

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING – TIPPECANOE ROOM**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015**  
**8:30 A.M.**

The Tippecanoe County Council met Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room of the County Office Building. Council members present were: President David R. Williams, Vice-President John R. Basham II, Bryan E. Metzger, Sally J. Siegrist, Kevin L. Underwood, Kathy Vernon, and Roland K. Winger. Others present were: Auditor Bob Plantenga, Attorney Doug Masson, and Recording Secretary Tillie Hennigar.

**PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE**

President Williams called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT – Bob Plantenga**

Auditor Plantenga reviewed the General Fund and COIT Fund Financial Statement for April, 2015 stating the beginning Cash Balance for the General Fund is \$9,564,171.62. With 2015 Projected Miscellaneous Revenue and Property Taxes, funds available total \$40,885,204.62. Deducting encumbrances, the approved budget, and the minimum balance, the beginning net balance is \$1,327,809.62. The appropriations for this year total \$83,371.00 and miscellaneous expenditures of \$1,076.32; the amount available for appropriation in the General Fund is \$1,243,362.30. The COIT Fund beginning cash balance was \$2,293,808.98. Adding the Miscellaneous Revenue, deducting the encumbrances and the budget; the total balance available for appropriation in the COIT Fund is \$453,847.98.

Financial Statement Through April 30, 2015				
	General Fund	COIT Fund	Combined Funds	
Cash Balance (01/01/2015):	\$9,564,171.62	\$2,293,808.98	\$11,857,980.60	
DLGF Approved 2015 Projected Miscellaneous Revenue	\$10,157,505.00	\$8,397,574.00	\$18,555,079.00	
Property Tax Approved Abstract (99%)	\$21,935,914.00	\$0.00	\$21,935,914.00	
Less: Abstract Circuit Breaker Credit Estimate	\$772,386.00	\$0.00	\$772,386.00	
Total Funds Available	\$40,885,204.62	\$10,691,382.98	\$51,576,587.60	
Less: 2015 Encumbrances	\$895,474.00	\$49,454.00	\$944,928.00	
Less: DLGF Approved 2015 Budget	\$32,661,921.00	\$8,688,081.00	\$41,350,002.00	
Less: Council Approved Minimum Balance (Res 2013-24-CL)	\$6,000,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$7,500,000.00	
<b>Beginning Net Balance</b>	<b>\$1,327,809.62</b>	<b>\$453,847.98</b>	<b>\$1,781,657.60</b>	
<b>Additional Appropriations</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Granted</b>
January	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00
February	\$28,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
March	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
April	\$39,871.00	\$39,871.00	\$0.00	\$39,871.00
May	\$10,911.00			\$0.00
June				\$0.00
July				\$0.00
August				\$0.00
September				\$0.00
October				\$0.00
November				\$0.00
December				\$0.00
Total Additional Appropriations	\$119,282.00	\$83,371.00	\$0.00	\$83,371.00
<b>Budget Reductions</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Gen Fund Granted</b>	<b>COIT Fund Granted</b>	<b>Total Granted</b>
Year to Date	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Expenditures (year to date total)		\$1,076.32	\$0.00	\$1,076.32
<b>Available for Appropriation</b>	<b>\$1,243,362.30</b>	<b>\$453,847.98</b>	<b>\$1,697,210.28</b>	

Auditor Plantenga reviewed the 2015 County General Revenue reflecting the budget estimate and the year-to-date actual through April 30, 2015. He noted Account 335.32-55 Public Defender Commission received the quarterly distribution of \$184,217.83. The distribution is the second one of 2015 and the account is at 56.97% of budget. Account 342.42-20 DOC Inmate Housing received \$182,661.42. COIT received the monthly distribution; the total COIT Fund is at 31.87% which is the expected at this point.

Auditor Plantenga reviewed the Court Services Revenue and Expenditures included in the Council packet. Fund 575 Revenue was \$32,805.77 and Personal Services were \$30,210.08; a small gain. Fund 576 Violence in Community Expenses was \$12,995.12 and Revenue was \$12,228.50. Overall, Court Services gained \$1,829.07 but the Cash Balances remain over \$100,000 negative. For the month of May, the report of revenue will not be as good as April.

Reviewing the Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements, Auditor Plantenga said he added a column for Minimum Balance. The balance of Fund 310 County Self Insurance is at \$385,552.65.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Weston presented the Summary of 2015 Interest through April. April interest at \$21,746.96 brings the total for the year to \$105,977.22. The interest through April, 2014 was \$106,059.00 and the 2015 General Fund is up \$2,900.00 compared to 2014.

