

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
October 21, 2013

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order. All members were present.

Recording equipment was not available this week.

MIAMI SEWER DISTRICT

Becky Hodson, Danny Hodson and Dave Hanby came before the Board with questions concerning the Miami Sewer Project. Becky Hodson stated they were told that Chris Dodd was be conducting inspections of the properties in Miami and she felt that was a conflict of interest. Commissioner Francis stated that it would depend if he was being paid for it or not and if he was certified to conduct those inspections. Mrs. Hodson said she thought it would make more sense for Ken Scott, Health Environmentalist to perform the inspections.

Commissioner West said the project has not really started so he is not sure what there would be to inspect.

Mrs. Hodson was also concerned about the cost of the project. She was told her and her husband made too much money for a grant and was told they would need to get a loan and they already have two loans they are paying on and could not get a third one.

Commissioner West said he will speak to the Mexico Sewer District people and see if there is anything they did to help those people who could not afford it in that district.

Dave Hanby asked if they could get a list of the members and their terms.

DRAINAGE ISSUE

Mike Kling came before the Board to talk about a waterway across the road on his property near the Clymer Cemetery. After some discussion, it was decided that Jerry Hamman, Brad Smith, Highway, and Greg Wilkinson, Surveyor would get together and look at it.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Pat Roberts, Health Board Attorney, and Ann Collier, Health Board, came before the Commissioners to ask again about the 3% raise for Rich Mofield. They contend that the Health Board wants Mr. Mofield to have the 3% raise given to County employees for 2013.

During the 2013 budget hearings (August 2012) the Health Department was granted a full time position for the Health Environmentalist position that was currently part time. The Miami County Council approved the position starting January 1, 2013. Since the position started 2013, it did not receive the 3% raise that the existing employees received.

Mr. Roberts and Ms. Collier said that they are frustrated having to deal with budget issues instead of Health issues and Health Board members are not wanting to renew their terms. The Auditor stated that the State Board of Accounts told her that she has to pay according to the Salary Ordinance. The only way the Salary Ordinance could be changed is if the County Council made an addendum to it at a public meeting. The Auditor will not pay Mr. Mofield any different unless it is done in the correct manner. The Health Board cannot change the salary.

There was also discussion regarding the Registrar and the Immunization Assistant because they put an additional \$2,570 raise for the Registrar and Immunization Assistant out of their grant and even though the Health Board said it was OK the County Council did not. The Council asked them if they could take the 2% raise out of the grant and they said no because you could not use grant money to supplement salaries.

It was decided that the budget committee for the Council, the budget committee for the Health department, Commissioner Chairman Josh Francis and the Auditor, would meet and discuss the issues. Council President Ralph Duckwall, attending the Commissioners meeting, asked if once we got an answer would that be the end of it. Ms. Collier said it would.

BUDGET ISSUES

ASSESSOR (County General)

Sara McAuliffe informed the Board that she did not have much to cut. She could cut her travel money a little since she has the car she bought out of Reassessment money.

Mrs. McAuliffe disagrees with her 1st Deputy only getting a 2% raise and would cut elsewhere if they could give her 1st Deputy more of a raise.

9-1-1

Cliff Gardner said he would only bring in about \$200 more in 2014 than he did in 2013 so he is not sure how much he can help. His equipment is over 10 years old and he has been struggling to keep it running because he is aware of County finances. He has been working on his shredder as well to keep it running. The Board is aware of the personal information on 9-1-1 documentation and appreciates Mr. Gardner's help but asked him to look into what a shredder would cost.

Ralph Duckwall spoke to the Board regarding things he would like them to look at such as all supplies coming out of Central Supply, Extension Office, Bailiffs, part tome help, repair and maintenance, computer equipment, office equipment and telephones. Commissioner Francis said they are also looking at what is essential to running County government verses looking at what we like to have.

CLERK

Tawna Leffel-Sands, Clerk, informed the Board that she could pick up a little bit more of the CSI bill (\$9,500). She also felt she could cut the Clerk Election budget due to the passing of the Vote Centers. Personal Services would go from 70,200 to 53,400, Supplies stay at 5,000, Other Services from 25,000 to 24,500 and Capital Outlay would remain 0 for a total reduction of 17,300.

JUDGE TIM SPAHR

Judge Spahr asked the Commissioners if he could have someone look at the chandeliers in the basement. He believes they were used in his courtroom and would like to get a quote to see if they are still usable. The Board had no objection to him looking into it.

SURVEYOR

The Board looked at the budget and decided to leave as is.

TREASURER

Becky Morris, Treasurer, said she felt she could cut \$1,000 from postage and possibly some from part time. She has never used her part time money but does not want to cut it completely in the case she could not get the floats. She stated that e-billing cost 38 cents versus 52 cents for regular billing so she is pushing for people to use e-billing.

Mrs. Morris also asked the Board to give some consideration to the pay for her 1st Deputy. Commissioner Francis thanked her for her correspondence and the fact that she did not criticize any other office. The Commissioners receive nasty correspondence from some offices downgrading others and it was refreshing to receive one that didn't.

The Auditor stated that she appreciates the work that is done by the 1st Deputy in the Treasurer's office. It does not matter what is going on, the Deputy Treasurer does her work and does it well. Mrs. Jackson works well with the 1st Deputy Auditor to maintain the integrity of the County books and is willing to do what it takes to get the job done.

HIGHWAY ENGINEER

Mr. Einselen asked the Board to consider placing a stop sign at Daniels Road.

Commissioner West asked Mr. Einselen about the dams at Hidden Hills. Mr. Einselen will look at.

MINUTES

Commissioner West made a motion to approve the minutes from October 15th. Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Bruce Embrey asked the Board to consider paying for the phone in his office. It was not a new phone but one that was not working properly. The extension would not work if the call was an outside call. Commissioner West made a motion to pay the bill from the BOC budget. Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

HIGHWAY VEHICLE

The Board received quotes for the vehicle to be purchased for the Highway Engineer. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the quote of \$14165. Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- *review of ordinance to creat school safety commission
- *find Maximus agreement
- *YMCA property deed

SOUTH BEND COMMUNICATION BILL

Commissioner Hamman made a motion to pay the South Bend Communication bill for the fire alarm system. Commissioner West 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Commissioner West made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Adjourned

MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION

_____, **Chairman**
Joshua Francis

_____, **Vice Chairman**
Larry West

_____, **Member**
Jerry Hamman

Attest: _____, **Auditor**
Jane Lilley