

**RE: Transfer of Funds
 Additional Appropriations
 Sick leave-pay
 County Roads-Brush
 National Association of Counties membership
 Clinton Apartments-lowering assessment
 Technology line item
 Web GIS/WTH
 Jail maintenance and water**

Minutes-Vermillion County Council June 11, 2007

The Vermillion County Council met in the Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana.

Council President John Yoho called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Roll call was taken: Present were John Yoho, Fred Daniels, Lavonna Mattick, Randy Dreher, John Cheesewright, Mike Costello, Jerry Hawkins, Attorney Don Darnell, Auditor Sherrie Koma and Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert.

Costello made a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting, seconded by Hawkins.

Transfer of Funds

Vermillion County Highway \$5,000.00 from 201-145-4110 Truck Drivers to 201-145-4141 Single Hands. Clark said he has a retired person he would like to use as opposed to hiring someone full time. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Mattick.

Vermillion County Health Department. \$1,500.00 from 437-000-2-4323 Travel to 437-000-4213 Operating Expenses. Dreher made a motion to allow, seconded by Hawkins.

Cheesewright questioned why Kevin Nickels is still getting paid. Koma said because the Commissioners allowed it. It was stated that he is being paid for accrued time and not a regular weekly paycheck. Cheesewright wanted to know exactly what the check was for and Koma agreed to look into in the morning and get back to him.

Additional Appropriations. Public Defenders Board is asking for \$25,000.00 to pay for non-contractual pauper attorneys. No one was present to discuss. Darnell said that he was sure there was a bill for \$10,000.00 for a murder trial. He also thought there were a few other some bills due and he knows there are 2 pending attempted murder cases. Darnell said we get reimbursed 50% for murder trials and 40% for felonies. Dreher said he had a problem with the whole amount and suggested they allows \$15,000.00. He said they usually only allow what is billed. Dreher made a motion to allow \$15,000.00, seconded by Costello.

Dreher said he thinks the county has a problem with brush along county roads and suggested highway superintendent Bill Clark look into some quotes for a trimmer to keep it under control, to be used by the whole county not just one district. Cheesewright thought we should lease the equipment but Dreher said if we pay for it for a week and it rains, then we are out that money. He said he just wants Clark to get some estimates. Costello said it would hurt to get a quote.

Hawkins said the county is now a member of the National Association of Counties and Koma is going to call in the morning to see what needs done to enroll in the prescription drug program. Dreher wants to make sure that when we

do get them, that the words gets out and people are educated on the cards. Hawkins agreed and said an ad in the newspaper is not enough.

Richey was present to discuss two apartments in Clinton that are section 514, low income housing and the state is wanting to lower their assessments. Richey said not only would it lower, it would go back and generate a huge refund for these owners. She said the State Board of Review is compiled of lawyers and they are handling it as a judge. She needs to prove them wrong or the county will be paying a big refund and other apartment owners in the area are going to want their assessment lowered. She said she needs to hire an appraiser who specializes in low-income housing. Hawkins said we have to do this for our taxpayers, if we don't we are just giving up. Richey said they mentioned the nursing homes as well. Cheesewright suggested getting the appraiser and have him appraise the apartments and the nursing homes so we are prepared. Yoho wanted to know why income has anything to do with real estate. Richey said the state is now wanting to look at income and cost approach, market rate for residential. Richey said the appraiser quoted her \$1,000.00 per parcel. Yoho said for her to do what she had to do.

Hawkins stated that all office holders have money in their budgets for technology issues and items and suggested that next budget they put it all in one line item for tech coordinator Mike Phelps to work out of. Linda Reynolds with the extension office said they are funded through Purdue and Hawkins agreed and said they should not be included. He said he talked to some office holders and they do not have a problem with it. Phelps said he hasn't had a problem with anyone buying some they shouldn't and state that the 2nd floors equipment is the oldest. He also mentioned some Dell warranties that were expired and suggested they look into extending them. Phelps said Steve Clark and Mark Cameron have been working with him on wiring issues. He said Cameron saved the county \$20,000.00 by finding a government discount for a network system. Phelps said he would like to come back with them next month and discuss turning Olga Hutson's old office in to a technology room. The council agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Commissioners on July 9th at 6 p.m. to discuss these issues.

Phelps also wanted to discuss the WEB GIS with WTH that was presented at the last Commissioners meeting. He explained it to the council. Cheesewright said he didn't think it was right for the searchers and title companies etc to be able to view it for free. Phelps will look into whether or not they can charge a user fee.

There was some discussion as to the close out of the CSEPP program. They will be officially done September 30, 2008. Hawkins said they would have to take care of the last quarter of that year. Spence said if they don't do what the state wants then they will withhold federal funds and grants in terms of a disaster.

Spence said he want to keep them updated on what goes on at the jail. He said they have been working hard to get things fixed. He stated that he has some things that need fixed but no money to fix them, that the Commissioners spent the jail bond money. Spence said they put the money into a CD. Spence said there is a control panel that needs fixed and his maintenance company, Southwestern Communications said they only place they can find the part is England it would cost about \$16,000.00. Spence said he wasn't sure if we should fix it or just replace it with a brand new system but he was told by the Commissioners to just order the piece and fix it. A new system would be \$85,000.00. Costello said we will probably be paying \$25,000 to \$30,000.00 with shipping for the part.

Spence said they also need \$9,000.00 to fix the water system for the jail. Someone asked what happened when the plant closes, will the jail still get water and Spence said it was his understating that a skeleton crew would be kept to keep maintenance on the water and electricity and that jail would be able to get water.

Dreher made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mattick.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 9th day of July 2007.

John Yoho

Fred Daniels

Lavonna Mattick

Randy Dreher

John Cheesewright

Mike Costello

Jerry Hawkins

Attest: _____
 Sherrie A. Koma, Auditor