2015 Tippecanoe County Treasurer Interest Summary					
Fund Name	Jan	Feb	March	April	Total
001 General Fund	15,230.87	10,878.84	14,996.92	13,026.19	54,132.82
010 Cumulative Capital Development	844.26	807.89	781.56	416.67	2,650.38
* 011 Cumulative Bridge	743.87	614.37	565.29	513.61	2,437.14
014 Title IV-D Incentive	0.00	30.55	37.72	24.91	93.18
* 101 Highway	521.07	456.43	508.33	517.76	2,003.59
* 102 Local Road & Street	138.53	113.12	125.28	116.85	493.78
* 104 Highway Escrow	14.53	13.13	14.54	14.08	56.28
* 126 Naturalist Program Gift	0.00	33.81	44.97	25.08	103.86
162 IV-D 1099 Child Support	0.00	10.11	11.92	10.53	32.56
172 ID Security Protection	68.23	45.44	60.71	30.64	205.02
191 County 911	866.91	666.45	924.86	533.27	2,991.49
241 F-Lake Detention	56.20	41.37	55.02	30.69	183.28
* 242 Drain Maintenance	432.54	389.73	431.05	399.06	1,652.38
* 243 General Drain Improvements	283.56	256.25	283.63	268.81	1,092.25
247 Phase II Stormwater	717.97	527.64	692.90	388.39	2,326.90
248 Berlovitz Detention	2.60	1.88	2.01	1.12	7.61
256 IV-D Prosecutor Incentive	0.00	49.73	64.19	41.75	155.67
263 Federal Drug Forfeitures	23.99	17.66	22.32	5.86	69.83
280 Reassessment 2017	59.44	29.80	33.24	13.74	136.22
301 EDIT	6,502.33	4,458.22	6,072.33	3,452.74	20,485.62
305 Southeast Industrial TIF	450.51	312.61	408.67	213.37	1,385.16
310 Self Insurance / Insurance	151.81	88.67	116.82	85.99	443.29
311 Self Insurance / Public Officials	107.68	78.38	103.60	56.83	346.49
312 Self Insurance / Commissioners	74.28	53.90	71.51	39.88	239.57
313 Self Insurance / Highway	58.15	43.20	58.55	31.84	191.74
314 Self Insurance / Sheriff	186.13	131.82	174.97	97.58	590.50
* 320 EDIT Landfill	0.00	0.00	4,058.32	9.12	4,067.44
322 Parking Garage Maintenance	134.82	99.67	133.69	74.70	442.68
333 Wabash River Hydrology	3.31	2.43	3.24	1.81	10.79
480 Battle Ground Fence	9.12	6.71	8.93	4.98	29.74
481 Capital Park	12.77	9.40	12.50	6.97	41.64
708 Innkeepers	433.04	344.92	509.45	273.23	1,560.64
709 J&C Highway Escrow	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.12
743 Congressional School Interest	17.79	13.09	17.41	9.70	57.99
* 750 Frances Powers Trust	0.13	0.11	0.13	0.12	0.49
780 Project (Revolving)	843.50	1,205.12	1,595.97	887.34	4,531.93
835 Great Lakes	222.98	164.13	218.29	121.75	727.15
Total	29,212.72	21,796.58	33,220.96	21,746.96	105,977.22

\* Fund has its own bank account which retains the interest earned

Treasurer Weston reviewed the Interest Rate Weighted Average for the end of April, 2015. Chase Bank, where online tax payments were held, has been closed. Online payments are now deposited directly through Beacon into the E-Check account at Lafayette Bank & Trust. Lafayette Bank and Trust has an Account Balance of \$80,847,291.89. Overall, total cash is down compared to this time last year due to MVH, the Drain Maintenance, and the Landfill; all have gone down in balance with the \$3 million distributed for the Build Tippecanoe concept. The weighted average interest rate was 0.34% and will stay consistent due to the lack of diversified banks.

