

RE: Transfer of Funds
 Additional Appropriations
 Health Dept. Tobacco Master Coordinator pay
 Homeland Security
 White Construction tax abatement
 Highway equipment and Strategic Planning
 Wheel and Surtax

**Minutes
Vermillion County Council
May 9, 2011
Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana**

President Mike Carty called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and declared a quorum of Lavonna Mattick, Randy Dreher, Mike Costello, Randy Padish, Brent Bush, and Jim McLain.

Also present were: Attorney Don Darnell, Auditor Phyllis Orman and First Deputy Amy Tolbert.

Carty led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes from the prior meeting, Mattick motion to accept, seconded by Costello

Transfer of funds.

Area Plan request that has been tabled, removed from the agenda.

Highway. \$7,500.00 from group insurance to Blades and \$23,305.00 from Group insurance to Machinery. 2nd district needs a pickup truck and grader blades. Dreher suggested purchasing two used trucks instead of one new one. Craig said they are still shopping around. Padish motion to allow, seconded by Dreher.

Additional Appropriations.

Highway is asking for \$59,195.00. The explanation stated they wanted to move money from group insurance into bituminous. There was no request to de-appropriate group insurance so the request was tabled until next month.

Highway Capital Improvement. Tabled.

Health Department additional pay. The council discussed an issue with pay for health department employee Mary Crotty, who receives additional money through a grant for work she does as the county's tobacco cessation coordinator. It was mentioned at last month's commissioners meeting that SBOA had said that this pay should be included in the county's salary ordinance in order for her to be paid from the grant, so the council was asked to amend the salary into the ordinance. Carty said he disagreed with the SBOA but acknowledged that they had said any pay received through grants for work outside an employee's normal duties, should be included in the salary ordinance because Crotty is a county employee. Carty said this would put her over her normal 40 hours and would need to be paid at her overtime rate. The pay rate for this job is \$25 per hour which is roughly time and a half and Carty asked that this be reflected on the amended ordinance. Crotty said this position has been in place since 2004 and she has been paid for it as a contracted service in the past, but the state said this was incorrect. She questioned an outside person doing the same job, would they become a county employee and the answer was no that an outside person doing the work would not have to be on the salary ordinance to be paid from the grant. Dreher asked if this matter has gone before the health board and Crotty said it had not. McLain then asked what the Health Board was for. Crotty said the board sets the budget for the Health Department but the Health Officer oversees the department's operations. Carty again stated that the amended ordinance needs to show the \$25 per hour and time and half and Darnell said the minutes would reflect this, so there will not be any issues. Carty questioned Phelps who is paid salary as a deputy, and E-911 coordinator. He is also paid as the technology coordinator. Darnell said he would look into the issue. Dreher motion to allow the amended salary ordinance, to be reflected as time and half, seconded by Bush. This motion also includes a transfer of funds for Medicare, social security and unemployment.

Homeland Security. Wilson said that Spurr has asked the State for a copy of the contract and they are still trying to locate it.

White Construction Tax Abatement. Economic Development gave a favorable recommendation for a tax abatement for White Construction. The \$9.2 million dollar project is expected to allow White's to maintain its current 57 jobs in the county, with a \$3.9 million payroll and add 70 new jobs with an additional \$4.3 million payroll. The abatement must be voted on again next month before it is approved.

Highway equipment and strategic planning. The commissioners informed the council they had received quotes for new sand boxes at a cost of \$19,302.00 for two boxes. They had also gotten quotes for three new tandem axle trucks at the price of \$353,648.19 for the three. Some of the current sandboxes are unusable and need to be replaced before winter. Craig noted that the highway department funded mostly through gasoline taxes but there is much money there. He said some roads have been paved when they shouldn't have and that as far as he is concerned, nothing is off the table in trying to find funds for this equipment. Repairing the roads is virtually impossible with the equipment in the condition that it is. Craig said there is some sticker shock when looking at the cost but history has shown that the equipment will last many years for the county. He suggested McLain serve as a contact point between the council and the commissioners and the

highway department garages to see what condition the equipment is in. Costello asked how many tandem trucks they currently have and Crossley said three. Costello then asked how much a single axel truck would cost and Crossley said around \$90,000.00 but that the county needed both single-axel and tandem. He said the tandems are better on rural roads but could not be used in towns therefore they need a mix of both. Carty said they first need to talk about what they can afford before they start buying equipment. Wilson said he recently took 5 miles of paved road back to gravel because of the poor condition the roads were in and the fact that very few people lived on those roads. Dreher said they need to make a decision before winter. No action was taken at this time.

Wheel and Surtax. Orman asked if there was any interest in raising the wheel and surtax. She said it would need to be done soon and by ordinance. Darnell said he would look into it.

Costello moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mattick. Motion carried unanimously.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 13th day of June 2011.

Mike Carty

Randy Padish

Randy Dreher

Mike Costello

Lavonna Mattick

Brent Bush

Jim McLain

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor