

***Vermillion County Commissioners and Council
Joint Meeting Agenda***

June 13, 2016

5:00 p.m.

Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

- I. Call to order. The Vermillion County Council and Commissioners convened in a joint meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2016.
- II. Roll call. Present were Michael Costello, Brent Bush, Basil Ave, Jim McLain, Michael Carty, Jill Wesch, Tim Wilson, Harry Crossley, Tim Yocum, Attorney Jon Spurr, Attorney Don Darnell, Auditor Phyllis Orman and Chief Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert. Randy Dreher was absent.
- III. Vermillion County Jail

Geothermal, Energy Savings, Jail Expansion. Mark Falahee of Energy Systems Group and Steve McGowan of Ground Loop Solutions discussed the issues the Vermillion County Jail has and will have in regards to the geothermal system. McGowan explained that the polybutylene pipes used when the jail was constructed had actually been obsolete for several years prior due to issues with the pipes and fittings. He said there is bacteria growth within the system that is tearing it down. Repairs have been made and patches done but it will not hold up much longer. There was some discussion on the pros and cons of switching to a full electric system and McGowan said that it would be cheaper up front but would cost more to operate in the long run. Costello asked how long a geothermal system is expected to last and McGowan said the pipes and fittings carry a 50-year warranty. He said his company gives a 5-year warranty on their work but explained that when they put it in and it doesn't leak, it will never leak. Falahee said that if the new system is done correctly it can bring additional energy savings for water and electric. He said the project is performance based with energy guarantees included which means that if the system does not meet the guarantee then his company has to make up the difference. He said the system they are proposing would also allow for expansion in the future. Yocum asked if a line is damaged would the whole system go down. McGowan said the systems would be designed so that the damaged line would be shut off without losing the entire system. Falahee said the cost of a new system would be \$700,000 to \$900,000 and could be financed. He asked for permission to continue so that he could provide some more refined figures to the

Council. He explained that the situation was not going to get any better over time. Yocum asked about Grant money and Falahee said they would look into that. Ave suggested they form a committee to represent both Commissioners and Council. The committee will consist of Yocum, Ave, Spurr, and Darnell.

IV. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Commissioners on the June 28, 2016 and the Council on July 11, 2016.

Tim Wilson, President

Harry Crossley

Tim Yocum

Michael Costello, President

Jill Wesch, Vice-President

____ABSENT____

Randy Dreher

Michael Carty

William Brent Bush

Jim McLain

Basil Ave

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor