

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2009 AGENDA MEETING

Commissioner Sneary opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. on the 28th day of October, 2009 with the following members present: Commissioner Greg Sneary, Commissioner Sam Bassitt, and Clerk of the Board Kelli Singhaus.

Sheriff Sam Crish led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action Items:

Resolution #782-09. *Approve travel expenses.*

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

Resolution #783-09. *Re-appoint and appoint members to the North Central Ohio Solid Waste Policy Committee.*

The following individuals were re-appointed:

Greg Sneary	County
Gary Sheely	City
Bill Kelly	Health District
Joe Bischoff	Public
Norman Grigsby	Public
Kevin Bruin	Waste Generator

Kevin Cox was new appointment representing the Township. All individuals shall serve a two (2) year term commencing immediately and expiring October 31, 2011.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

Resolution #784-09. *Accept bid and enter into contract with Ian Rutkosky for the sale of a 1994 Schweizer Helicopter.*

Twelve (12) bids were received with the low bid being Ian Rutkosky in the amount of \$167,200.00.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

A. Bruce Wells, Community Development, presented the following:

1. Request to adopt **Resolution #785-09**, authorize the cancellation and release of a mortgage for a Community Housing Improvement Program property in Spencer Township. Wells stated that the husband is deceased, the estate, under the provision of the note, has submitted a check to satisfy the obligation.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

B. Bruce Wells, Sanitary Engineer, presented the following:

1. Request to adopt **Resolution #786-09**, certify delinquent debt service charges for the Village of Cairo and the Early Lutz Sewer Improvement Area to the Allen county Auditor's Office for collection. This is certification of debt service as it relates to construction of the sewer improvement that is assessed back to the property owners.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

2. Request to adopt **Resolution #787-09**, certify delinquent debt service charges to the Allen County Auditor's Office for collection on projects billed to the City of Lima Utilities Department on behalf of the Allen County Sanitary Engineer. This is the certification of debt service for the Delmar-Glenn and Fourth Street/Bowman Road Sewer Improvement Areas that are assessed back to the property owners.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

3. Request to adopt **Resolution #788-09**, certify delinquent sewer service charges to the Allen County Auditor's Office for collection. The delinquent sewer charges total \$443,551.68 which is up slightly from last year due to higher base sewer rates and expansion of the system. The delinquency runs around 7%-8% of total billings.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

4. Request to adopt **Resolution #789-09**, amend Resolution #20-08 and accept Addendum No. 1 with Kohli & Kaliher Associates, Inc. for final design services for the Woodbriar Pump Station. This is for additional work to comply with ARRA guidelines along with revisions to the easements and drawings. Said fee shall be increased by \$12,500 to an amount not to exceed \$49,000.00.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

C. Martha Nance, Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities, presented the following:

1. Request to adopt **Resolution #790-09**, declare various county property obsolete and unsuitable for county use and authorize sale of same by internet auction. This is six (6) lots of items ranging from computer monitors, cell phones, walkers, etc.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

D. Jim Everett, Allen County Sheriff's Office, presented the following:

1. Request to adopt **Resolution #791-09**, authorize an agreement between the Allen County Regional Transit Authority and the Allen County Sheriff's Office. This agreement is for the purchase of gasoline through the Allen County Regional Transit Authority. This locks the fuel rate which saves the department considerable dollars. This agreement also gives the Sheriff's employees 24 hour/7 days access to the fuel.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

Announcements, Proclamations, Recognition and Commendations

An employee of the Allen County Clerk of Courts Office asked the Board of County Commissioners that should the sales tax pass, when will services be restored? Commissioner Bassitt stated that the effective date of collection would be the first half of July, 2010, thus monies would not be receiving until the last half of the year. The Board would be then realizing some changes at that time. The employee then asked, should the sales tax pass, in what specific order would the sales tax be used? Commissioner Bassitt stated that the Board would take a look and address the situations accordingly. His sense would be that the Board would establish a method and place it in a priority manner. Commissioner Sneary stated that the county is in a solid position and his take that the Board would fund according to priorities as outlined in the Ohio Revised Code. Bassitt stated that the Ohio Revised Code does specify services that are required and mandated and also specifies those services that are permissible. It is up to the local community to decide what kind of services they want. The Ohio Revised Code is how government is structured. Sneary stated except when it hinders other mandated services. The employee then asked about the rainy day fund on how much there is or isn't. If there is money in the rainy day fund and the county is in hardship now, why isn't the rainy day fund being used? Sneary stated that in government, you have to think beyond this year. Looking at 2009, the county looks fine. In 2010, the preliminary budget looks like the county will make it through without using the reserve fund. If you look at 2011, the Board doesn't know how long the recession will last. The Board has to look at the worst case scenario. The Board has to preserve funds. He feels the County should do a multi-year budget in order to forecast and make sure funds and services will be available. Bassitt stated that the rainy day funds (reserves) are in a time stream. They float a bit. Revenues appear that the County has more money (ie: sale of helicopter). The county began this budget year with \$2 million in reserve dollars and the Board determined to use those monies to fund 2009. During the process of a year, income from sales tax was a bit higher than projected as well as interest income which makes it appear that the rainy day fund wasn't tapped. If the sales tax comes through, that will change the equation. If the sales tax doesn't come through, the cuts made this year will be sustained, possibly several years. More will be cut next year. The Board is looking at making more global cuts and not targeted cuts. The Board is trying to soften the cushion for its employees and the services to the community. Sneary added that by global cuts, they mean health insurance, etc. It is nothing dramatic but trying to bring back in line what costs should have been for a number of years. The Board does not forecast additional personnel cuts at this point, however, this doesn't mean it can't happen. Sneary feels that there are other employees, private and public sector, which are hurting financially. He feels the county can make it and fulfill the needs of the county based on current budget figures at this time.

Tim Piper, Allen County Engineer, announced the retirement of Steve L. Dunlap who has been Road Maintenance Superintendent since October, 2006. Mr. Dunlap has been an employee of the Allen County Engineer's Office for 30 years. Mr. Dunlap was responsible for overseeing the maintenance of over 870 miles on the county and township roadway system for the Allen County Engineer and the Township trustees. This includes overseeing road crews, County & Township Road Programs and directing snow removal operations.

Tim Piper, Allen County Engineer, also announced the promotion of Brion E. Rhodes to Chief Deputy Engineer. Mr. Rhodes is a graduate engineer, a registered professional engineer and a registered profession surveyor. Mr. Rhodes worked with the Warren County Engineer's Office, Ohio Department of Transportation and in June, 1997, became the Assistant Bridge Engineer at the Allen County Engineer's Office. He was later promoted to Bridge Engineer in 1999.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Sneary moved to adjourn. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Kelli A. Singhaus
Clerk of the Board

Greg Sneary

W. Dan Reiff

Sam Bassitt