Interest Rate Weighted Average			
<b>April 2015</b>	<u>Account Balance</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Interest</u>
<b><u>Chase Bank</u></b>			
Property Tax	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00
Chase Total	\$0.00		\$0.00
<b><u>Lafayette Bank &amp; Trust</u></b>			
Savings	\$62,513,501.61	0.35%	\$14,674.63
Primary/sweep	\$9,582,306.73	0.30%	\$963.72
Flex Benefits	\$85,104.07	0.00%	\$0.00
Claims/sweep	\$2,199,171.07	0.30%	\$500.96
Cary Home	\$427.40	0.35%	\$0.12
Cumulative Bridge	\$1,599,419.17	0.35%	\$513.61
Local Road & Street	\$419,708.61	0.35%	\$116.85
Drain Maintenance	\$1,371,942.72	0.35%	\$399.06
Gen Drain Main	\$870,841.79	0.35%	\$268.81
Hwy Escrow	\$48,943.27	0.35%	\$14.08
MVH	\$1,960,959.16	0.35%	\$517.76
E-Check	\$194,966.29	0.35%	\$11.43
Lafayette Bank & Trust Total	\$80,847,291.89		\$17,981.03
<i>Note: Claims Balance does not include Outstanding checks</i>			
Average Interest Rate		0.34%	
This Month (Weighted Average Rate)	\$80,847,291.89	0.34%	
Last Month (Weighted Average Rate)	\$60,140,618.54	0.34%	
<b><u>Morgan Stanley</u></b>			
EDIT Landfill	\$4,789,720.55	n/a	\$9.12
High Balance	\$14,567,473.23	n/a	\$2,506.81
Morgan Stanley Total	\$19,357,193.78		\$2,515.93
<b><u>First Empire</u></b>			
High Balance	\$3,474,010.47	n/a	\$1,250.00
First Empire Total	\$3,474,010.47		\$1,250.00

Treasurer Weston provided a handout summarizing the online tax payments to date, saying last year we went live with Beacon as a portal for property tax information. The online payment system was down for about a month while transitioning to Beacon exclusively; going live on April 15. Yesterday was the biggest day with 279 transactions totaling \$287,163.27. To date, 1,235 transactions have been received online totaling \$1,283,306.35. Totals are similar to 2014 which received 1,211 transactions and a total of \$1,080,000.00.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items) - none**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting – April 14, 2015

Tippecanoe Villa – General Fund 001 Transfer	\$ 6,500	Departmental / Farm to Automotive Expense / Maintenance
	500	Departmental / Farm to Utilities / Heating Fuel
Juvenile Alternative – DOC Grant Fund 641 Transfer	\$ 2,000	Salaries & Wages / Part Time to Automotive Expense / Maintenance
Juvenile Alternative – DOC Grant Fund 641 Transfer	\$ 6,931	Salaries & Wages / Part Time to Contracts / Miscellaneous &
	200	Salaries & Wages / Part Time to General Operating / Postage
Health – General Fund 001 Transfer	\$ 9,289	Salaries & Wages / Full Time Employee to Contracts / Legal Services
	711	Social Security / Social Security to Contracts / Legal Services
Health- Emergency Preparedness Fund 477 Transfer	\$ 8,102	Salaries & Wages / Part Time – Other to Equipment / Emergency Equipment
	430	Social Security / Social Security to Equipment / Emergency Equipment
	190	Social Security / Social Security to Departmental / Miscellaneous

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:****ANCILLARY– Judge Busch****General Fund 001**

- Councilmember Winger moved to approve the appropriation request of \$3,171 for Ancillary Court as presented, second by Councilmember Siegrist.

Circuit Court Judge Busch stated he is the Supervising Judge for Ancillary Court. One of the functions of Ancillary Court is to provide backup for the three courts which have only one court reporter each. In the 2015 budget, \$7,000 was cut from the part time line; leaving \$15,000 for the position. The estimate needed was \$25,000 and Judge Busch made an additional appropriation request for \$10,000. With the new judges and personnel, Judge Myers expanded the role of his part time Bailiff/Court Reporter; reducing the need for two part time court reporters in Ancillary Court. During the first two months of 2015, Ancillary Court was paying two court reporters until Judge Myers hired the Bailiff/Court Reporter.

His request is to replace the funds that were paid to the second court reporter at the beginning of the year. Ancillary Court has a full time and a part time court reporter. When fully staffed, the part time reporter covers Circuit Court, the full time reporter covers Superior Court 2, and the part time reporter in Superior 2 covers Superior 2. When someone is on vacation, the staff is utilized in a different way. The request is for \$3,171. A portion of the request, \$2,627, will make up for the money paid to the second court reporter at the beginning of the year.

