

FULTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

March 3, 2003, 9:00 A.M., E.S.T., in Assembly Room of the Fulton County Office Building.

Meeting Called To Order:

President Richard A. Powell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., E.S.T. Commissioners present were Richard A. Powell, Roger D. Rose and Leslie R. Walters; also, County Attorney Greg Heller and County Auditor Denise J. Bonnell.

Highway Department:

Superintendent Scott Tilden reported that he had budgeted \$18,000.00 this year for salt and with the three loads he has yet to pay for, he will be over that amount. Scott reported on last year's culvert work, which went well, and explained how he will be able to transfer money from that account to the salt account.

Scott reminded the Board that on **Friday, March 21st** would be **Bid Letting** for the two (2) dump trucks, hoist, and hydraulics and dumps bodies; also, bid on a Crew Cab Pickup. Following at **10:00 a.m.** will be the **Asphalt Bid Letting**.

Scott presented **Permit #08-9** from NIPSCO in the Nyona Lake area and it has to do with the project Scott is planning at the Whitmore Ditch. Scott explained that when utilities are involved he like to apply for the permits early. He explained this permit and the area involved. He then requested the Board's approval on this permit. Roger Rose made a motion to approve Permit #08-9. Leslie Walters seconded this motion. Motion passed 3-0. The Board signed Permit #08-9.

Scott reported on his research for a **Licensing Ordinance for horse drawn vehicles**. He had previously contacted Lagrange, Kosciusko and Elkhart Counties. He now has Rush and Wayne Counties. Scott stated he has reviewed all the ordinances and he prefers a combination of Rush and Wayne; they are the latest to have enacted such an ordinance. They all refer to Title 36 in the Indiana Code Book. He went ahead to explain their differences, as well as, why his preference. Scott ended his presentation of his findings, leaving the final decision to the Board. More discussion followed.

Scott stated he had received a road **Resurface Request** from Troy Cowles. He lives on a gravel road and the location is Cr 650W between State Road 14 and CR 100S, just west of Cowles Gravel Pit. Scott wanted this put on the record. Rich asked how many lived on this road? Scott said four residents. Roger asked what the County's Policy was regarding this? This was discussed.

Rich called attention to the **Mt. Zion Dam Meeting, Wednesday, March 5, 2003**, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Office Building.

Rails & Trails:

Attorney Greg Heller stated he just started the research and proceeded to explain. He has no report, at this time.

Carl Van Meter said he lives adjacent to the trail near Delta Tool. He stated that when he purchased his property he was told it was not going to happen, then he reads in the newspaper that things are going to happen. He is opposed to the trail. The discussion continued from other citizens. **Attorney Greg Heller** will have a more detailed **report** at the **March 17th meeting**.

Plan Commission Appointment:

Roger Rose said a vacancy has resulted since the resignation of Dale Heltzel. Following a discussion Roger Rose made a motion to nominate **Glen Jones** to fill in the vacancy on the Plan Commission. Leslie Walters seconded this motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Innkeepers Appointment:

Auditor Denise Bonnell explained the rotation of the appointments and that Roger Gearhart needs to be reappointed. Roger said he has talked with Roger Gearhart and he is willing to serve. This was discussed. Roger Rose made a motion to appoint **Roger Gearhart** to the Innkeepers Board for two (2) years and his term will expire 12-31-04. Leslie Walters seconded this motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Commissioners' Minutes:

The minutes for **February 18, 2003** were reviewed. Corrections were made. Roger Rose made a motion to approve the minutes of February 18, 2003 as corrected. Leslie Walters seconded this motion. Motion passed 3-0.

A short recess was taken on a motion made by Roger Rose, seconded by Leslie Walters and passed 3-0.

Plan Commission:

Director Casi Cramer spoke concerning the **Official Zone Map for Henry Township** and the Proposed Amendment of Henry Township: also, **Official for Akron Area** and the Proposed Amendment of Zone Map for Akron Area. She showed what the actual Zone Maps look like. She pointed out 1230 East, which at the present time is zoned a Residential Cluster District and pointed out this goes all the way to the County line. She pointed out the General Commercial District and explained pointing out the area and the drain being discussed. She explained the requirements for each district and what is presently located there. She answered questions and then presented a copy of Resolution No.021003-A and Resolution No.021003-B both having been passed by the Advisory Plan Commission by a 6-0 vote. Rich asked for any questions on the proposed resolutions as explained. There being no questions or discussion Roger Rose made a motion to approve the rezones as described in **Resolution No.021003-A and No.021003-B** as recommended by the Plan Director. Leslie Walters seconded this motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Building Inspector:

Inspector Gary Madlem report on the **Sue Fair Property**. Gary said he had asked Sue Fair to have the quotes for her work to be faxed to him. The quotes he had received were for remodeling. Gary sent them back and informed them the property was to be torn down not remodeled. Gary said basically Sue has agreed to that especially the old hotel by the lake not the house. She has a company out of Knox to tear it down, but they do not want to do the work until Spring. Gary feels Sue is doing the best she can; however, he asked Sue to put this in writing, for him to give the Commissioners. Gary asked that she get the work done before June 2003.

