

MINUTES OF THE CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 16, 2019

9:07 A.M.

The Clinton County Commissioners met for a regular meeting on September 16, 2019 at 9:07 a.m. in the Frankfort Community Library Theater, 208 W Clinton Street, Frankfort, IN 46041.

President of the Commissioners, Commissioner Uitts called the meeting to order with the following members shown to be present or absent:

PRESENT

Josh Uitts
Steve Woods
Scott Shoemaker

ABSENT

Others in attendance were Commissioner Assistant Jerri Sexton, Carol Bartley, Rich Kelly, Ken Hartman,, Rodney Wann, Kevin Myers, Liz Stitzel, Dan Sheets, Clark Beard, Jeff Chynoweth, and others shown to be present in the minutes. Commissioner's Assistant Jerri Sexton recorded the minutes.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT**IN THE MATTER OF YMCA LEASE OF REAL ESTATE**

Tom Little explained the 5 year lease agreement between YMCA and the County, stating that the YMCA would now be in control of the baseball field at TPA Park and its assets and will manage the facility and allow other organizations to use the facilities. Tristen Comegys, CEO of the YMCA of Clinton County stated she has talked to the Frankfort Little League and will work on a shared agreement for them to utilize the baseball field. Commissioner Shoemaker motioned to approve the land lease, Commissioner Woods seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF EC&R

Lael Eason, Project Manager of E.ON Climate and Renewables spoke regarding the benefits of having Wind Farms in Clinton County and asked the Commissioners to vote to lift the Moratorium.

IN THE MATTER OF RESPONSIBLE HARVEST OF CLINTON COUNTY, INC.

Andy Robertson spoke on behalf of Responsible Harvest in regards to the disadvantages of Wind Farms and asked the Commissioners to maintain the Moratorium against industrial wind development.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people spoke in regards to wind farms:

Jerry Cox- is in support of the Wind Farms, he feels they are very clean and cause no harm. He stated he worked with E.ON and they are very helpful.

Mark Seest-lives by Edna Mills and he would like to see a referendum to see how many people support wind farms. He is a pilot that has seen turbines everywhere in other parts of the world and they are never located in residential areas. In Germany, where E.ON is based out of, the turbines are placed in the woods where they have carved out a place for them, not next to homes. He asked the Commissioners to consider these points.

Janiece Snodgrass- is concerned about noise and how their animals react to the noise produced by the turbines. She is not against wind energy just not in a populated area.

Tracy Evans-lives in Sugar Creek Township and is concerned about the set backs off the foundations and not the property line. He is also concerned about the micropiles that may contaminate the drinking water.

Commissioner Shoemaker stated he dismissed the Baker Tilly Report 100% when it first came out and still does. He commented on some of the projects the county has been able to accomplish, such as the I-65 project and others. He is not inclined to lift the moratorium today.

Commissioner Woods made addressed the idea of a referendum, stating it is the Commissioners job to make these decisions that is what they are elected to do. He takes exception with the Baker Tilly report also. He also does not like the division this has caused in the county. He stated things may change in the future with technology but for now he votes no.

Commissioner Uitts stated he would echo the statements made by the other Commissioners. He would like to set the record straight about the Baker Tilly Report stating it was tool that we contracted for so that the County Council could make some decisions based on this report. The guidelines that were asked for in the report: where we are at, what are we not doing with county funds that we could be doing and what would a wind farm mean for our assessed evaluation. It was not to be used as a scare tactic or weaponized. We are in a very strong financial state. It is hard to gauge how many people support wind farms and how many do not.

Commissioner Woods also stated he felt it would have been inappropriate for the commissioners to go to the get together and presentation given by E.ON at the fairgrounds where there were gifts, prizes and drawings.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY UPDATE

Kevin Myers reported: All chip sealing is complete. Central Paving started mixing cold mix on Wednesday, there is enough to make about 7000 ton. They rented a paver, should be able to start paving next week.

He sent specs for quotes to four dealers for a new one ton patch truck. They are to email quotes by Friday, September 20th and he will bring them to the Commissioners meeting on Oct. 7th for approval.

Commissioner Shoemaker stated he has received a lot of compliments about the roads.

Commissioner Woods asked if they were going to take the railroad tracks out on Maish Road. Kevin stated he has not been contacted by those people and will follow up on it.

IN THE MATTER OF AREA PLAN UPDATE

Liz Stitzel reported: Updated the Commissioners on the Sheets market property north of town. There was a death in the ownership. They are currently taking bids to remove the rest of it. They are hopeful that it will be cleaned up before the end of the year.

The sellers of property on 1300 East have obtained soil reports and it appears there is a spot where a septic could go, but does call for a drainage outlet. Sellers are requesting a 120 day extension to put in septic and well with the understanding that if they are not able to get it done the property could still be removed. Commissioner Shoemaker motioned to grant 120 day extension for the property on 1300 East, Commissioner Woods seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Shoemaker stated that the County has acquired a lot at 1301 W. Morrison St. sometime in the past. There have been neighbors complaining about overgrowth and the dumping of trash on the property and because there are trees and concrete on the lot he would like to use money in the demolition line to clean it up.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Carol Bartley reported that the tax sale will be moved to the Library Theater.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Woods reported that the Sheriff has a quote to purchase a truck for maintenance using funds from Commissary for \$39,472.55. Commissioner Woods motioned for Sheriff to proceed with purchase, Commissioner Shoemaker seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES

Commissioner Woods motioned to accept the September 4, 2019 Regular meeting minutes, Commissioner Shoemaker seconded, motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Commissioner Woods moved to approve the following claims as submitted, Commissioner Shoemaker seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Friday claims dated September 6 , 2019 in the amount of \$32,306.12

Friday claims dated September 13, 2019 in the amount of \$12,524.92

Friday claims dated September 6, 2019 in the of \$50,000.00

Court claims dated September 16 , 2019 in the amount of \$37,922.60

Bi-weekly claims dated September , 2019 in the amount of \$715,251.22


IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL

Commissioner Woods moved to approve the following payroll claims as submitted. Commissioners Shoemaker seconded. Motion carried 3-0.


Payroll ending August 30, 2019 in the amount of \$393,415.39

Without any further business to come before the Board Commissioners, Commissioner Woods motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker at 10:11 am . Motion carried 3-0.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLINTON COUNTY



Josh Witts, President



Steve Woods



Scott Shoemaker

ATTEST:



Britt Ostler, Auditor