The remaining \$544 request is related to the raise he is requesting for the part time court reporter. Judge Busch said it is a special situation for Jackie James who has worked for the County for 34 years, retired at the maximum rate for a full time court reporter of approximately \$22 per hour. Ms. James agreed to stay part time and is invaluable as she knows each of the courts to provide coverage, advice and training to the other full time employees. Her background and skill is important to function with only one court reporter. Ms. James is paid \$16 an hour currently which is \$6 less per hour than her full time rate and Judge Busch requested an increase to \$17 per hour.

Councilmember Winger said the history on Ancillary part time has been around \$15,000 per year. Judge Busch said one year the amount was down; however, the history has been \$22,000. The year it was down was due to being short staffed and others worked without taking vacations and also worked overtime. Councilmember Winger said the two positions existed after the budget was approved which creates two dilemmas 1) the court was budgeted \$15,000 which assumes one part time position. At the start of the year, there were two part time positions until the rearrangement with Judge Meyer's Court. 2) the part time employee who is making \$16 an hour (the highest part time reporter rate) and the request for an additional \$1 per hour. The request at budget time was \$22,000 but the approval was for \$15,000. A \$7,000 request has now turned into a \$3,171 request. The dilemma remains that an employee was kept on the payroll knowing the \$15,000 would run out.

Councilmember Winger asked Auditor Plantenga to confirm the history amount, saying he reviewed the past four years – three of the four were at \$15,000 and one year was at \$21,000. Councilmember Siegrist said the part time person knew when she took the part time position that the pay was \$16 per hour and she thinks it would not set a good precedent to raise the pay above the pay grade of the position. Judge Busch said the pay grade is not based upon a salary study like the full time positions. Councilmember Siegrist stated there are several part time employees in the various courts and if the pay is raised for one, it opens up raises for part time employees past where Council has been able to budget comfortably.

Councilmember Winger said when Judge Meyer absorbed the second position; he did so without a pending budget request. Working it out within the given budget was the challenge. Judge Busch said when fully staffed, Jackie comes in two days per week and covers for the full time court reporter so she can prepare orders from the courtroom and mail. In a regular week, they need the equivalent of seven days of court reporter time. When someone is away, she needs to work an extra day. Through the end of the year she will work an average of 18 hours per week.

Auditor Plantenga stated that the part time salary for Ancillary the last few years beginning with 2014 was \$14,500; \$15,800 in 2013; \$21,600 in 2012; \$23,400 in 2011; \$18,200 in 2010; and \$10,100 in 2009. Councilmember Siegrist asked how the decrease in filings impacts the number of hours a court reporter is needed. Judge Busch said it depends on the kind of filings; the greatest need is to cover the large volume of mail – collection cases create more mail. Most collection cases are filed in Superior Court and they have the greatest need for a second full time reporter. There is a large volume of mail in Circuit Court and less volume in Superior Court 2 due to the different caseloads.

Councilmember Winger said 18 hours per week at \$16 per hour for 52 weeks is \$15,000. \$15,000 is budgeted and would cover 18 hours at the highest part time rate available for a part time reporter for the

year. The Council is aware it will take some time for transition and reorganization in the courts. There is no budget increase from Judge Meyer's court for the remainder of the year. The \$2,600 equates to about 90 hours per month for two months at the rate the person was being paid. If Judge Busch keeps the 18 hours per week, the decision will need made later in the year versus now. The bottom line is there were two people working a position that was only funded for one for two months. Councilmember Winger continued to say it sets dangerous precedent to say this is a special employee with a lot of experience. Also to consider is the fact the position was budgeted at \$16 per hour and he is in favor of revising the request to \$2,627. Auditor Plantenga said the Social Security was missing from the request and the requested total should be \$2,828.

- Councilmember Winger moved to revise the motion approving \$3,171 for Ancillary Court, second by Councilmember Siegrist; motion carried.

**Appropriation \$2,828**

\$ 2,828 Salaries & Wages / Part Time

- Councilmember Winger moved to approve the amended motion and approve \$2,828 for Ancillary Court, second by Councilmember Siegrist; motion carried.

**Salary Statement**

\$ 17.00/hr Part Time Court Reporter – Ancillary

- Councilmember Winger moved to approve the Salary Statement as presented, there was no second to the motion; motion died.

***SUPERIOR COURT 4 - Judge Zeman***

**General Fund 001**

- Councilmember Winger moved to approve the appropriation for Superior Court 4 in the amount of \$1,040 as presented, second by Councilmember Siegrist.

