

**RE: Transfer of Funds
Additional Appropriations
Prescription Drug Cards
New Recorders program
Airport Authority
Sheriff-paid classes for his wife**

Minutes-Vermillion County Council November 13, 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, Randy Dreher, John Cheesewright, Mike Costello, Jerry Hawkins, Auditor Sherrie Koma and Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert. Lavonna Mattick and Attorney Don Darnell were not present.

Cheesewright made a motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting, seconded by Daniels. All were in favor.

Transfer of Funds

County Coroner \$300.00 from 100-107-4343 dues & subscriptions to 100-107-4240 Autopsy and \$50.00 from 100-107-4322 Postage to 100-107-4140 Autopsy. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Dreher.

Vermillion County Highway \$6,000.00 from 201-145-4312 other contractual services to 201-145-4311 lease rental. Highway superintendent Billy Clark was present and said he was not sure what that transfer was for, to disregard it at this time. \$1600.00 from 201-145-4110 truck drivers to 201-145-4140 single hand. Costello made a motion to allow the \$1,600.00, seconded by Cheesewright.

Zoning Administration. \$200.00 from 100-145-4351 training and conference to 100-145-4326 printing other than office. Cheesewright made a motion to allow, seconded by Dreher. \$200.00 from 100-145-4411 office equipment to 100-145-4212 office supplies. \$100.00 from 100-145-4413 office furniture to 100-145-4322 postage, \$100.00 from 100-145-4413 office furniture to 100-145-4212 office supplies. Cheesewright made a motion to allow, seconded by Dreher.

Vermillion Circuit Court. \$800.00 from 100-136-4118 pauper court transcripts to 100-136-4222 law books and \$2,000.00 from 100-136-4414 office equipment to 100-136-4117 part time help. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Dreher.

Dreher asked about the part time help, if the handbook had been changed and Koma said that the Commissioners and Jon Spurr were working on it. He said to get with the Commissioners; it really needs to be done by the first of the year.

County Extension Director. \$500.00 from 100-123-4412 office equipment to 100-123-4212 office supplies. Cheesewright made a motion to allow, seconded by Hawkins.

Vermillion County Jail. \$7264.00 from 100-132-4330 inmate medical to 100-132-4334 jail maintenance. \$12,500.00 from 100-132-4330 inmate medical to 100-132-4332 electricity and \$9,000.00 from 100-132-4331 from jail water to 100-132-4350 prisoner meals. Sheriff Spence said that he needed to transfer money around to pay bills and that the money was there with prior additional, but hadn't

been approved, so they paid bills out of riverboat gambling. The additional got approved so not they extra money in those line items. Spence said with the new additional, he should have enough to get him through the end of the year. Dreher wanted to know if the money could be put back into riverboat gambling and no one was sure. Koma agreed to look into it. Spence said they still have around \$69,000.00 left in Inmate medical. Dreher asked how much money they took out of Riverboat and Spence said around \$52,000.00. Spence said he is not asking for anything new, its all bills that have needed paid for a while. Spence said the increase in gas prices has caused increases in food prices and things just cost more now and they are trying to rework the menu to keep costs down. Diane Spence said that it wasn't their budget they were trying to live on. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Dreher,

Vermillion County Health Dept. 100.00 from 433-000-4118 Nurse's aide to 433-000-4115 Nurse. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Daniels.

Additional Appropriations.

County Commissioners. \$10,00.00 Commissioners Court 100-130-4331 for processing state mandated refunds. Hawkins made a motion to allow, seconded by Daniels.

Vermillion County Jail \$8,000.00 Prisoner Meals 100-132-4350 to pay current outstanding invoices. \$9675.00 Gas & oil 100-105-4215 to pay current outstanding invoices. \$6,800.00 other garage repair 100-105-4218 to pay current outstanding invoices. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Hawkins.

Vermillion County Assessor. \$1800.00 Cum Reassessment 235 for supplies, tapes, papers, etc. \$2500.00 Cum Reassessment 235 for personal property forms. \$9653.00 Cum Reassessment 235 for parcel maintenance by Manatron. Hawkins made a motion to allow, seconded by Daniels. There was some discussion on the additional, Hawkins said that if we don't approved them then we will never get a real budget.

Unfinished Business

Hawkins reported that the county had received the prescription drug cards that were provided when we joined the National Association of Counties (NACO). The card can save residents of Vermillion County up to 20 percent on prescriptions. Hawkins said he has now learned that there is another card available that may be better for the county. Hawkins introduced Mike Andrew, who explained that he has cards available that can also be distributed at no cost to taxpayers and provided similar savings, but with a few cents from each prescription going to the county, for whatever purpose the county designates. He said that the NACO cards average 33 cents more in savings than his card on brand name prescriptions, but his averages \$7.33 more than NACO on generic drugs. Costello asked how soon cards could be available, and Andrew said he could have them within a week. The council said that they would have to get the Commissioners approval, because they are the ones who enter into contracts. Dreher asked if they would get to designate where the money goes and Andrew said yes. There was some discussion as to where to distribute the cards and everyone agreed that public offices, libraries, schools, etc. would be good places. Hawkins asked if we should still distribute the NACO cards and Costello said that they had paid there membership to get them. Dreher thought it might confuse people.

