

**REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**JANUARY 4, 2010**

The regular monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (EST) on January 4, 2010. Present were Commissioners Randall L. Fleck, John G. Burger and Lawrence M. Vollmer. Also present were County Auditor Janet L. Sendelweck, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, Highway Supervisor Steven L. Berg, Highway Engineer Jason T. Heile, and County Attorney Arthur C. Nordhoff, Jr. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was opened for business by President Fleck. Minutes of the December 2009 meetings of the Commissioners were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of December were as follows: Recorder \$16,185.77; Health Department \$33,026.61, Auditor \$284.00; Clerk \$33,966.23. Claims against the County were examined and those found to be just, due and owing were allowed and those found to be not due and owing were disallowed, all as more fully set forth in the Claims and Allowance Docket of the County.

**RE: 2010 APPOINTMENTS**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners ratified all appointments made by the Commissioners during December of 2009 for 2010 or as otherwise designated, and added the names of Karin M. Gray, MD as member of the Jasper Library Board and Randall Fleck as member of Emergency Management Advisory Council.

**RE: REORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

On nomination duly made and seconded, the following officers of the Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2010 were duly elected:

President	Randall L. Fleck
Vice President	Lawrence M. Vollmer

**RE: COURTHOUSE ELEVATORS**

The County Auditor advised the Commissioners that mechanical safety edges had been installed on the public elevator in the Courthouse, but that for safety requirements the Court elevator should also be updated. The cost of installation would be \$1695, with a Triac replacement cost of \$100. Based upon the discussion involving safety, on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized installation of the safety edges.

**RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – SUPERVISOR REPORT**

The Highway Supervisor reported regarding the following matters involving the Highway Department:

County Comprehensive Plan	The final draft of the County Comprehensive Plan has been submitted and is available for distribution.
Columbus Oil Exploration Co.	Notice of receivership has been received.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized the Highway Supervisor and Engineer to attend the annual Bridge Conference in Lafayette on January 20 & 21, 2010.

**RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – ENGINEER REPORT**

Highway Engineer Heile submitted his report of activities:

Bridge Inspection	Proposal has been submitted by Butler Fairman and Seifert for 2010-2012 bridge inspection, showing a substantial increase over the prior year's cost. The Engineer was instructed to negotiate for a lower fee or to discuss with next bidder. Engineer received permission to request an additional appropriation from council in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for Phase I Bridge Inspection.
Dubois County Park Campground	Preparation of permit application is in process for sewage system.

Holland Street Project

Holland representatives and Highway Department have agreed to shorten project to reduce cost. Request has been made for 15 year loan to Holland for funding of Holland's portion of construction costs. The Commissioners directed the Engineer to approach the County Council regarding loan.

Driveway Sign

170 S 330 E – request has been made for hidden drive sign for existing driveway. The driveway was constructed prior to County Ordinance and therefore the County has no authority to require relocation of the driveway. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners directed that the sign be installed but that the property owner shall be sent a letter informing the property owner that the roadway creates a dangerous condition and that it is strongly recommended that the driveway be relocated.

**RE: SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE**

The Commissioners reviewed a request from Elsie Keller to determine the status of a deed granting a life estate in an existing residence. After discussion, it was determined that the current property owner will remain the legal owner, and that the Ordinance would therefore not be applicable.

**RE: AMERICAN APPRAISAL AGREEMENT**

The Commissioners executed an Agreement for appraisal of County property, as approved at the prior Commissioners' meeting.

**RE: PETITION FOR TEMPORARY CLOSING OF PART OF CR 580 N AND CR 700 W IN BOONE TOWNSHIP**

It being 10:00 am, the time advertised for public hearing, and proof of publication being submitted, the Board conducted hearing on the petition as filed, being for a five year closing of the subject roadways. Mike Owen, representing Solar Sources, the petitioner, appeared to describe the Company's plan, including the fact that the Company intends to reopen the road after 3 years. Fifteen members of the public appeared and most objected to the closing, and presented questions as to why they should not be entitled to compensation for resulting extra mileage. Objection was also made to the fact that a number of members of St. John's Church will be required to drive an extra 8 miles to attend church. Approximately up to 50% of Church members are involved. There was also question of relocated bus routes and the related expense. Objection was also made as to the roads which are to be improved by the County at the Company's expense. It was stated that other County roads would be better improved. If approved, the roads would be closed in August of 2010. It was requested that the term during which the roads be closed should be set in the approval. The Commissioners took the matter under advisement pending receipt of additional information.

**RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Commissioners set the continued January meeting for January 19, 2010 at 9:00 am. The February regular monthly meeting of the Commissioners will be held on February 1, 2010 with a continued meeting to be held on February 16, 2010, both beginning at 9:00 am and both will be held at the Courthouse Annex in the Commissioners' Room.