Superior Court 4 Bailiff Deb Shuler requested an appropriation for the Pauper Attorney. The Pauper Attorneys were appointed last year under Judge Donat and the bills are now coming in. Councilmember Winger asked if Judge Zeman was aware of the Conflict Attorney Pool the Commissioners oversee. Bailiff Shuler said she could not speak to that issue for Judge Zeman.

**Appropriation \$1,040**

\$ 1,040 Court Expenses / Pauper Attorney

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted in favor of the additional appropriation for Superior Court 4 in the amount of \$1,040.

**Jury Pay Fund 550**

Bailiff Shuler said the Jury Fund 550 started out with \$1,000 this year and there have already been two trials in April; Fund 550 is depleted. Over the past five years with Judge Donat, there were two trials in the five year period. They anticipate six more trials this year at an average of \$500 per trial to pay jurors.

Councilmember Winger said the trials average \$500 per trial and he suggested appropriating half of the request allowing for three trials and \$1,500.

**Appropriation \$1,500**

\$ 1,500 Court Expenses / Jury Expense

- Councilmember Winger moved to approve \$1,500 for Jury Expense Fund 550, second by Councilmember Siegrist; motion carried.

Auditor Plantenga said the Jury Pay Fund currently has approximately \$26,500. There are unspent appropriations of \$22,600, leaving less than \$3,000 of unappropriated funds. Future jury pay requests will need to come from the General Fund.

***PROSECUTOR – Pat Harrington***  
**FSSA APS Grant Fund 252**

- Councilmember Siegrist moved to approve the FSSA APS Grant Fund 252 in the amount of \$11,000 for the Prosecutor as presented, second by Councilmember Winger.

Prosecutor Harrington said at the last meeting he stated additional grant funds would come in to balance to zero by the end of the State fiscal year, July 1.

**Grant Appropriation \$11,000**

\$	2,956	Salaries & Wages / Full Time Employee
\$	105	Retirement / PERF
\$	7,902	Insurance Benefit / Health
\$	30	Insurance Benefit/Long Term Disability
\$	7	Insurance Benefit / Life

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted in favor of the appropriation from FSSA APS Grant Fund 252 for the Prosecutor in the amount of \$11,000.

**Law Enforcement Warrant Fund 266**

- Councilmember Siegrist moved to approve the Law Enforcement Warrant Fund 266 in the amount of \$81,000 as presented, second by Councilmember Winger.

**Appropriation \$81,000**

\$	76,000	Equipment / Vehicles (Plated)
\$	5,000	Automotive Expense / Maintenance

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted in favor of the appropriation from Law Enforcement Warrant Fund 266 for the Prosecutor in the amount of \$81,000.

***COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Dave Heath***  
**Misdemeanant Fund 178 (Tabled from 4/14/15 Council Meeting)**

- Councilmember Metzger moved to remove from the table the motion from the April 14 Council meeting for Community Corrections Misdemeanant Fund 178, second by Councilmember Underwood.

Community Corrections Director Heath said he discussed the radio situation with “Smokey” Anderson and the request can be changed from the \$32,500 to buy twelve new radios. There are 25 radios and the actual cost to replace those was \$78,000; however, it has been determined that the current radios can be reprogrammed at approximately \$800 each. The amount can be reduced by \$12,500, dropping the total request to \$58,000.

- Councilmember Metzger moved to amend the previous motion from \$70,500 to \$58,000 for Misdemeanant Fund 178, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

**Appropriation \$58,000**

\$ 29,000	Equipment / Vehicles (Plated)
\$ 20,000	Equipment / Miscellaneous
\$ 9,000	Miscellaneous (body cameras)

- Motion carried, all Councilmember voted in favor of the appropriation from Misdemeanant Fund 178 for Community Corrections in the amount of \$58,000.

***SHERIFF – Barry Richard***  
**Misdemeanant Fund 178**

- Councilmember Metzger moved to approve an appropriation for the Sheriff’s Department in the amount of \$41,000 from the Misdemeanant Fund 178 as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood.

Sheriff Richard stated he wanted to modify the request from \$41,000 to \$33,000 for Fund 178 and utilize money from the Commissary account.