Lori Porter-new recorders program. Porter asked the council for approval to spend \$8,490.00 out of her redaction fund for a new program. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Dreher.

Mike Phelps said he would discuss his proposal at the special meeting, which was going to be tomorrow, 11-14-07, at 7p.m.

Economic Development Director Ed Cole had been scheduled to ask the council to vote on the establishment of an airport authority but at the beginning of

tonight's meeting, Yoho said that it would not be discussed because the council's attorney was unable to attend the meeting. He said the matter might be discussed in December. Airport Authority. Hawkins expressed concern because the Airport Authority was not going to be discussed again tonight. He said he understood that they may not want to make a decision without Darnell, but they could at least discuss it. He said that it's been on going for months and has never heard the council actually discuss it. Yoho said Mattick wanted to present to discuss it as well. Costello asked what would constitute a government entity to take over the airport. Could the city of Clinton or Economic Development themselves operate the authority. Dreher said he is concerned because the county is already facing the loss of inventory taxes and other economic concerns. He said he thought it was a good deal but wasn't sure we could afford it. Cole explained that the county would not be committing any tax money right now. They just want to establish an airport authority which would allow them to get into the federal system and apply for grants. Cole explained that if the airport authority were created it would have a board, which would be appointed by the Commissioners. Yoho suggested one representative from each of the county's five townships. Dreher said he thought there were about 16 pilots in the county and wondered how many owned planes. Cole said not many but that the major concern was the access, the ability to fly in. He said he looks at it like he looks at a road, that if we didn't have the highway then how would we get around? Dreher said he talked to someone in Edgar county who said their airport was not used much. Cole said again that it was a matter of access, if it's not there then they might not even consider us. Yoho said that there is an airport 3 miles from the north end of the county. He questioned why people would fly to Clinton and then drive north. Cole said that one reason would be that he hopes the county will eventually acquire the Chemical depot property. Cole said he is just asking them to consider the possibility; taxes are not even an issue. He said that if we don't create the authority, then we can't take the first step toward getting federal grants. Yoho asked who would pay for the liability insurance and Cole said the airport authority would. He explained that for any money, including grant money, that comes into the airport, there would still have to be a budget approved by the council in order to spend it. That budget could include expenses such as salaries, insurance, and other routine costs. Cole said that with additional grants for improvements, the airport itself could generate revenue. He said they would like it to be self-sustained. Ken Ross, from NGC, Inc. who has been working with Cole on the airport project, stated that there is a 10-unit hangar on the airport site now, waiting to be put up, that could easily generate \$1,000.00 per month for the airport. Hawkins said he is more comfortable with the idea if it does not require tax money to support it. Dreher asked how many companies had asked Cole about using the airport. Cole explained that because of current economic conditions, he has had fewer requests recently, but everyone asks about the location of the closest airport. It is one of the first things they ask. Dick Meyer pointed out that the airport is for more than just entertainment and recreation and encouraged the council to pursue the possibility. Dreher said that the council was also supposed to discuss a countywide sewer district, which had been removed from the agenda as well and asked whether the airport or sewers were more important. Economic Development Council member Tom Milligan stated that as a member of the council, he is charged with bringing prosperity to the county and infrastructure is needed to do that. He said the sewers are huge. He said 20 years ago there was money out there and no one wanted them, now the money is gone. We have an opportunity with the airport to get federal money; down the road we may lose that opportunity. He said that we were told to try and get government money, and that is what they are trying to do, at a minimal cost. Costello again suggested running the airport through Economic Development. Ross replied that he has never seen an airport receive federal grant money without being run by a city or county, but he would find out before the next meeting. Hawkins said that counties make their own luck and that we can afford to miss the opportunity to do little things that could turn into big things. The council decided to discuss the matter at the December meeting.

Sheriff Bob Spence asked for the council's approval to pay for a class his wife, Diana, had taken. He explained that the State Board of Accounts does not like

such costs being paid without council approval for people who are not full time employees and that Diana is not a paid employee of the Sheriffs Department. Spence explained that she spends her evenings and weekends at the jail. She also said similar costs have always been paid before, but without the councils approval. Some asked if this was a one-time deal and Spence said no, it could be a few times a year. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Daniels.

Costello made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Daniels.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 12th day of December2007.

John Yoho

Fred Daniels

Lavonna Mattick

Randy Dreher

John Cheesewright

Mike Costello

Jerry Hawkins

Attest: _____
 Sherrie A. Koma, Auditor