Gary has been receiving calls from Kewanna and he explained. Gary told of another call from inside the City Zoning buffer but not inside the City Limits. Jerry Jolley has said he could not do anything with this and it was brought to Gary's attention for help. The location was discussed.

Attorney Greg Heller advised the Board of the action they could take. Gary then informed the Board of property in the Town of Fulton and the complaints received. This was discussed. Gary was told he should first get in touch with the Fulton Town Board and find out if they still want action on this property. The Board asked Gary if he would take care of this matter; Gary replied, yes. Attorney Heller, suggested a resolution from the Town Board requesting action to tear down the property and also to the cost involved that the Town would be responsible for. The discussion continued as to the procedure that should be used regarding the situation in the Town of Fulton and any other Town requesting similar assistance.

Concluding this discussion, Gary said he would get a **letter sent to Smith on 13th Street** regarding his property, which is outside the City Limits; and regarding the Town of Fulton, Gary stated he would call the people back informing them the Commissioners were working on it. Also, the process will be slow and it will take some time.

The consensus of the **Board and Attorney Heller** was hereafter they would work toward **a resolution as well as a signed-agreement with the county.**

GIS Program:

Rich introduced the office holders present for this presentation, Sandy Owens, County Assessor and Denise Bonnell, County Auditor. **Kevin Green, representative of WTH Engineering, Inc.**, introduced himself and continued with explaining the Company's Services.

He stated their company has broken down the GIS Program in three parts to make it simpler. The parts are Public Safety (Emergency 911), Land Information and Infrastructure. He stated they are already servicing 911. He then proceeded to explain each part. After completion of that presentation he then, using a map, proceeded to explain the process when a 911 call is received. He told of all the information that Rob already has set-up for 911, as well as additional information that can be installed. He explained how user-friendly the software is. He then explained ditches, bridge

information, and then the land information as to soils etc., parcel numbers and addresses, continuing his demonstration.

Rich asked County Assessor Sandy Owens what do you need to make this program work in your office? She stated for one the land-use, as it is very time consuming and she explained. Also, she said parcel renumbering. This was discussed. He then asked the Auditor what her needs were. The parcel outlining is something she would like and that it is available. Then, also, the interface into the taxing system to make the taxing information available to the treasurer. This was discussed. Kevin said if the County were to upgrade their computers, they could take care of this, at no charge, as it is included in their Service Agreement. The Service Agreement is setup for the data synchronization and also creates an off-site backup so if all the information were to be wiped out there would be another source of the information available, it includes unlimited time on phone support whereby during business hours people are available and off-hours there is a 1-888 number to call at anytime. It includes free upgrades because they have a whole team of designers constantly working and making modifications and explained that. Prepaid Service Agreement; also, Pre-Contract Technical Counsel, and he explained. The questions was asked, who will be in charge of the GIS? Would it be the County, or WTH's? Kevin said it is sold to the County, while WTH is the creator; the information is the County's. Kevin stated they want to be the County's Staff for any technical problems. WTH has eleven people in the State of Indiana to service their customers and he explained how this is handled. Each individual copy of the software is licensed. The County owns the software, code, passwords, etc. Rich asked if there was renewal on anything? Kevin stated there is a Maintenance Fee and he explained. The fee is \$3500.00 per year, per department. Kevin stated a Maintenance Agreement is not required; however, most do have them.

Rich asked what is there that Fulton County needs to make this program work for our county? Kevin said what we have now is Public Safety. Kevin said that now being discussed is the Land Information Interface and he passed out copies of the proposed contract. The contract price does depend on the size of the County. Kevin stated that is how he came up with the figure of \$95,000.00. He explained. The cost of each additional PC after initial contract is setup would be \$500.00each. In figuring the PC's needed it was decided 15. Kevin said he would be able to do that with no additional charge to this contract. It was decided this would be sufficient at this time.

Roger said we need to get a total cost on this program. What has already been done and paid for; he feels that Denise, Sandy and Casi should get together and itemize this so that nothing is overlooked. This was discussed.

