board also does not want the county to withdraw the CEDIT contributions from the district. It was stated by Dr. Stevens that this would cause a raise in the tax rates for the school district. The commissioners attempted to explain that in either case the school would see no changes in revenue, and that the remaining portions of the county have indeed aided in financing the Wilmington TIF project which has brought much need growth and revenue to the county and the school district. However, the commissioners feel that the TIF bonds can now stand alone without the CEDIT and other portions of the county deserve to benefit from this revenue. The lower interest rate gained by refinancing should save between one and slightly over two million dollars.

MATTER OF AIRPORT TELEPHONES

Airport Manager Wade Troth explained that there are currently two phone lines at the airport. One of those lines is for a pay phone, which is now costing the county about \$50 per month. A phone is necessary in the event that parties in need of help land at the airport during hours at night when there is no staff available. Wade proposes to remove the pay phone, which is used very little and replace it with a regular phone with restricted use. It is possible for the telephone company to allow only local calls. This service would make the phone available for local emergency calls, but block long distance calls. The AWS Automated Weather Service System must also use a phone line. A motion by Don Kaufman to approve the proposal to

replace the pay phone with a regular phone, use the second line for the AWS and install two new lines for regular airport business was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF AVIATION PASSBOOK ACCOUNT

A small passbook savings account was established for the aviation fund at some time in the past. Aviation board members do not know why the account was opened, but the existence of the small account of slightly over \$2,000 continues to cause a problem for the yearly audit by the State Board of Accounts. The small amount of monthly interest is barely worth the time or cost involved in keeping track of the passbook amount. A motion by Don Kaufman to close out the passbook savings account and return the money to the aviation fund un-appropriated monies was seconded by William Ort and carried. The auditor will inform the treasurer of this decision.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

A motion by Don Kaufman to approve the payroll claims for the period ending June 17th was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF MINUTES

A motion by Don Kaufman to approve the Minutes of May 17th and May 24th was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF SPILLMAN DATA COLLECTION

A motion by Don Kaufman to approve a contract with the Town of Waterloo to share data collected and housed on the county Spillman System software and for the commissioners to sign the agreement was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

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

William C. Ort
William C. Ort

Connie R. Miles
Connie R. Miles

Don Kaufman
Don Kaufman

ATTEST:

Sharon G. Hayes
Sharon G. Hayes