

**JUNE 20, 2017**  
**COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL MEETING ROOM, #203**

The Franklin County Commissioners met in regular meeting on June 20, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council meeting room. Those present were Tom Wilson, Tom Linkel, Eric Roberts, Carol Westerman and Karla Bauman, Auditor.

**Connie Bischoff, FC Recorder – Ordinance 2017-13:** Connie Bischoff presented an Ordinance for the Commissioners approval to establish the fee for bulk copies of documents to a Bulk Vendor in the Franklin County Recorder's office. In addition, she also made a statement in regards to an article written in the Franklin County Observer about the improper use of the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund by the previous Recorder. The Observer stated that Connie Bischoff "allegedly" talked with the Indiana State Board of Accounts and that they stated it was improper use. Connie Bischoff presented an email from the Indiana State Board of Accounts to Sara Duffy of the Observer, showing that she did in fact have communications with them. Ms. Bischoff requested that the Observer run a retraction correcting their article.

**MOTION to adopt Ordinance 2017-13 establishing the manner in which a recorder may provide bulk copies to a bulk vendor, by Eric Roberts, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Karla Bauman, FC Auditor – PERF & Postage Meter Lease:** Karla Bauman presented the lease that was signed by the former auditor in December, 2016 for Commissioners approval. It was the Auditor's understanding that only the Commissioners had the authority to sign contracts/leases. There were actually two leases signed and she needed the Commissioners to approve and sign the Lease for the equipment actually in the Auditor's office that is used by the entire Government Center. **Motion for Tom Wilson to sign the Lease Agreement with Neopost for the mailing machine for \$161.00 per month for 63 months by Eric Roberts, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.**

In researching the authority to sign a contract, the Auditor found the forms that were referred to in the most recent SBOA audit (Form 115) and presented that information to Commissioners.

**PERF:** Franklin County just concluded an audit with the State in regards to the PERF contributions. It was discovered that one elected official who took office in 2011 did not have an account established for PERF. The State also questioned the position of the County Health Officer and whether the wages for that position were eligible. After duly searching for records for County policy on that issue, none could be found. The wages for Franklin County Council were also questioned as to whether or not they were eligible. The Audit also revealed that the wages for County employees who also worked the Elections were not included as "eligible" and that needs to be corrected. The Auditor's office will work with the State on getting the correct amount submitted. The Auditor requested a handbook meeting to address these issues and to

establish the policy on what positions in Franklin County government are eligible. A handbook meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2017.

**Franklin County Election Board – Polling Locations:** Linda Vaughan presented to the Commissioners the changes the Election Board is proposing in polling locations for the 2018 General Election. There will still be 23 precincts and the proposed changes will be for the purposes of combining polling boards. The Election Board will do a lot of public announcements about the changed polling locations before the 2018 election. **Motion to approve new polling locations by Tom Linkel, seconded by Eric Roberts, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Ted Cooley, FC Engineer – Updates:** Ted Cooley discussed the Franklin County Highway Work Zone Safety facts.

North River Road Bridge – Advertise the bids for the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. **Motion for Tom Linkel to sign plans for River Road N, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Amended Motion: Amended motion that they all sign the construction plan to advertise for bids for North River Road Bridge by Tom Linkel.**

Additional written Update by FC Engineer: Big Cedar NRCS Projects

July – Design

August – Develop Contract Package

September – Advertise

October – Construction

2017 Community Crossing Grant

Bridge Projects:

1. North River Road Bridge: BR-1004 \$150,000
2. South River Road Bridge: HI-1402 \$200,000
3. Highland Center Bridge Overlay: BR#59 \$90,000
4. Sanes Creek Bridge Overlay: BR#145 \$60,000
5. Oldenburg Bridge Overlay: BR#163 \$30,000
6. Duck Creek Bridge Overlay: BR#143 \$40,000
7. Pocket Road Bridge Culverts: BR#69 \$30,000

2016 Community Crossing Grant Funding – Bridge Projects

Overlay contractor expected to start this week or next on Yellow Bank.

Meeting being set up with epoxy overlay material supplier & Latex contractor.

**Approve Minutes – June 13, 2017: Motion to approve the June 13<sup>th</sup> minutes by Eric Roberts, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.**

Tom Wilson asked the Auditor about the Park fees collected for camping, etc. Eric Roberts questioned the fees collected by other departments as well and whether the money collected went back into those specific funds or into County General. Fees collected presently go into County General. The park fees can be directed back into the Park fund by ordinance.

Eric Roberts questioned the sixteen days of holiday pay for a jailer. Auditor clarified that it was not days but hours.

**Approve Payroll – Motion to approve payroll by Eric Roberts, seconded by Tom Linkel, all in favor, motion carried.**

Eric Roberts discussed the purchasing requirements from the Indiana State Board of Accounts and that it should be referenced in any policy established by the County.

Eric Roberts stated that he will not be present at the July 18, 2017 Commissioner’s meeting.

**Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Tom Wilson, seconded by Eric Roberts, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Others Present:** Mildred I. Simmermeyer, Betty C. Lecher, Tom Vohland, Neysa Raible, Connie Bischoff, Linda Vaughan, Sara Duffy, Ted Cooley and John Estridge.

Minutes from June 20, 2017 accepted.

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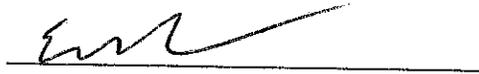
Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson



Tom Linkel

Tom Linkel



Eric Roberts

Eric Roberts

Attested by:   
Karla J. Bauman, Auditor