

**REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**JANUARY 7, 2013**

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 7, 2013. Present were Commissioners Lawrence M. Vollmer, Randall L. Fleck, and Doug M. Uebelhor. Also present were County Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, 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 Vollmer. Minutes of the December, 2012 meetings of the Commissioners had been previously distributed to the Commissioners and were approved as presented. The minutes were then signed. Incomes for the month of December, 2012 were as follows: Recorder \$20,686.47; Health Department \$27,242.13; Auditor \$8.00; Clerk \$\_\_\_\_\_. 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: REORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

This being the first meeting of the year, the President called for the reorganization of officers for the Board. President Vollmer stated that he would not be a candidate for re-election as President, based on prior agreement that President would only serve for a 1 or 2 year term. Commissioner Fleck did not recall such an agreement and Commissioner Uebelhor stated that he had been told of such agreement. Thereupon, Commissioner Fleck nominated himself for President. There was no second. Thereupon, Commissioner Uebelhor nominated himself for President. There was no second. President Vollmer continued to act as President until such time that the Commissioners could elect a new President.

**RE: CR 800 S – CASS TOWNSHIP**

John F. Trout and Vikki L. Trout, his wife, residents of Cass Township, appeared to discuss improvement of CR 800 S, which is a partial paved, partial rock, county road east of SR 161. Trout discussed health problems with dust during the summer. The Highway Supervisor stated that he and a Commissioner Member had viewed the road but that lack of funding prevents improvement of current roads. There are 4 residences on the rock road, which is located in Section 12 & 13 – T3S – R6W. The Supervisor advised Trout of the policy on shared cost of road improvements.

**RE: DUBOIS COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL**

Janet Schnell, Coordinator of the County Substance Abuse Council, appeared to discuss the operation of the Council and its funding, which comes from offender user fees. She distributed data on binge drinking and drug abuse, the increase in marijuana usage and increase in meth production. A problem with teen abuse appears to be adult (parent) acceptance of alcohol use by under-aged students and post-students.

**RE: HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR REPORT**

County Highway Supervisor Berg discussed the following subjects with the Commissioners:

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| Department Vacation & Personal Days | The Department employees were called out due to snow and ice and were not allowed to use remaining vacation and personal days. As in the past, on motion duly made and seconded, the employees were granted the right to use remaining 2012 vacation and personal days during January of 2013. |
| December 2012 Snows                 | The Supervisor reported on the several heavy snows and freezing weather during the last 2 weeks of 2012. Repairs of equipment from the heavy use were discussed.   |
| Indiana 811                         | Indiana Pipeline Association will hold its annual safety meeting on February 5 at Huntingburg Event Center at 6:30pm. Instructional program will last approximately 90 minutes.  |
| Equipment Operator                  | Employee will be on 3 month medical leave beginning January 11, 2013.  |
| Annual Report                       | Submitted to Commissioners an annual report of Highway Department operations during 2012.  |

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2013 Hourly Equipment Rates

The Supervisor advised that the 2012 hourly equipment rates, for charges when Department men and equipment are used for non-Department operations, are adequate for use in 2013. On motion duly made and seconded, the 2012 rates were adopted for use in 2013.

**RE: HIGHWAY ENGINEER REPORT**

County Highway Engineer Heile submitted his report of current projects:

Distressed Road Fund

At the request and recommendation of the Engineer, the Commissioners authorized the Engineer to apply for Distressed Road Loan Funds and to request approval of the County Council.

Holland Kentucky Street

Still waiting for INDOT approval to proceed with right-of-way work.

Mill Street Wetland

A telephone meeting is set for January 9 with IDEM and Corps of Engineers.

Bridge #114

County has received plans for replacement of bridge from DLZ and will be reviewed.

Bridge Conference

On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized the Highway Supervisor and Engineer to attend the annual County Bridge Conference at Purdue later this month.

**RE: KEVIN CROUSE – ANNEX SECURITY**

Prosecutor Crouse appeared to discuss security of his office adjacent to the Commissioners' Room. Relocation of the front Deputy Prosecutor office along west wall, glassed wall for receptionist and dutch-door use were discussed. Auditor was instructed to have Custodian engage contractor to look at area.

**RE: SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Lampert appeared to submit the monthly report of Department operations. The Sheriff discussed current vehicle situation. All vehicles authorized during 2012 have been received and 2 remain to be fully equipped and placed in service. He requests 4 vehicles for 2013 as replacement vehicles, to be purchased (not leased). On motion duly made and seconded, the purchases were authorized, subject to Council approval. Vacation days granted under the revised employee handbook were discussed.

Discussion was held regarding nursing services at the Security Center. In the past, necessary services were provided by the County Health Department, but this service has placed a time and work burden on the Health Department. A proposed Amendment to the Inmate Health Services Agreement was submitted to provide for use of LPN's for 2 hours per week at a cost of \$4,321.36 per month. A question of payment dates will be submitted to State Board of Accounts for review. Subject to decision as to payment time, on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the Amendment. The funding is included in the 2013 Budget.

The Sheriff also described the fact that the Commissioners had previously approved employment of an additional jailer. At the Sheriff's request, on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners reaffirmed its prior authority for employment of the additional jailer, subject to Council approval.

The Sheriff also discussed with the Commissioners the purchase of a police dog, which has a price of approximately \$11,000. The purpose would be primarily drug enforcement, but the dog could also be used for tracking.

**RE: COVERED BRIDGE CERTIFICATION**

The Commissioners executed the annual Covered Bridge Certification.

**RE: WEIGHTS & MEASURES OFFICE SPACE**

The Commissioners authorized relocation of the office space of the County Weights & Measures Officer to a space adjacent to the current office space.

**RE: EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK – COMP TIME**

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The Auditor discussed with the Commissioners the comp time policy to be followed for part-time employees.

**RE: FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Commissioners set future meetings of the Commissioners for January 22, 2013, February 4, 2013, February 21, 2013, March 4, 2013 and March 18, 2013, all meetings to begin at 9:00am and to be held at the Commissioners' Room at the Courthouse Annex.

**RE: ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS**

The Commissioners then reviewed all appointments which are made annually by the Commissioners, both those preliminarily made at the Commissioners last meeting in December, 2012 and those for full-time employees. After discussion and on motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners unanimously approved the following appointments:

County Attorney	Arthur C. Nordhoff, Jr.
Highway Supervisor	Steve L. Berg
Highway Engineer	Jason T. Heile
Highway Clerk	Ann Messmer
County Custodian	Scott Hopf
Veterans Service Officer	Robert F. Johnson

The Commissioners ratified the list of appointments made by the County Commissioners, as approved at the last Commissioners meeting.

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Lawrence M. Vollmer

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Doug M. Uebelhor

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Randall L. Fleck

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen M. Hopf, Auditor