TIPPECANOE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
May 7, 2012

The Tippecanoe County Commissioners met on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Commissioners present were: President Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice President John L. Knochel, and Commissioner David S. Byers. Also present were: Attorney Dave Luhman, Auditor Jennifer Weston, Commissioner's Assistant Frank Cederquist, and Secretary Tillie Hennigar.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 16, 2012, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers for April 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, and May 2, 3, and 7, 2012 as submitted without exception, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

AUDITOR – Jennifer Weston
2013 Salary Options

Auditor Weston presented salary options for 2013. It is preliminary, but a recommendation will be needed in order to have Salary Statements to the Auditor's office by July 1. Looking at an incremental 1% increase in Wages, Social Security, and PERF for an individual person, the cost is $277,000. Based on the current year split of 83%/17% between General Fund and all other Funds, the General Fund cost would be $230,000. Community Corrections and WIC are not included as they are on different budget years.

Regarding the Compensation Study completed in 2008, a portion was implemented in 2009 and another portion was implemented for the current year. By classification, Auditor Weston listed what it would cost to get up-to-market. Total, including Probation's state schedule, (a 2.2% increase) across all the charts, is just over $1 million. Last year at budget hearings, Council discussed a 2-3 year implementation. As an 83%/17% split, the cost to the General Fund would be $841,000. A 1.5% increase in PERF is expected. A recommendation at the next meeting or no later than the June 4th meeting is necessary for timing of Salary Statements.

HIGHWAY – Opal Kuhl
Petition for the vacation of unimproved Streets and Alleys in the Town of Monroe

Director Kuhl said a hearing date is needed for the vacation of streets and alleys in the town of Monroe. She has the Ordinance, the Petition, the hearing notice, and the letters from the utility company. Once the hearing date is set, the letters can be sent to all parties involved.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve June 4, 2012 as the hearing date, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

Application for a Permit to close Washington and Jefferson Streets in the Town of West Point on May 19, 2012 for the Lions Club Car Show

Director Kuhl said the permit to close streets in West Point is for the annual car show which will run from 6:00 am until 2:00 pm on May 19, 2012.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the closing of streets as presented, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

BUILDING COMMISSION – Ken Brown
Unsafe Structure Update

Building Commissioner Brown presented pictures and an update of two structures which are considered unsafe. Both properties are located in Colburn, Indiana. The first structure at 10022 Carney Street has previously been cited as a junk yard and is a foreclosure. There is significant damage to the roof, fascia, and front porch. Children have been entering through an open window, getting into the crawl space and further damaging walls. Inside, the house is full of trash and garbage. The chimney is split in half and has lost some brick. Notification by certified and regular mail was recently sent to the previous owners, Mr. and Mrs. William Schnepp and the two lending institutions involved with the property. Without cooperation, the board will need to decide about demolition by the County. Attorney Luhman said the first step is to contact the owners, notify them that the Building Commissioner has determined a violation of the Unsafe Building Ordinance, and ask them to correct the situation by a certain time. If not corrected, the next step is to come to the Commissioners for a public hearing to request an order for demolition. Commissioner Knochel said action can be taken 30 days after notification.

The second structure at 10111 Strong Avenue is not in danger of collapse. The roof is still good, but windows have been knocked out and the door kicked in. Complaints have been received by phone and in writing about children partying in the house. There is a very strong odor in the house of unknown origin. Ken indicated he has recently contacted the owner by telephone. She is an attorney in Indianapolis and is willing to cooperate with the requests of the County. A neighbor is interested in purchasing the property and tearing it down. No letters have been sent on the Strong Avenue property.

Building Commissioner Brown said the Ash Grove elevator is a third structure to discuss. Nola Gentry, the owner, contracted with a gentleman to tear it down. In speaking with the gentleman this morning, he indicated it should be done by the end of the summer. Ken advised him that was not acceptable and a time frame would be presented. By providing a deadline, the unsafe portion, which is the cupola, could be torn down. Once the cupola is removed, it will *probably* not be considered unsafe. Commissioner Byers suggested June 1 as the deadline for removal of the cupola. President Murtaugh, Building Commissioner Brown, and Commissioner Knochel agreed that June 15 was a better time frame.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to set June 15 as the deadline for removal of the cupola(s) from the Ash Grove elevator, second by President Murtaugh; motion carried.

COURT SERVICES – Cindy Houseman
Professional Services Agreement for Grant-Funded Educator

Executive Director Houseman said the agreement was originally grant-funded but the contract effective April 16, 2012 through April 16, 2014 is not, requiring a new contract.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the Professional Services Agreement for Chuck Cichanowicz as presented, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Dave Heath
Department of Correction Grant Agreement

Executive Director Heath presented a grant agreement between the Indiana Department of Corrections (DOC), the County Commissioners, and the Auditor of Tippecanoe County to receive a grant for Community Corrections. The grant is in the amount of $1,282,478 with an effective date of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the Gant Agreement as presented, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

SECOND ADDENDUM TO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR DISSOLUTION OF WILDCAT CREEK SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – Accounts Payable

Attorney Luhman said the Controller for the Wildcat Creek Solid Waste Management District (WCSWMD) presented the list of claims for March 26 through April 30, 2012 totaling $6,834.53. The addendum is to the agreement with Clinton County, authorizing payment of claims from the joint WCSWMD account escrow fund. The claims include Controller services; Safety Queen for oil filter pick up from Lafayette in February; Heritage Environmental for hazardous waste pick up from Tippecanoe County; and the Underwood Insurance Agency for the liability insurance policy. The liability policy is a one-time payment and extends coverage for 24 months.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the Addendum as presented, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

APPLICATION TO VILLA

- Commissioner Knochel moved to accept the Application to Tippecanoe Villa for Robert D. Weast, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMON WAGE BOARD

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the appointment of Dave Lahr as the taxpayer representative for the common construction wage committee meeting on May 10, 2012 for the City of West Lafayette projects, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the appointment of Jean Hall as the taxpayer representative for the common construction wage committee meeting on April 25, 2012 at Purdue University, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

UNINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

President Murtaugh announced the resignation of Kinnari Sejpal from the Human Relations Commission. She is moving to Washington DC.

REPORTS ON FILE

The following reports are on file in the Commissioner's office:

Building Commission
Central Mail and Duplicating
Clerk of Circuit Court
Parks and Recreation
Public Library
Treasurer
Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pam Frazee - 9040 US 52 S, Lafayette - questioned which Indiana code the Monroe vacation petition would follow since there are two listed. Attorney Luhman said the Commissioners have authority under IC 36-9-2-5 allowing them to vacate any public right-of-ways of the county on their own motion. There is also a procedure, IC 36-7-3-12 to allow vacation by petition. While it is not required, a petition to make the public aware will be utilized for the Monroe vacation petition. Ms. Frazee inquired about presenting her information at the June 4th hearing. Attorney Luhman said the Commissioners may limit comments to three minutes if there are a number of presentations. He suggested she consider providing her presentation in written form and summarize with public comments. Ms. Frazee said she has a Power Point presentation and a 40 page written presentation. President Murtaugh said she should send the information to the Commissioners prior to the meeting.

President Murtaugh asked for additional public comments.

Sheriff Tracy Brown announced the date for the 7th annual Fish Fry and Car Show to support the Red Cross. It will be held at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds in the Home Economics Building on Friday, June 1st and tickets are now on sale.

As there were no additional public comments, Commissioner Knochel moved to adjourn.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF TIPPECANOE

Thomas P. Murtaugh, President

John L. Knochel, Vice President

David S. Byers, Member

ATTEST:

Jennifer Weston, Auditor 5-21-12