

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**APRIL 15, 2002**

The Tippecanoe County Commissioners met on Monday, April 15, 2002 at 5:00 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Commissioners present were: President John L. Knochel, Vice President KD Benson, and Member Ruth E. Shedd; Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Commissioners' Assistant Jennifer Weston, County Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Benson moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2002 Regular Meeting and the April 9, 2002 Special Joint Meeting with the County Council as distributed, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

- Upon the recommendation of Commissioners' Assistant Weston, Commissioner Shedd moved to approve the Claims for the periods ending April 5, 2002, April 12, 2002, and April 15, 2002 with no exceptions, seconded by Commissioner Benson; motion carried.

**HIGHWAY: Executive Director Mark Albers**

AWARD GRADER BID Opened April 1, 2002

Mr. Albers reviewed the bid amounts for four (4) Graders from Mac Allister Machinery Co., Inc. and Holt Equipment Co. that were opened April 1, 2002:

Mac Allister	Caterpillar	\$146,791.62 ea	\$587,168.48
Holt	John Deere	\$120,650.00 ea	\$482,600.00

Although Holt was the low bidder, Mr. Albers recommended accepting the bid from Mac Allister because of two key specifications (specs): Auto shift transmission and brakes.

	<u>Caterpillar</u>	<u>John Deere</u>
Auto shift transmission	Yes	No
Brake surface	3,712 sq in	1,700 sq in
Brake system	external (less repair cost)	internal
Life span	12,000 hrs avg	6,000 hrs avg
Fuel consumption	\$37,476/yr	\$46,440/yr
Trade-in		
1993 model	\$66,000	\$38,000
1996 model	\$105,000	\$56,000
1999 model	\$126,000	\$92,000

Mr. Albers explained they think the auto shift transmission is important because it allows the operator to keep both hands on the controls at all times.

**Public Comment**

Bill Ettinger, Holt Equipment Regional Sales Manager, said he reviewed the bids and believes Holt met all advertised specs and is the low responsible bidder. He said the operator does not have to stop to shift the automatic transmission, does not have to use the clutch, but does have to use a hand to shift. He said the brake life and square inch conform to industry standard, but he doesn't understand the difference noted for the average life span hours.

President Knochel asked him to address the issues of fuel consumption, cubic inch displacement, and resale value.

Mr. Ettinger said the specs asked for 180 hp which John Deere meets. There were no specs for cubic inch displacement but John Deere's engine is 494 cubic inches. He said John Deere is designed to run a full day's shift on one (1) tank of fuel (100 gallons). The number of gallons per hour is four (4) to six (6).

Attorney Luhman clarified that if the Commissioners aren't going to accept the lowest bid they need to find the low bidder was not responsive to the bid specs.

Mr. Albers said he doesn't feel John Deere meets the specs because the transmission isn't totally automatic. Highway Supervisor Joe Buntin clarified that the specs gave 180 hp as a minimum. He said the Caterpillar has a 629 cubic inch engine compared to the John Deere with a 492 cubic inch engine. He stressed that when operators are plowing snow, they don't want to have to take their hand off the controls to shift gears.

Addressing Mr. Buntin, President Knochel clarified that the specs were drafted for automatic transmission which to him means you don't have to use your hands. Addressing Mr. Ettinger, he said he understood him to say that the operator does have to shift. Mr. Ettinger responded that under Transmission Equipment in the specs it says direct drive power shift on-the-go. On line 4 the specs say automatic transmission which he said can mean you don't have to use the clutch to shift.

- Commissioner Benson moved to table the award of the Grader bid until the May 6, 2002 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

AWARD BITUMINOUS MATERIALS & DUST CONTROL BIDS: Opened April 1, 2002

Although Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc. was the low bidder for Bituminous Materials, Mr. Albers recommended using all the bidders in case Rieth-Riley's supply runs low. He recommended awarding the Dust Control bid to Asphalt Materials, Inc. and Dust Control.

- Commissioner Benson moved to accept all bids for Bituminous Materials and the two Dust Control bids, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**AWARD PROPOSAL: Engineering Services for NBIS (National Bridge Inspection Standards) Opened March 4, 2002**

- Upon Mr. Albers' recommendation, Commissioner Benson moved to award the proposal to H. Stewart Kline & Associates, Inc., seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**GRANT OF RIGHT OF WAY: By Parcelization**

**Key #110-05100-0060:** CR 1300 S; A part of the S ½ of the NE 1/2 of the SW ¼ of Sec. 27, Twp. 21 N, R 4 W in Lauramie Twp. from Kerkhoff Ranch, Inc. by Gary D. Kerkhoff.

- Commissioner Benson moved to accept the Grant of Right-of-Way, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**CERTIFICATES OF INSURANCE**

- ♦ Pekin, Auto-Owners for Stanifer Construction, Leamon Stanifer DBA
- ♦ State Auto Insurance Cos., Clarendon National Ins Company for Midway Services Inc
- ♦ Erie Insurance Exchange for ABS Excavating
- ♦ Cincinnati Insurance Company, Cincinnati Casualty Company for J.E. Mechanical, Inc.
- ♦ Amerisure Companies for Custom Concrete Co., Inc. JMC, LLC DBA Custom Transport of Indiana, Ind, Custom Waterproofing, LLC
- ♦ Auto Owners Insurance for Randy Muller
- ♦ Hastings Mutual Insurance Company for TNT Concrete Inc
- ♦ Erie Insurance Group for Greg Depew
- ♦ Cincinnati Insurance Co, Assigned Risk for A & K Construction Inc
- ♦ Central Insurance Company for Laser Enterprises, Inc.

