

FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 7, 2008
9:00 A.M.

The Fountain County Commissioners met on January 7, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Courthouse with the following members present: Janet Shoaf, Terry Ellingwood.

The minutes of the December 3, 2007 were approved as read.

CLAIMS

A motion was made by Janet Shoaf and seconded by Lowell Osborn to approve the computer claims #1- 208 and the monthly claims

Vote: 3-0

MONTHLY REPORTS

The Commissioners reviewed the monthly reports from the Treasurer and Clerk for November 2007.

APPOINTMENTS

A motion was made by Lowell Osborn and seconded by Janet Shoaf to keep the appointments (President, Terry Ellingwood; Vice-President, Lowell Osborn and Secretary, Janet Shoaf) the same for 2008 as they were in 2007.

Vote: 3-0

Janet Shoaf made a motion and was seconded by Lowell Osborn to keep the President of the Drainage Board (Lowell Osborn) the same as 2007 for 2008.

Vote: 3-0

A motion was made by Lowell Osborn and seconded by Janet Shoaf to appoint Wendell Haga and Norma Brown as custodians for 2008

Vote: 3-0

Before an appointment could be made for the Highway Supervisor, Terry Ellingwood read a letter to Walt Wilson regarding allegations concerning the County Highway Department. He also stated that Alan Jones had applied for the job. Mr. Ellingwood requested that Mr. Jones tell the Board his qualifications for the job.

Mr. Wilson was able to respond to some of the allegations. Janet Shoaf stated that Mr. Ellingwood's letter was only allegations and not proven facts. Janet Shoaf made a motion to appoint Walt Wilson as the Highway Supervisor for 2008. Lowell Osborn seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-1

Janet Shoaf made a motion and was seconded by Lowell Osborn to appoint Virginia Scherer as the ambulance director for 2008.

Vote: 3-0

Lowell Osborn made a motion and was seconded by Janet Shoaf to appoint Richard Holmes as the County Attorney for 2008.

Vote: 3-0

A motion was made by Lowell Osborn to appoint Tye Auter as the Veteran Service Officer for 2008. Janet Shoaf seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

Janet Shoaf made a motion and was seconded by Lowell Osborn to retain Terry Ellingwood as the representative for the LEPC Board.

Vote: 3-0

BOARD OF FINANCE

A motion was made by Lowell Osborn and seconded by Terry Ellingwood to appoint Janet Shoaf and Susan Coffing to the Board of Finance.

Vote: 3-0

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Lowell Osborn made a motion to retain Terry Ellingwood as the Building Inspector for 2008. Janet Shoaf seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

FRANZMAN INSURANCE

Janet Shoaf requested that the insurance consulting contract be tabled until the next meeting so that she may look over the contract. Lowell Osborn seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

WABASH RIVER HERITAGE CORRIDOR

Janet Shoaf made a motion to appoint Lowell Osborn to the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission. Terry Ellingwood seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

COUNTY CEMETERY COMMISSION

Jasper Fogleman requested support from the Commissioners regarding the cemeteries in Fountain County, especially those where Revolutionary Soldiers are buried. He has volunteers who are willing to go into these cemeteries to clear the overgrowth of brush and trees, repair fences, headstones etc. He also stated that there are grants available to help cover the costs. He would like the Commissioners to establish a cemetery commission. Terry Ellingwood would like to move forward. Janet Shoaf asked if the matter could be tabled until the County Attorney could research the matter further. It will be discussed again at the next meeting.

HEALTH DEPT BUILDING

Terry Ellingwood stated that the Warren County Commissioners had agreed to go with the estimate from Benny Beiler to repair the Health Department Building in the amount of \$3,400.00 to be paid from the Tobacco Settlement fund.

INVALID TAX SALE

The Auditor and County Attorney asked that Rex Bontrager be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the amount of \$107.82 from an invalid tax sale. The sale was ruled invalid due to a clerical error in the transfer.

Janet Shoaf made a motion to pay Mr. Bontrager in the amount of \$107.82. Lowell Osborn seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

JAIL

Sheriff Bass updated the Commissioners on the repairs at the Jail due to the recent flooding due to broken pipes etc. They have incurred an invoice from B & K in the amount of \$2,100.00 and Hall Electric in the amount of \$3,000.00. Sheriff Bass estimates that he will need an additional amount of \$10,000 to finish the repairs. Terry Ellingwood requested that Sheriff Bass obtain two more estimates.

Janet Shoaf made a motion to go to the Council with the request of \$10,000. Lowell Osborn seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

Sheriff Bass also stated that the fire alarm system is down at this time.

COUNTY HIGHWAY

Walt Wilson requested that the frost law be observed until further notice.

AMBULANCE

Virginia Scherer presented the Commissioners with a check for the December 2007 collections in the amount of \$57,148.93. She also submitted a year end report to each Commissioner.

E-911

E-911 Director, Crystal Gritten, requested that she pay her employees at time and a half instead of the \$8.18 per hour as per the salary ordinance. She is having difficulty in getting employees to work at the ½ time rate due to them being salaried.

The Commissioners requested that she go to the Warren County Commissioners and the E-911 Board for approval also.

JAIL PROJECT/VENDOR LETTER

The Commissioners have not received a response from the letter that was sent to each vendor regarding payment for the proposed Jail Project. The County Attorney drafted another letter to be sent.

COMPLAINT/SPEED BUMPS EAST END OF LIBERTY STREET

Stan Hardy asked who granted permission for rumble strips to be put down on the east end of Liberty Street at the North Fork. Tony Knecht, who was in attendance, stated that the matter was brought before the City Council and was basically dropped because the County and City each owns half of the roadway. Walt Wilson stated that the signs were erected to slow traffic through this area due to the Covington Circle Trail. It was suggested that a flasher instead of rumble strips would be better suited for this area.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2008 AT 6:30 P.M.

Attest: _____

Lowell Osborn

Janet Shoaf

Terry Ellingwood