Rex Jones with WTH explained that a year and a half ago when this was discussed an estimate of \$50,000.00 to take care of the highway and Public Safety for Fulton County. Rex said it ended up only Rob took Public Safety and that cost of \$25,000.00 took care of all Public Safety. Since that time Jones said they have come down to \$20,000.00 to take care of the Highway Department. He continued to explain to the Board. Mr. Jones said the three big figures to total the GIS Program would be \$25,000.00, \$20,000.00 and

\$95,000.00. He further stated for the \$1,000.00 he gave Casi a couple of licenses one for her laptop, and another one, so that figure was included in there, also.

A lunch recess was called on a motion made by Roger Rose, seconded by Leslie Walters and duly passed. 12:30 p.m. recessed for lunch.

1:45 p.m., Rich Powell called the Meeting back to order.

GIS Program (cont'd):

With the arrival of Casi Cramer, Roger reviewed what was talked about with WTH. Then Roger referring to the breakdown that she had given him last month; ask, if she together with Kevin, Sandy, Denise and Casi would bring that list up-to-date. This was discussed. Rich said that Kevin wanted the list prioritized as to what we need first, and so on. Roger stated we are trying to reconcile their proposal verses our needs, making sure something did not get lost in the gap. Casi will work with the others on the list.

Attic Cleanup:

Susan Carr and Judy Reed wanted to talk about cleaning the attic. Susan Carr said she had never been in the attic before; what they encountered were bird droppings and unsanitary conditions. Judy spoke of having done some work up there several years ago and stated she was sick for two months, from having worked there just two days. Both ladies said it was unhealthy to work there and gave their reasons. Susan stated that on Christmas break when Vicky and Jeremy worked there they had to actually get rid of some birds. Denise stated Jeremy was sick a week with a respiratory illness after working up there. This was discussed. Joe Morrow discussed the cleanup and the lighting, he stated, does not work and it is just a disaster up there. When Joe asked why this was not done during remodeling he was told it was not in the contract. It was agreed this would be a major undertaking by those that have been there. The discussion continued, and Rich suggested that they get together and look it over tomorrow.

Mt. Zion Dam:

Rich wanted to discuss the current problem regarding the Dam with Commissioners Roger and Leslie in advance of their special meeting. Rich stated isn't it our plan to instruct our Consulting firm, Seico to look at the current problem; also, the remedy for a permanent fix on the dam? Also, discuss as to who might be the responsible party for a financial part of the cost. They reviewed the list of people concerned with this problem, making sure everyone has been notified. This was the consensus of the Commissioners.

Loan Dockets:

Auditor Denise Bonnell presented the following Loan Dockets for the Boards review and signatures. She had previously provided the Board with a copy of Ordinance #021903, Of The Fulton County Council, Authorizing the Fulton County Commissioners, To Obtain Loan, which was passed by the County Council, February 19, 2003, as follows:

Loan to purchase Sheriff's Vehicles: Wells Fargo Bank IN, Nat'l Assn., Rochester
Principal \$74,794.00 Date: 03-03-03 Maturity: 03-15-06 Loan #2749008418

These different dockets are binders as required by Smith, Sawyer and Smith, Inc., Ins. (1) Governmental Certificate (2) Commercial Security Agreement (3) Disbursement Request and Authorization (4) Promissory Note (5) Agreement to Provide Insurance.

Auditor Host's Spring Meeting.

Auditor Denise asked the Board's permission to close her office from 11:00 a.m., - 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 11, 2003. She will be hosting the Northwest Auditor's District Spring Meeting. She would like for her girls to help, as well as, give them the opportunity to be in this business meeting. The meeting will be held at the Manitou Banquet Hall. This was discussed and rather than have the office close, the Board suggested having Jean Cloud, Drainage Board Secretary cover for that period of time. Jeanie was asked and agreed.

County Funding Agreement:

The Board reviewed and signed the Annual Funding Agreement with the 4-H Council. This is provided for them in the amount of \$12,500.00 for the fiscal year 2003.

Transfer Request:

Highway Department:

Cum Bridge:

From#0790-196-3000-18	Bridge #18	\$3,579.86
To: #0790-196-3000-93	Nyona Lake Bridge #93	\$3,579.86

This Transfer Request was reviewed and signed.

Claims and Payroll:

All Claims and Payroll were reviewed and signed for payment.

Other Business:

The Mt. Zion Dam Meeting will be Wednesday, March 5, 2003 at 10:00 a.m., E.S.T., in the County Office Building.

Rich questioned the billing from Manatron for \$2500.00 as to what it covers and length of time, e.g. month, quarterly, yearly. The Auditor stated we pay that Company around \$50,000.00 yearly. She explained to the Board and this was discussed.

This concluded all the business transacted and a motion to recess was made by Roger Rose. Leslie Walters seconded this motion. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting recessed at 2:45 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Richard A. Powell, President

Roger D. Rose, Vice-President

Leslie R. Walters, Member

Attest:

Denise J. Bonnell, County Auditor