

**REGULAR MEETING DUBOIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**FEBRUARY 18, 2014**

The continued monthly meeting of the Dubois County Commissioners was held in the Commissionersq Room of the Courthouse Annex in Jasper, Indiana, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (EST) on February 18, 2014. Present were Commissioners Randall L. Fleck, Doug M. Uebelhor and Lawrence M. Vollmer. Also present were County Auditor Kathleen M. Hopf, County Surveyor Ken Brosmer, Highway Supervisor Steven L. Berg 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 February 3, 2014, meeting of the Commissioners were approved as presented.

**RE: TWIN LAKE ESTATE**

Phil Buehler, representing Randall J. Berg, appeared to present a preliminary draft of plat for Twin Lake Estates in Jackson Township, SE NE and NE SE, Section 27-2S-4W, consisting of 5 lots on 6.745 acres, with water and sewer available, on CR 450 S. Several questions were raised regarding utility easements and sewer access and use. Also publication is required before action by the Commissioners.

**RE: THACKER'S FIRST ADDITION**

Ralph M. Wallem submitted a proposed plat of Thacker's First Addition in Jackson Township, consisting of 1 lot in the NW SE 2-3S-4W on 2.7 acres. The plat had been reviewed and approved by the County Surveyor and Highway Supervisor. On motion duly made and seconded, the plat was approved.

**RE: GARY SERGESKETTER – FAMILY FARM EXEMPTION**

The son-in-law of the Jahn Family on Schnellville Road appeared to request a family farm exemption. The area is, however, within the two mile City of Jasper jurisdiction, and they were therefore referred to the City for action.

**RE: SUN ENERGY – CASS TOWNSHIP MINE**

Tom Allinder, engineer for Sun Energy Group, LLC, appeared to submit an Agreement for Road Usage for mining operations on Old Road 64 and CR 869 W. The Agreement and Bond had been previously reviewed and approved by the Highway Supervisor. On motion duly made and seconded, the Agreement and Bond were approved.

Ray Judy, of Little Sandy Coal Company, also appeared and requested termination of the prior Road Usage Agreement between Little Sandy and Dubois County on the same property now being developed by Sun Energy Group approved above. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the termination and the return of the remaining cash bond and \$184,500 certificate of deposit.

**RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Highway Supervisor Berg submitted the following report of current Highway Department projects:

Holland . Kentucky Street

Supervisor submits preliminary engineer agreement

	between Holland Town and Midwestern Engineering for utility relocation. The process is behind schedule. If approved, must be submitted to State for 80% reimbursement. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved the Agreement, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney and Supervisor.				
Employee Responsibility Change	Supervisor is in process of making changes of responsibility on various State funded projects from Jason Heile to himself. The Supervisor will now be %employee in charge+for LPA projects.				
Kentucky Street Projects	INDOT meeting held on project regarding changes in INDOT procedures as to funding. This could further delay the awarding of this project.				
Beam, Longest & Neff Claim	Supervisor submitted BLN claims for services on Holland project: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>#47395</td> <td>\$16,864.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#47251</td> <td>\$ 1,549.43</td> </tr> </table>	#47395	\$16,864.40	#47251	\$ 1,549.43
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CR 225 South Guardrail	On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved claims and authorized payment. Mary Huff has requested additional guardrail at WITZ Road and CR 225 S intersection. The Supervisor was requested to inspect the site, but his initial belief was that a problem does not exist to justify cost.				
4-H Road	With current weather, the 4-H road has not been inspected to date.				
Excavator #510 Repair	Currently out of operation. Repairs should be \$5,000 to \$7,000. Parts are on order.				
Road Marker Up Grade	Phase #1 has been completed. Phase #2 will cover Class A & B roads. Phase #2 will likely take several years to complete. This portion of Phase #2 will target the 6 busiest roads covering 39 intersections. Proposals have been received and low proposal for signs is Michael Todd for \$3,040.44 and low for caps is Hall Signs for \$790.83. On motion duly made and seconded, the low proposals were accepted.				
Engineer\$ Position	Three applications have been received, and were reviewed for employment of a replacement Highway Engineer.				

**RE: JASPER STELLAR COMMUNITIES LETTER**

Mayor Seitz of Jasper appeared to describe a study being conducted at the request of the City, including the Public Square revision and River Walk. He stated that he was requesting the County to financially participate in these and other projects. He stated that the City will subsequently return with more information and requests, He discussed the companies which are conducting the survey. He stated that the Jasper Council will be requested to partially fund the project through municipal bonding. It is the intent to become eligible for Stellar funding of the various projects.

**RE: INSURANCE PROGRAM**

Tim Bell of German American Insurance appeared to discuss a proposed moving of the County's insurance program from Cincinnati Insurance to Bliss . McKnight Insurance. He submitted to the Commissioners schedules which compared coverage and premium expenses from the two companies. He also submitted a

recent appraisal of all County facilities and reviewed the various coverage for equipment and personal property, including computers and liability. Bell stated that the Bliss policy is superior to that of Cincinnati at a lower price and he therefore recommends a change in company coverage. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners authorized change in the insurance coverage for the County from Cincinnati to Bliss. Bell also reviewed with the Commissioners the proposed insurance program for Dubois County Solid Waste Management District.

**RE: DUBOIS COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

Andrea Hedinger, Humane Society Administrator, and several associates appeared and submitted proposed Ordinances from other communities in Indiana, for which they are requesting consideration by the Commissioners for use in Dubois County. They are suggesting the use of local laws to encourage animal owners to follow acceptable procedures in care of the animals. The Commissioners advised that they would review the proposals. The Commissioners also commented that not only would an ordinance need to define violations but must also describe penalties and procedures.

**RE: SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Lampert and Tim Bell appeared before the Commissioners to discuss insurance coverage for the Sheriff's police dog. The policy includes accident, injury, sickness and theft, and has an annual cost of \$595 for \$8,000 coverage. The question of source of funds was discussed and the Sheriff stated that his budget would not provide this funding. The Sheriff submitted to the Commissioners his monthly report of Department activities. He answered questions regarding the various activities covered by the report.

**RE: RECORDING SYSTEM**

Michael Morin, BIS Digital, appeared to discuss with the Commissioners the operation of sound and video systems for meeting rooms. He described the system and continued maintenance and upgrade of the system. The system is compatible with Microsoft Word. The system could be shared with various other Departments. The system uses bookmarks as an index for future reference to a certain topic. The cost of equipment for initial setup would be \$3,380, consisting of \$2,280 software, \$300 for annual assurance, \$500 for support and \$300 for initial training (about 3 hours). The Commissioners took the purchase under advisement.

**RE: TRUE RX REBATE**

The Auditor reported that True RX has submitted a rebate check of \$2,351.75 for the period April thru June 2013.

**RE: EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

The Auditor requested permission to have Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn review the current employee handbook and submit recommendation for correction and/or changes. On motion duly made and seconded, the Commissioners approved Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn to review the current employee handbook and submit recommendation for correction and/or changes.