

COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING – January 12, 2009

Commissioner John Price called the January 12, 2009 Commissioners' regular meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. with Board members Tom Kite and Troy DeHart present.

PLEDGE: John Price led the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION: Troy DeHart led the invocation.

John Price, Commissioner, stated the executive session would be held as follows:

Pursuant to IND. Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B), for discussion of strategy with respect to initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing. and

Pursuant to IND. Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9), to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process.

2009 Commissioners Appointments

County Park Board Member: Tom Kite made a motion to approve the reappointment of Carl William Hart to the Johnson County Park Board. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Fair Grounds Caretaker: Tom Kite made a motion to appoint Gary Mitchell as the Fair Grounds Caretaker. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Bargersville Fire Protection District-Appointment:

Bob Nichols: Tom Kite made a motion to reappoint Bob Nichols to the Bargersville Fire Protection District. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kite stated he would like to see a letter sent out to all Fire Boards encouraging them to be mindful of the current economic times we are in right now.

Board Attorneys and Public Defenders: Judge Mark Loyd appeared before the Board to explain the current compensation for the Public Defenders. Judge Loyd stated there is currently six (6) contracted Public Defenders. Judge Loyd stated the four Public Defenders that provide felony services are paid \$40,000 and the two that do not provide felony services are paid \$35,000. Judge Loyd stated on top of the salary each Public Defender receives the County insurance and a low cost hourly rate of \$70.00 per hour for murder cases and appeals.

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Judge Loyd stated the joint committee recommends offering a contract for 2009 with no insurance offered by the County as of February 1st, 2009. Judge Loyd stated the average hours of all of the Public Defenders is 5,816 hours for the year. Judge Loyd stated the average hourly rate with insurance for the Public Defenders is \$39.55 plus medical. Judge Loyd stated the Public Defender would have to take care of their own overhead. Judge Loyd also stated with the proposed change of eliminating the insurance coverage for the Public Defenders the hourly rate would be \$55.02. John Price, Commissioner, stated that was a reasonable rate. Mr. Price stated if the new contract is accepted by the Commissioners it would be upon the Public Defenders to find their own health insurance.

Tom Kite made a motion to discontinue offering of County insurance to Board Attorneys and Public Defenders as March 31, 2009. John Price seconded the motion. Troy DeHart voted against the motion, the motion passed two to one.

Jan Richhart, Auditor, stated she would like to see a letter go out to all Board Attorneys and Public Defenders stating the outcome of the decision made. Kathleen Hash, County Attorney, stated she would send out the letter.

Employee Handbook: John Price, Commissioner, stated the Employee Handbook would apply to full-time personnel working 37.5-hour workweek.

Mr. Price also stated there are several employees that have 75 + hours of comp time. Mr. Price stated he would like to see that number be reduced to 37.5 hours of max comp time banked and would like to see banked comp time to go to zero and see flexing of time instead.

Tom Kite made a motion to amend the handbook for banked comp time to be reduced to max allowed to 37.5 by the end of the year. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve the Employee Handbook with amendments with the effective date of February 1, 2009. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners thanked the Employee Handbook Committee Members for their hard work in getting the handbook this far.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION AS TO DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Johnson County Assessor- 2011 Reassessment Bid Opening- Mark Alexander: Kathleen Hash, County Attorney, read into the record the following bids for the 2011 Reassessment Bid:

Tyler Tech	\$ 878,900.00
Ad Valorem Solutions	\$ 873,390.00
Appraisal Research	\$1,198,800.00

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Ms. Hash stated all bid documents appear to be in order.

Mark Alexander, County Assessor, stated he would bring a recommendation to the Board at the January 26th meeting. Mr. Alexander stated the DLGF has to approve the Counties decision on the bid recommendation. Mr. Alexander stated he would forward the bids to the DLGF and wait for their response.

Tom Kite made a motion to accept the bids and turn the bids over to the County Assessor for his review and recommendation. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Assessor- Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals- Appointment of Two Board Members- Mark Alexander: Mark Alexander, County Assessor, stated he recommends appointment to the PTABOA of Fred Butler and Martha Womacks.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Highway Department- Request for Condemnation Authority- Olive Branch and Morgantown Roads Project- Gary Vandegriff: Gary Vandegriff, Highway Director, stated he is before the Board today to receive approval for condemnation authority for outstanding parcels with the Olive Branch and Morgantown Roads project.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve the authority to begin condemnation on outstanding parcels with the Olive Branch and Morgantown Roads project. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Highway Department- Opening of Stone Bids- Gary Vandegriff: Kathleen Hash, County Attorney, read into the record the following stone bids:

Ward Stone	\$206,062.50
Heritage Group	\$171,300.00

Ms. Hash stated all bid documents appear to be in order.