**COURT SERVICES: Director Cindy Houseman**

Ms Houseman requested approval to proceed to the County Council with a funding request to lease additional office space and contract with two individuals for a Theft Talks Workshop. The space they want to lease is located in the same building next to their current space. The rent will be \$1,380 per month for a total of \$12,600 for the remainder of the year and can be paid from the Workshop fees. She will also need to request \$27,000 to pay the two contracts for the remainder of the year and \$7,500 for books for the Workshop.

Since one of the individuals Ms Houseman wants to hire to teach the Theft Talks Workshop is a County employee, there is a question if she can be a contract worker. Attorney Luhman asked Ms Houseman to get a response concerning this from the Indiana Department of Labor. He said the contract should also have a signature line for the Commission President.

- Commissioner Benson moved to authorize Court Services to proceed with the expansion of their office space and the lease, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.
- Commissioner Benson moved to approve the special contracts for the Theft Talks Workshop subject to approval by the Indiana Department of Labor, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Executive Assistant Ron Cripe**

Mr. Cripe requested permission to increase the Health Department's Petty Cash Fund from \$75.00 to \$150.00 per week due to their move to the 629 Building. He said they will no longer have a bank across the street if they run out of change for people paying for birth and death certificates and donations for immunizations.

- Commissioner Benson moved to approve a Petty Cash Fund of \$150.00 for the Health Department, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT: Round the Fountain Art Fair: Rachel Lucterhand**

Ms Lucterhand requested approval of the Sponsorship Agreement between the Commissioners and Round the Fountain Art Fair, Inc. for the Art Fair that will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2002 on the Courthouse grounds. The Agreement is the same as prior years with special provisions that include:

- Turning off the Sprinkler System from 5:00 P.M. the night before the Fair until 6:00 P.M. the day of the Fair.
- Access to electricity at street level on the Columbia Street side the day of the Fair.
- Approval to hang a banner on the Main Street side the day of the Fair.
- Operation of the fountain the day of the Fair.
- Custodian, compensated by the Fair, on site from 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. the day of the Fair.

In order for individuals to enter the Courthouse to use the restrooms, the Sheriff may require the Fair to compensate three (3) Security Bailiffs due to additional security now implemented in the Courthouse. The Sheriff also needs to be consulted regarding the Fair's request to have access to electricity through the Columbia Street doors which are now locked except for emergency exit.

- Commissioner Benson moved to approve the Sponsorship Agreement subject to the Fair staff working out the security details with the Sheriff, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

**PROCLAMATION: Soil & Water Stewardship Week**

Commissioner Benson read:

(quote)

**PROCLAMATION**

Whereas trees play a major role in sustaining life and beautifying this planet; and  
Whereas trees reduce the "greenhouse effect" and prevent urban heat islands from developing; and  
Whereas trees help restore streams, maintain clean water,

improve wildlife habitat, and reduce soil erosion, and  
Whereas products from trees surround each of us and add utility and beauty to our lives:  
Therefore, in support of our responsibility to protect the gifts of trees  
and advance forest resource conservation, I do hereby proclaim  
April 28 through May 5, 2002  
Soil and Water Stewardship Week  
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of my office to be affixed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(unquote)

- Commissioner Benson moved to proclaim April 28 through May 5, 2002 Soil and Water Stewardship Week, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

***MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: Courthouse Clock***

- Commissioner Benson moved to approve the Agreement with The Tower Clock Company for annual preventative maintenance in the amount of \$350.00 for the clock located in the Courthouse Tower, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

***STREET NAME CHANGE: SR 25 N to Schuyler Ave.***

- Commissioner Benson moved to approve the street name change to Schuyler Avenue for the portion of SR 25 N from US 52 to Interstate 65, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

***REPORTS***

Reports from Mail & Duplicating, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Veterans Affairs, and Tippecanoe Villa are on file in the Commissioners' Office for review.

***PUBLIC COMMENT***

County employee Jason Huber, also a member of the Tippecanoe County Employees' Committee, inquired about the time frame for deciding on the provider for the County's health insurance and if the specifications are available for review. He also inquired if the Commissioners have a decision on the Committee's proposed changes to the Bereavement Policy.

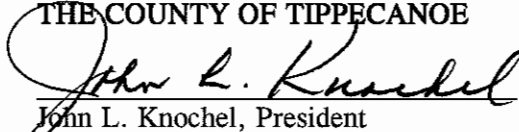
President Knochel responded that it may be as late as August before there is a decision on the health insurance, but they will need to ask the Consultant if the specifications are confidential. He said the Commissioners have no decision on Bereavement Policy changes.

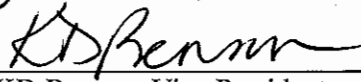
***ADJOURNMENT***

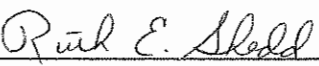
- Commissioner Benson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE COUNTY OF TIPPECANOE**

  
John L. Knochel, President

  
KD Benson, Vice President

  
Ruth E. Shedd, Member

**ATTEST:**

  
Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor