

**REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 26, 2011**

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, September 26, 2011 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order, Ken Masters made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2011 meeting as presented. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried. Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the minutes of the executive session held on September 22, 2011 as presented. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**EMA**

Chuck Kemker, EMA Director, presented the commissioners with the District Six Mutual Aid Inter-Local Government Agreement for their signature. Commissioner Barnes did attend the district meeting regarding this document. It is renewed every four (4) years and allows the county to directly receive FEMA reimbursement for use of county equipment anywhere in District Six. Ken Masters made the motion to sign the agreement. Marvin Cole seconded. Motion carried.

Verlin Custer asked if this agreement obligates the volunteers and their equipment. Kemker said only if the volunteer department has enough equipment to release without shorting their own coverage area. The department chief will have the say as to what equipment can be used. FEMA will not confiscate the equipment.

**GIS DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENT**

Tom Debaun of Shelby County presented a County to County GIS Data Exchange Agreement to be executed between Rush County and Shelby County. The agreement would allow each county to share their GIS data with the other. The data will be used by sheriff departments using the community corrections programs. Ken Masters made the motion to sign the agreement. Marvin Cole seconded. Motion carried.

**RALEIGH AND CARTHAGE EMS DEPARTMENTS**

Verlin Custer from Raleigh EMS Department and Crystal Trueblood from Carthage EMS Department questioned the commissioners regarding a statement made by Ken Masters at the county council budget hearings. The statement was that the commissioners would like to see all volunteer services under the same set of protocols. Custer requested that the contract with Raleigh EMS Dept. not be changed. He is fearful that having to use protocols set by Rush Memorial Hospital will cause unneeded cost to the tax payers by having to call a paramedic to every call. Custer stated that they follow similar guidelines to those of Rush Memorial Ambulance. Raleigh Ambulance protocols do meet state guidelines Custer explained. Rush

Memorial Ambulance protocols require a paramedic intercept on basically every run of which again he stressed the cost issue to tax payers of being ridiculous.

Trueblood stated that Carthage EMS currently uses Rush Memorial protocols but are considering changing them. She explained that a large number of their patients are transported to Hancock Memorial because that is where their doctor is. If no family doctor, they do transport to Rush Memorial.

Barnes responded that none of the contracts have been changed. To Carthage, he stated that Hancock County does not pay their subsidy. He feels the commissioners have to do what is best for all county residents. Ken Masters assured Carthage that if they were in any trouble with a patient that they should go to Hancock Memorial as the primary care.

Barnes stated that the commissioners have sat with the other hospital board of directors and that they the commissioners must provide the tax payers with the service that they feel is best for the county and the community. He suggested that a meeting be set with Raleigh, Carthage, Milroy, Rush Memorial Hospital, commissioners and the new group of medical professionals at Rush Memorial Hospital. Barnes stated that he will attempt to arrange a meeting within the next 14 days.

Custer had questions for the commissioners regarding the air ambulance. Barnes shared that that he would rather have this discussion with the group during their meeting.

### **SHERIFF**

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported thirty eight (38) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County Jail. The judges have worked with him over the last two (2) weeks to lower the inmate count to a manageable level.

### **HIGHWAY**

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, had nothing to report this week.

### **AUDITOR**

Deborah Adams, Auditor, received approval of payroll claims for the period ending September 30, 2011 from Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adams received approval of Bi-weekly claims submitted September 20, 2011 from Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adams noted that she will be attending the AIC conference in Ft. Wayne this week.

The Treasurer's report ending August 31, 2011 was presented for review by the commissioners.

## **COURTHOUSE FUEL**

Adams made note to the commissioners regarding the fuel usage for August. Commissioner Barnes is in contact with Vectren to have this reviewed.

## **WEIGHT WATCHERS**

Adams requested permission from the commissioners to conduct a survey of employees to see if there is an interest in having Weight Watchers meetings at the courthouse at the end of the work day. She also asked for them to consider allowing the cost of this to be payroll deducted. Barnes questioned Adams as to a past understanding that we shouldn't allow any future payroll deductions for items such as this. Adams stated she feels like since this would be directly related to the health of county employees and since our healthy bucks program through our health insurance supports weight watchers, it should be allowed. Ken Masters made the motion to allow the survey to be conducted. Marvin Cole seconded. Motion carried. All department heads are to be notified.

## **ANIMAL SHELTER**

Auditor Deborah Adams presented a letter she received from Rushville City requesting additional funding from the county to help support the animal shelter which used by the entire county. She explained that this letter was received after the 2012 budgets had been approved by the county council. Barnes stated that has talked to the Mayor and explained the budget cycle is complete for 2012 and they should present a request in time for the 2013 budgets. Barnes noted the cost to operate the shelter is tremendous and the city does an excellent job of running the shelter. He noted the county and county residents should do more to assist the shelter.

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood noted that he has looked closely at the use of the shelter and how many animals his staff takes in. He was surprised at the number of animals that are brought in by private citizens in addition to the animals his staff brings in. Sherwood agrees that we should do more to support the facility.

Ken Masters noted the amount of work that has been done to improve the shelter.

## **EMS**

EMS run report from Anderson Twp Volunteer Fire Department was received and reviewed by the commissioners.

## **BZA**

Deborah Adams provided the commissioners with a notice from the Area Plan Commission that Paul Weaver has filed an appeal with Board of Zoning appeals regarding the direction of APC Director, William Todd, telling Weaver to remove his animals from property that is zoned residential. The hearing is set for Tuesday, October 4, 2011.

**VACATE ALLEY**

Leigh Morning, County Attorney, presented the commissioners with Ordinance 2011-7 vacating an alley between lots 4 & 5 in the Hamilton Miller's Addition to New Salem at the request of Robert and Juanita Cooper. Ken Masters made the motion to sign Ordinance 2011-7. Marvin Cole seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2011- 7

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN ALLEYWAY

WHEREAS, Robert Cooper and Juanita Cooper filed their Petition to Vacate an Alleyway; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on said Petition on September 12, 2011; and

WHEREAS, no person appeared to remonstrate against said Petition;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Rush County, Indiana:

1. The following described alleyway is hereby vacated:
  - a. A platted but unimproved alley that lies between lots four (4) and five (5) in Hamilton Miller's Addition to New Salem, Indiana.
2. This Ordinance is effective upon passage.

Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
RUSH COUNTY

/s/ Thomas H. Barnes  
Thomas H. Barnes

/s/ Marvin L. Cole  
Marvin L. Cole

/s/ Ken Masters  
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/ Deborah C. Adams  
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor

Morning also presented Ordinance 2011-8 vacating an alley between lots 2 & 3 in Hamilton Miller's Addition to New Salem at the request of William and Iola Kirkendall. Marvin Cole made the motion to sign Ordinance 2011-8. Ken Master seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2011- 8

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN ALLEYWAY

WHEREAS, William Kirkendall and Iola Kirkendall filed their Petition to Vacate an Alleyway; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on said Petition on September 12, 2011; and

WHEREAS, no person appeared to remonstrate against said Petition;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Rush County, Indiana:

1. The following described alleyway is hereby vacated:
  - a. A platted but unimproved alley that lies between lots two (2) and three (3) in Hamilton Miller's Addition to New Salem, Indiana.
2. This Ordinance is effective upon passage.

Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
RUSH COUNTY

/s/ Thomas H. Barnes  
Thomas H. Barnes

/s/ Marvin L. Cole  
Marvin L. Cole

Ken Masters  
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/ Deborah C. Adams  
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor

**ALL STATE INSURANCE**

Tony Mederias, Wendy Typen and Debbie Buchanan representing All State Insurance requested the commissioners review additional benefits to be offered to county employees at no cost to the county. Commissioner Barnes explained the way our insurance committee operates. Jerry Sitton noted that there currently is no committee meeting scheduled. Barnes stated their information will be kept and reviewed when insurance committee meets again.

Motion to adjourn was received from Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Tom Barnes, Chairman

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Marvin Cole

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Ken Masters

ATTEST:

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Deborah C. Adams, Auditor