- Councilmember Metzger moved to amend the previous motion and approve \$33,000 for the Sheriff’s Department from the Misdemeanant Fund 178, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

Auditor Plantenga said with the \$58,000 just approved for Community Corrections, there is \$19,581 of uncommitted funds left in the Misdemeanant Fund. The Fund shows more but there are other appropriations for committed funds for utilities, uniforms, contracts, etc.

Sheriff Richard modified his request for \$33,000 to \$19,581 from Misdemeanant Fund 178.

Councilmember Siegrist asked for the balance of the Commissary Fund. Sheriff Richard said the Commissary Fund has about \$190,000. The Records Management Service Contract will utilize \$40,000 from Commissary Fund as the 911 Fund will not pay it.

- Councilmember Metzger moved to amend the prior motion approving \$33,000 and approve an appropriation of \$19,581 from Misdemeanant Fund 178, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

**Appropriation \$19,581**

\$ 19,581      Contracts / Miscellaneous

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted in favor of approving an appropriation of \$19,581 for Misdemeanant Fund 178.

**Animal Control Fund 308**

- Councilmember Metzger moved to approve an appropriation of \$3,000 for Animal Control Fund 308 as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood.

**Appropriation \$3,000**

\$ 3,000      Administrative/Other Prof Service

President Williams said there is not \$3,000 available in Fund 308 and recommended the appropriation request be withdrawn at this time. Sheriff Richard withdrew the appropriation request.

***FAIRGROUNDS*****General Fund 001****Appropriation \$6,700**

\$ 6,700      Maintenance / Grounds

Commissioner Murtaugh requested the appropriation from General Fund 001 be withdrawn; the request will be heard under Cumulative Capital Development Fund 010. Auditor Plantenga said the request came from the General Fund, it was also advertised in Cum Cap to provide the Fund option at the meeting. Also, the amount was advertised at \$6,711.

***COMMISSIONERS - Tom Murtaugh/Judge Zeman*****Cum Cap Dev Fund 010**

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the appropriation from Cum Cap Fund 010 in the amount of \$35,000 as presented, second by Councilmember Basham.

Commissioner Murtaugh said Judge Zeman is present to address the details of the request. Judge Zeman was not part of the budget process where the request for office equipment would normally be budgeted and approved as part of the Cum Cap plans. The office furniture in Superior Court IV needs replaced; the dilemma is to whether to do it now or at the review of the entire Cum Cap budget.

Judge Zeman said the office furniture in her court is being held together by duct tape; the furniture is so old, the Auditor could not find when it was purchased. She remembers the same furniture was in the Loeb building in the 1990's when the Courthouse was being remodeled. Ergonomically, the furniture does not work with the type of computer equipment used today - it's uncomfortable and falling apart. She has one bid and space plan from Staples in Indianapolis and plans to get another bid locally from Smith Office. President Williams said he would like to see the money go to a local business if possible.

**Appropriation \$35,000**

\$ 35,000 Equipment / Office

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted in favor of approving \$35,000 from Cum Cap Fund 010.

**Cum Cap Dev Fund 010 – Roberta Crabtree**

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the appropriation from Cum Cap Dev Fund 010 in the amount of \$6,700, second by Councilmember Basham.

Extension Office Director Crabtree said they inadvertently failed to make the request last year. There are two mowers on the Fairgrounds property; one which operates. The request is to trade in the John Deere mower with a 72" deck for a new mower with a 52" deck. When tents are placed at the Fairgrounds, there is supposed to be 72" between the stakes but the spacing is not always accurate and the larger mower does not fit; a smaller deck should keep the grounds looking nicer during tent sales. The bid from Westside Tractor is for \$6,711 which includes the trade in of the John Deere for \$1,800.

- Councilmember Underwood moved to amend the motion to \$6,711 as advertised, second by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

**Appropriation \$6,711**

\$ 6,711 Equipment / Maintenance

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted to approve the appropriation in the amount of \$6,711 for the Fairgrounds from Cum Cap Dev Fund 010.

***ASSESSOR – Eric Grossman***

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approve the 2015 Salary Statement for the Assessor as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood.

Assessor Grossman said the proposal is to create a job of Project Manager. When the Township Assessors were eliminated and rolled into the County Assessor, Assessor Steele handled it by creating Department Head and Senior Deputy positions. When Assessor Phillips reorganized, she created a Data Analyst position (held by Eric) which focused only on annual adjustments and trending. When he left, Assessor Phillips created a position of Data Sales and Appeals Manager which is a PAT IV position. Assessor Grossman said the change was good as the people who derive value involving annual adjustments and trending have the best perspective to be involved in appeals. A Project Manager makes the position even broader by specifying specific departments or projects. This person could be involved in any of the major functions, cyclical or non-reoccurring, in the Assessor Office.

To work with the budget, Assessor Grossman said he has two Comot III positions which are open. His proposal to the Commissioners is to eliminate the two positions in lieu of the new Project Manager position. The savings in salary will be around \$20,000 and it will also eliminate a full time benefit package. The real benefit for the Assessor Office is a savings of \$30,000 for an Income Works contract. Income Works provides assistance with commercial industrial assessments; the new position job description specifies working with commercial industrial assessments. The goal is to bring the

commercial industrial assessments in-house and phase out the Income Works contract by next year or by 2017 at the latest. There is no request for additional funds.

Councilmember Vernon summarized the request as a new Assessor comes in, assesses the needs of the department and what's best for the work flow, how to save the County money in the process, working toward that goal as we proceed into 2016, and looking to see what this person can do to eliminate contracts.

**2015 Salary Statement \$47,609**

\$ 47,609 Project Manager – New Position

- Motion carried, all Councilmembers voted in favor of approving the Salary Statement in the amount of \$47,609 for the Assessor as presented; motion carried.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

Councilmember Basham reported on the Romney Sewer District saying he received a letter yesterday from the US Department of Agriculture. The letter stated the income survey provided in April is acceptable and will be used to determine the Romney Sewer District eligibility for the water and environmental program. Councilmember Basham said another step has been made.

***UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS - none***

***COMMISSIONER FYI***

Commissioner Murtaugh reported the following:

- Andrew Cline has been hired at the Fairgrounds as the Director. He is a landscape architect and we look forward to improvements at the Fairgrounds.
- All Councilmembers are invited to participate in the Hoosier Heartland Steering Committee Focus Groups being conducted yesterday and today with the elected officials. The meeting will begin immediately following the Council meeting in the Grand Prairie room.
- At 2:00 today there will be a press conference in regard to the Bicentennial celebration in 2016 and the activities that will occur in Tippecanoe County.

***PUBLIC COMMENT***

Highway Director Kuhl provided an update of the rural road conditions. The roads literally fell apart when the frost came out of the ground, causing some serious problems. The problems also affected surrounding counties and counties all over the state this year. Repairs have started with a lot of patching and a little paving; permanent fixes will be later. During a normal year, the Highway Department completes around 40 miles of paving and chip sealing. The plan for this year was 26 miles of chip/seal and 17 miles of resurface. After the roads began falling apart, more miles were added. All roads have been physically looked at to determine how much they deteriorated; adding more miles. At this point, there are 88 miles in need of chip/seal, resurface, or serious patching which is not realistic. To do all of the 88 miles would require an additional appropriation of \$974,000 and more manpower than is available. Director Kuhl and Mike Spencer have looked at all the smaller jobs such as curbs, drainage problems, and inlets that take away from the crews when working on roads. The smaller jobs are being handled by sub-contractors.

Director Kuhl said she wants to come back next month to report on progress and the outlook for the year. Currently, they are using the \$1 million in Wheel Tax and the \$1 million from Build Tippecanoe.

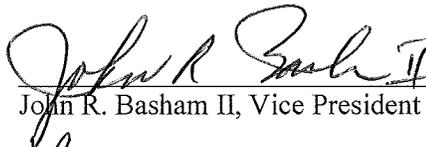
As there were no additional public comments, Councilmember Winger motioned to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

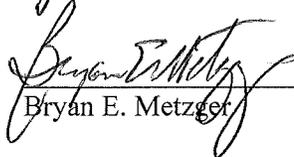
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL



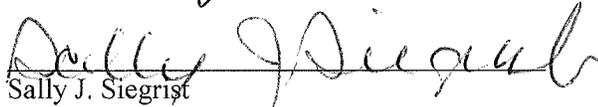
David R. Williams, President



John R. Basham II, Vice President



Bryan E. Metzger



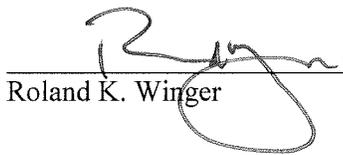
Sally J. Siegrist



Kevin L. Underwood



Kathy Vernon



Roland K. Winger

ATTEST:



Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor 6/09/2015