

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MEMORANDUM & MINUTES
May 2nd, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING ROOM 203

Those Present: County Commissioners: Thomas Wilson Tom Linkel Scott McDonough
County Auditor: Erica Hudson
Commissioners Secretary: Carol Westerman

Thomas Wilson opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES- MOTION-Tom Linkel motioned to approve the minutes for April 25th, 2011. Thomas Wilson 2nd. Scott McDonough, AIF. MC. **MOTION-** Scott McDonough motioned to approve the minutes from the Executive Session on April 27th, 2011. Tom Linkel 2nd. Thomas Wilson, AIF. MC.

CLAIMS- MOTION- Scott McDonough motioned to approve claims. Tom Linkel 2nd. Thomas Wilson, AIF. MC.

PAYROLL- MOTION- Tom Linkel motioned to approve payroll. Scott McDonough 2nd. Thomas Wilson, AIF. MC.

LEVEE RD: REBECCA OGLESBY (TREASURER)- Becky discussed the severe flooding on Levee Road and per IC 6-1.1-4-11 property owners have the right to a reassessment if there is damage. The Assessor would survey by taking photos of the damage and then a form 137R or 137PF for a Reassessment following a Disaster or a Permanently Flooded Property Reassessment would need to be filed. Mark Oglesby recommended that the Commissioners consider a repair similar to Dare Ditch where the property owners were taxed to fund the repairs. The Commissioners agreed to consider this option.

ADDENDUM & CONTRACT: LADD ENGINEERING, GARY LADD- Gary presented Change Order number 2 for a 30 day extension for the Commissioners to sign as well as the . **MOTION-** Tom Linkel motioned to sign Change Order number 2 to extend the project for 30 days. Thomas Wilson 2nd. Scott McDonough, AIF. MC. **MOTION-** Tom Linkel motioned for Thomas Wilson to sign the Notice to Proceed. Scott McDonough 2nd. Thomas Wilson, AIF. MC.

CLAIM VOUCHER: ANDERSONVILLE STORM WATER PROJECT- **MOTION-** Thomas Wilson motioned for Erica Hudson to sign the Claim Voucher. Scott McDonough 2nd. Tom Linkel, AIF. MC.

LPA INVOICE CLAIM #6- This invoice is in the amount of \$9,472.40 which is 80% reimbursable per the Federal Government; Butler, Fairman & Seufert for bridge inspection. **MOTION-** Scott McDonough motioned Thomas Wilson to sign as the LPA. Tom Linkel 2nd. Thomas Wilson, AIF. MC.

ROUTE LOGIC- This was for Union County Transportation which is not for profit and transports Franklin County residents; GIS Limited Use Agreement. **MOTION-** Scott McDonough motioned to sign the Agreement. Thomas Wilson 2nd. Tom Linkel, AIF. MC. Brian Bauman commented that the GIS system is not user friendly and asked the Commissioners to contact WTH.

SMALL ANIMAL CONTROL (SAC)- Scott McDonough read the press release and discussed the termination of Louie Fashbinder. Scott stated that the concerns range from inadequately filled out forms to breach of security; ultimately a Level 3 violation of Insubordination. Scott discussed that his main concern is for public safety and animal welfare. Scott announced that Steve Monroe which was Part Time SAC would be replacing Louie temporarily. Those that spoke on behalf of Louie and the Humane Society include but are not limited to the following: Donna Krauser, Tammy Lainhart, Jeannine Wise (Vet), Eric Johnson, Stanley Monroe, Warren Paddick, Dr Lori Kramer, Joanne Suttong, Louie Fashbinder, Ed Dierkson, Dave Merkel, Kate Brader, Tyler Hensley, Emily Ash, Jaime Bronnert, Tom Vohland, Robert Braun, Mike Lidcap, Rhonda Hensley, Nina Minchillo, Gary Yane, Diane Richards, Haroline Ison, Jeff Batchler, Cory Crawford, and Gary Higgs. Everyone that commented has worked with Louie for 2 years to 15 years; Louie started SAC in 1996. Everyone that spoke made it clear that they trust Louie and want the Commissioners to reconsider their decision by rehiring Louie and moving forward through a second chance. Many that commented stated how compassionate, hard working, and trustworthy Louie has been through the entirety of his career. Many felt that Louie is doing a job that not even three individuals could handle at the capacity he is operating; maintaining and operating the pound, working over time, and being the animal control for the entire county. Most commented that the pound has drastically improved since Louie first began his career; from the condition/operations of the pound to the cleanliness. It was stated multiple times that Louie strives at making the pound a no kill shelter and that is how he has broadened the support from volunteers locally and nationwide. Many from the Humane Society commented that with Louie's motivation and growing reputation the county has had a free supply of donated dog food for the past 10 years. Since 2011 alone 145 animals have been rescued and 106 dogs have been adopted. The request for a committee to oversee the operations of the dog pound was suggested and the idea of privatization was even recommended. Several were concerned with the current unemployment situation that the county cannot afford to pay more unemployment as well as train and replace Louie. The majority felt that it should be up to the citizens to vote and decide whether or not Louie should stay or go. Many commented that Scott has not been here long enough to make such a dramatic decision and that this has been a continuing pattern; Highway, Larry Franzman, and now Louie. Others were concerned with the fact that Steve Monroe is not trained in euthanasia which is a requirement. Scott McDonough commented that they would work closely with the local veterinarian. Some questioned the ability for Steve Monroe to perform the duties when there have been problems consisting of accusations that Steve did not perform his job as part time SAC when needed with unruly animals, accusations that Steve was going to turn the pound into a drop off for animals, and inadequate training. It was stated that Louie is the bridge in this county for assistance and the successful operation of the pound. It was stated that Louie worries more about the animals than himself. Most fear that without Louie the county will lose the support he has worked so hard to build and maintain thus the county will run out of food and become a kill shelter. The Commissioners were challenged to go to the pound for a 2 week trial and walk the dogs and assist in cleaning for 3 hours a day. One parent and a teacher were upset and feared that the volunteer program at the pound would come to an end with the situation and the youth was very upset and even in tears. Most felt that better policies are a good idea however the action taken was extreme. Most that commented wanted to see proof for the basis on which Louie was terminated. Emily Ash which is one of the youth and volunteers that spoke had stated that she started a petition at the High School which received over 100 signatures. Scott commented that Louie is a better candidate for the Humane Society. Several commented that they as the taxpayers are the Commissioners employer and the Commissioners need to listen. One individual compared Louie to Andy Taylor. The taxpayers felt that they are more important than documentation and this should be enough basis for the commissioners to rescind their decision. It was stated that the county shelter is only as good as those that are operating it. Some