Gary Vandegriff, Highway Director, stated he would bring a recommendation at the January 26th meeting.

Tom Kite made a motion to accept the bids and turn the bids over to the Highway Director for his review and recommendation. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Community Corrections- Child Welfare Services Provider Agreement Title IV-B-Parks 1 and 2 and Social Services Block Grant and Intensive

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Family Preservation and Reunification Services- Albert Hessman: Albert Hessman, Community Corrections Director, stated he is before the Board today to receive approval of the contract with the Child Welfare Services provider agreement.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Animal Shelter- Discussion of New Job Description- Dr. Emily Williamson: The Commissioners had discussion of the various job duties of the new job description.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve the job description for the Kennel Office Manager and the Director/Vet. Troy DeHart seconded the motion.

Tom Kite made a motion to amend his prior motion to approve the Kennel Office Manager job description. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Tom Kite made a motion to add a stipend to the Commissioners Budget for 2010 for the possibility of having an Animal Shelter Director who is also a veterinarian if County Council approves funds. Troy DeHart seconded the motion. John Price voted against the motion and the motion carried two to one.

Johnson County Commissioners- Demolition of Oren Wright Building- Discussion: John Price, Commissioner, stated he has put together a scope of work for the demolition of the Oren Wright Building. Tom Kite, Commissioner, stated the project would have to be put out to bid because of the amount of the project cost. Mr. Kite stated the scope of work would have to be a part of the bid packet.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve the scope of work CEF Part A for the Oren Wright Building demolition for bid. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Commissioners- Williams Hewitt Barrett & Wilkowski, LLP- 2009 Litigation Attorney Contract- Approval Requested: Troy DeHart made a motion to approve the Williams Hewitt Barrett & Wilkowski, LLP 2009 litigation attorney contract. Tom Kite seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Johnson County Commissioners- Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation Awards to the Wellness Committee: The Board of Commissioners handed out Certificate of Appreciation awards to the following members of the wellness committee:

Chris Abney
Libby Dalby
Amy McLaughlin
Robin Massinon

Claudia Bigelow
Debbie Hughes
Trena McLaughlin
Lori Myers

Doug Cox
Carlos Lam
Kiley Leugers
Kathy Sexton

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Maria Stack
Angel Wisser

Amy Thompson

Daylon Welliver

Johnson County Commissioners- County Assessor- Building Lease Discussion: John Price, Commissioner, stated there is discussion on whether or not to leave the Pleasant Township Assessor's office in operation as a satellite office. Mr. Price stated Mark Alexander, County Assessor, stated he could make the move work. Mr. Alexander stated there might be a problem with storage issues with the property reassessment cards. Mr. Alexander stated with White River and Pleasant Township there is a need to work with the past three years of property record cards. Mr. Alexander stated he would need more space for storage and for more workspace for employees if the satellite office could not be used. Troy DeHart, Commissioner, asked if locking file cabinets could work for the storage of the records. Mr. Alexander stated he would have to get the opinion of the Attorney. Mr. Price stated the building would be secured.

Mary Ann Powell, Pleasant Township Trustee, stated she believes there are interested parties that want to rent the building. Ms. Powell stated the Township Advisory Board is willing to work with the County on the lease of the building.

Mr. Alexander also stated with the move of the Pleasant Township Assessor's office there would also be an additional employee going to the Auditor's office. Mr. Alexander stated the plat map maintenance would be moving to the Auditor's office.

After further discussion, Mr. Price stated all parties need to meet and get a final determination on what is needed as far as space and storage.

NEW AND OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner's Regular Session Minutes 1-05-09-Approval Requested: Removed from Agenda.

Claims-Approval Requested: Tom Kite made a motion to approve. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Workshop Meeting: Kathleen Hash, County Attorney, stated a workshop meeting needed to be scheduled for further discussion on the Oren Wright Building. Ms. Hash stated the meeting would be Tuesday January 27, 2009 @ 3:30 p.m. Ms. Hash stated FEMA has requested a monthly report from the County on what progress the County has made with the Oren Wright Building.

Tom Kite made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting on January 27th @ 3:30 p.m. Troy DeHart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: Troy DeHart made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Kite seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

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Pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1, the Johnson County Board of Commissioners held their Executive Session @ 4:00 p.m. or immediately following the conclusion of the public meeting, whichever occurs later, to discuss personnel matters relative to the Board of Commissioners. It is hereby certified by the Johnson County Board of Commissioners that no subject matter was discussed in this executive session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

John L. Price

Thomas A. Kite

Troy A. DeHart

ATTEST: _____
Jan Richhart, Auditor