

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

PRESENTWilliam C. OrtDon Kaufman**ABSENT**Connie R. Miles**MATTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS - RESIGNATION**

Information Systems manager Pat Rothenhofer announced that Technician Jim Wysong has resigned effective March 6th. The process to find a replacement for the position will begin immediately as well as some restructuring in the IS office.

MATTER OF AMBULANCE REPLACEMENT

EMS Director Randy Fox spoke with the commissioners concerning a change in the transactions for the ambulance remount. The bid was given to Goggin and Associates. The company was forced to stop business in December due to difficulties caused indirectly by the September 11th terrorist attack in New York City. Much of their business was coming from that area. McCoy Miller is the company that actually builds the ambulance to be placed on a Ford Chassis. McCoy Miller has agreed to fulfill the Goggin contract and the commissioners had previously agreed that this was acceptable. McCoy Miller is now requesting that the chassis be paid for prior to the mounting of the ambulance. This would mean that the check from the bank would be written to two different vendors.

A motion by William Ort to approve the purchase of the chassis for the ambulance independent of the remount portion of the truck for \$28,000 on the condition that the title is received at the time of the payment, the county insurance agent approves the purchase with insurance coverage, the Auburn Banking Center agrees to purchase in 2 separate payments and that the EMS Director inquire to the financial soundness of McCoy Miller was seconded by Don Kaufman and carried.

MATTER OF MEDIATION SETTLEMENT-YVONNE STUCKEY

A motion by William Ort to accept the mediation statement settlement for Yvonne Stuckey was seconded by Don Kaufman and carried.

MATTER OF MASTER PLAN

Zoning Commissioner Sally Rowe and GIS Coordinator Brad Stump presented a listing of items resulting from the meetings for the new master plan. The four main issues addressed by all of the groups are sprawl, county road improvement, airport protection, and the need for a county park system.

MATTER OF SPECIAL CLAIMS

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

MATTER OF USDA GRANT – AMERICAN HERITAGE VILLAGE – COUNTY RD. 11A

It should be noted that Attorney Derald Kruse was not in attendance during this discussion.

Attorney John Martin Smith was present along with Dan Avery and Loren Cravig of Northeast Indiana Regional Coordinating Council to discuss the possibilities for obtaining a USDA Grant for the improvements to County Road 11A at the entrance to the American Heritage Village. NIRCC has been actively looking at all aspects of this project. It appears that a request for slightly under \$100,000 would be more likely to be approved than a larger amount. This is a 6-month process from the time of application to the receipt of funds, and NIRCC could write the grant application for about \$2,000 to be paid within the counties quarterly billing. Cost sheets were presented and will also be presented to Attorney James McCanna of the DeKalb County Redevelopment Commission.

If the grant could be obtained for the engineering fees, it would then leave about \$225,000 for the county to finance the remainder of the project.

There is also a possibility for a USDA loan opposed to bonding for infrastructure projects.

MATTER OF COURTHOUSE HISTORY BOOKS

Attorney and County Historian John Martin Smith presented quotes for three different methods and materials for printing the new courthouse history books. The color photography and glossy paper version seemed to be the preferred printing method over the two less expensive samples. John will work on better pricing.

MATTER OF SUNNY MEADOWS

Sunny Meadows Superintendent and Administrator Richard and Janel Snow met with the commissioners to discuss financial matters concerning the home. Also present were herdsman Howard Richardson and farmer David Kimmel. Howard gave the livestock report and spoke about his plans for solving the problems with the Somatic Cell Count.

Janel has made cuts in her staff to try to cut costs. One housekeeper has been laid off, and there will be no overtime for working on holiday. There are 18 residents at the home and the CPA hired to determine cost has stated that for 2001 \$33.50 per day was necessary for the care of one resident. No report has been given for 2002, but the ARCH payments will not cover the 2001 amount. Janel will try to determine other methods necessary to further cut costs.

MATTER OF UTILITY PERMITS

A motion by William Ort to approve a utility permit for Verizon on the west side of County Road 327 north of the county line at the Little Cedar Garden Center to bury along 75 feet then bore under to 7099 County Road 327 for a service hook up was seconded by Don Kaufman and carried.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

A motion by William Ort to approve and for President Kaufman to sign the LPA claim for Bridge Inspection Phase 1 for \$6,916.80 was seconded by Don Kaufman and carried.

A motion by William Ort to approve and sign the State-Local Public Agency Construction Agreement for Construction and Project Management for Federal Aid Projects between INDOT and DeKalb County for Bridge 3-Spencerville Covered Bridge was seconded by Don Kaufman and carried.

Supervisor Patton announced that the Bridge 3 Project will be re-bid as both bids received are more than 5% higher than the engineer's predicted cost. The estimate was not updated as it should have been in 2000.

At the February 10th meeting Mike Kline had represented the Inlows requesting the county to vacate an area across from DeKalb High School on County Road 427. The commissioners have had time to weigh the pros and cons of the situation. President Kaufman stated that he does not wish to vacate the area and commissioner Ort agreed that the county may have use for the property in the future. Mr. Inlow must place his fence in the original location. Mr. Inlow asked to have the county area cleared of brush. Superintendent Patton stated that the highway department had cleared the area possibly last fall. However this will be investigated.

MATTER OF MINUTES

A motion by William Ort to approve the minutes of January 27th and February 3rd was seconded by Don Kaufman and carried.

MATTER OF AGREEMENT

A motion by William Ort to approve and authorize President Kaufman to sign the 1-year agreement with DMG-Maximus for 2003 not to exceed \$7,250 for services to recover state and federal monies was seconded by Don Kaufman 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