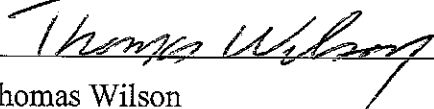
commented that the Commissioners were in the right by considering public safety as the top priority. It was stated that leaders change all the time and change can be a good thing if given the opportunity. In all volunteers make all the difference and without them the pound will become a disaster. The zoning code was brought up because there is nothing entailed about animal control, only the limit on how many animals you can have on your property. The Nuisance Ordinance per Thomas Wilson is in place to address these issues. It was also stated that the Commissioners have a secretary to do their paperwork and Louie did not. It was announced that the Commissioners would have a special meeting on Friday, May 6th, 2011 at 7:00 PM to discuss SAC's policies in detail. Jerry Harnishfeger requested that the Commissioners fix the problems on Pea Ridge Road.


ADJOURN- MOTION- Scott McDonough motioned to adjourn. Tom Linkel 2nd. Thomas Wilson, AIF. MC.

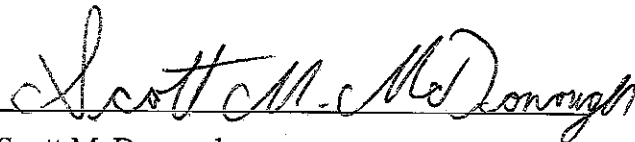
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|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Others Present:</u> | Sylvia Merkel | Samantha Bulmer | Jason Graves | Jacqueline Sizemore |
| Diana Schuck | Haroline Ison | Justin Moore | Angie Combs | Fred Combs |
| Wayne Monroe | Eva Heyob | Mark Oglesby | Ray Lohrey | John Lohrey |
| John Estridge | Ruth Estridge | Jeannine Wise | Ray Minton | Kate Border |
| Becky Oglesby | Stan Monroe | Cynthia Bright | Kim Bradley | Harley Bradley |
| Rhonda Hensley | Keith Hensley | Nicole Miller | Gary Ladd | Julie Brown |
| Jamie Bronnert | Allie Bronnert | Gary Frost | Robert Braun | Karla Bauman |
| Brian Bauman | Mike Lucas | Derrick Holdridge | Jeff Batch | Cathleen Robison |
| Cinda Meyers | Jerry Meyers | Elizabeth Braun | Anna Bruckleen | Paul Helms II |
| Ray Kersey | Smokey Holinchel | Carroll Lanning | Emily Ash | Lauren Edwards |
| Tyler Hensley | Jerry Bamberger | Carol Roberts | Ruth Hughes | Kylie Lucas |
| D. Z. | Angie Wagner | Rachel Race | April Race | Todd Blessing |
| Theresa Abernathy | Sam Schuck | Joe Gillespie | George Hartman | Darlene Von |
| Rebeca Rowe | Regina Yane | Linda Wissel | Paula Byrd | Dr Lori Kremer |
| Cora Crawford | Chuck Gartenman | Janice Gartenman | Sylvia Fasbinder | Joanne Suttong |
| Penny Harrison | Joe Sizemore | Joey Sizemore | Jerry Harnishfeger | Gayle Richter |
| Rachel Sizemore | Donna Krauszer | Sue Schellhaus | Ruby Beckman | Tom Vohland |
| Wilma Meyer | Michelle Roberts | Keudra Roberts | Drew Schneider | Sara Duffy |
| Cheryl Combs | David Merkel | Rick Gill | Vicki Gill | Dennis Kolb |
| Brandy Todd | Chris Harrison | Debby Lucas | Linda Miller | Steve Weber |
| Melody Weber | | | | |

Note: Those names listed are spelled as correctly as possible due to the legibility on the sign in sheet.

AYE


Thomas Wilson


Tom Linkel

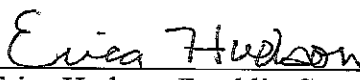

Scott McDonough

NAY

Thomas Wilson

Tom Linkel

Scott McDonough

ATTEST: 
Erica Hudson, Franklin County Auditor