

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COUNCIL

February 12, 2009

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Harold Jones
Tom Anglin
John Kinsey - *Absent*
Bob Sanders

Charlene Knispel
Larry Teghtmeyer
Brad Tandy - *Absent*
Marsha McSherry, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by President Harold Jones. The meeting was opened with the pledge and a prayer by Harold Jones. Minutes were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR:

County Assessor, Laurie Renier, requested a transfer of \$1,126.00 from Deputy account 10197 to Deputy account 11098. Renier explained the transfer is to cover an employee level increase that was missed at budget time.

MOTION:	Tom Anglin	TO: Approve transfer of \$1,126.00 from
SECOND:	Larry Teghtmeyer	100-10197-000-003 Deputy to
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	100-11098-000-003 Deputy.
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR'S TRANSFER:

County Assessor, Laurie Renier, requested a salary ordinance amendment changing 100-10198-000-003 Deputy from a COMOT IV-1 level to a COMOT IV-II level retroactive to January 1, 2009. Renier explained the salary ordinance amendment is to cover an employee level increase that was missed.

MOTION:	Tom Anglin	TO: Approve salary ordinance amendment for
SECOND:	Larry Teghtmeyer	Assessor's Deputy 100-10198-000-003 from a
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	COMOT IV-1 level to a COMOT IV-II level
MOTION CARRIED		
retroactive to January 1, 2009.		

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR:

County Assessor, Laurie Renier, requested a transfer of \$734.76 from Assessor Supervisor account 10190 to Deputy account 10196. Renier explained the transfer is necessary to payout a Deputy that went on vacation but did not have any available vacation time and was dismissed. Renier further explained these funds will cover the pay-off of vacation/sick time that accrued between the time the Deputy was on vacation, returned and was dismissed. Renier also stated 2008 funds will be encumbered for the transfer.

MOTION:	Bob Sanders	TO: Approve transfer of 2008 monies of
SECOND:	Tom Anglin	\$734.76 from 100-10190-000-003
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	Assessor Supervisor to
MOTION CARRIED		
100-10196-000-003 Deputy.		

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR REASSESSMENT:

County Assessor, Laurie Renier, requested a transfer of \$2,618.73 from her Per Diem account to the Part Time account. Renier explained the transfer is to cover additional hours for two (2) employees to complete the ratio study to be turned into the State.

MOTION:	Bob Sanders	TO: Approve transfer of \$2,618.73 from
SECOND:	Tom Anglin	275-11402-000-003 Per Diem to
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	275-11301-000-003 Part Time.
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF UPDATE FROM COUNTY ASSESSOR:

Council Member, Charlene Knispel, questioned the status of property tax statements. Laurie Renier, County Assessor, responded the State approved the County's ratio study on January 30, 2009 and values have recently been given to the County Auditor along with mobile home information. Renier noted the process will be completed by March 1, 2009. Marsha McSherry, County Auditor, stated her office will be done with rolling the values from the County Assessor soon. McSherry noted her office will be working on the

IN THE MATTER OF UPDATE FROM COUNTY ASSESSOR CONTINUED:

duplicate homestead reports and then begin posting exemptions. Knispel also questioned Renier regarding the status of personal property returns. Renier responded letters were sent to the Amish bishops and there are four (4) outlying locations to assess the Amish. Renier also stated the Assessor's office on the first floor will add some additional Saturday hours to accommodate those taxpayers that cannot come in during normal business hours. Knispel also questioned whether Renier will be sending out business personal property forms. Renier responded the State has not completed the forms and she is unsure whether her office will mail them when they are ready. When questioned by Knispel what happens if the businesses do not send in an assessment form since they were not sent one by the Assessor's office, Renier responded it is not an assessor's obligation to mail personal property forms to businesses since it is a self-assessment. Renier noted most businesses have a CPA to complete their personal property forms. Renier also stated the only forms that must be completed for 2009 are the Form 102 and Form 104 for farms and the business 102 short and long. Renier added the State no longer requires the form 101; thereby reducing the number of forms to be processed for 2009. Renier noted the number of personal property returns will likely be reduced by half of last year's 12,000 personal property returns.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR SHERIFF:

Sheriff Rocky Goshert requested a transfer of \$1,580.82 from the Reimbursement Insurance account to the Repairs and Maintenance account. Goshert explained the funds were from an insurance check to repair Lieutenant Steve Knispel's vehicle when another vehicle slid into his patrol car.

MOTION:	Tom Anglin	TO: Approve transfer of \$1,580.82 from
SECOND:	Bob Sanders	100-00563-000-000 Reimbursement Insurance
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	to
MOTION CARRIED		100-35001-000-019 Repairs and Maintenance.

IN THE MATTER OF PIERCETON/WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY APPOINTMENT:

President Harold Jones presented a request from the Pierceton Library to reappoint Mary Joan Plew for a four (4) year term expiring June 30, 2012 (this appointment is retroactive from July 1, 2008). President Jones noted Plew is willing to serve in that position.

MOTION:	Tom Anglin	TO: Approve appointment of Mary Joan Plew
SECOND:	Charlene Knispel	to Pierceton/Washington Township Library
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	Board for a four (4) year term expiring June
MOTION CARRIED		30, 2012.

IN THE MATTER OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BOARD APPOINTMENT:

President Harold Jones requested Kenneth Johnson be reappointed to the ABC Board for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2009. President Jones noted Johnson has served on the Board for several years and is willing to continue to serve in that position.

MOTION:	Larry Tegtmeyer	TO: Approve appointment of Kenneth
SECOND:	Charlene Knispel	Johnson to Alcoholic Beverage Board for a one
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	(1) year term expiring December 31, 2009.
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF TIPPECANOE AND TURKEY CREEK ASSESSORS' LETTER TO COUNCIL:

Attorney Steve Snyder addressed Council on behalf of former township assessors, Dorothy Biesemeyer and Patty Gammieri. Snyder reiterated information contained in HEA 1001 wherein all of the duties of the township assessors were transferred to the county assessor. Snyder noted the duties were eliminated however; not the elected position and Biesemeyer and Gammieri both still have time remaining on their terms as township assessors. Snyder also stated as of the end of 2008, both township assessors no longer had any duties with the county assessor's office where other individuals were hired in place of Biesemeyer and Gammieri. Snyder then stated neither Biesemeyer nor Gammieri have jobs or benefits and are not eligible for unemployment as elected officials cannot receive unemployment by law. Snyder relayed different scenarios that other Indiana counties have gone through with their township assessors. Snyder referenced Indiana Code 36-6-8-10a wherein it states the Council "shall appropriate money to pay the township assessors salaries". Snyder acknowledged there are many interpretations of the Indiana Code's wording. Snyder also noted that Indiana Code was not amended when HEA 1001 was enacted. Snyder stated one (1) payment of \$1,000.00 has been made to both township assessors for their assessing certification. Snyder noted both Biesemeyer and Gammieri are looking for relief from their unanticipated joblessness wherein

IN THE MATTER OF TIPPECANOE AND TURKEY CREEK ASSESSORS' LETTER TO COUNCIL CONTINUED:

both individuals desire to work, especially in the County Assessor's office. Snyder further noted monies were available to fund partial salaries to these assessors so they may qualify for benefits. Snyder concurred with Council's prior statements that the township assessors should not be paid a salary if they are not working or performing any duties; however Snyder requested Council consider some minimal compensation enough to qualify for benefits for Biesemeyer and Gammieri or a position to utilize their assessing skills. Snyder noted he did not expect a decision at this meeting but requested Council consider the request of Biesemeyer and Gammieri.

IN THE MATTER OF BRADICAN REALTY PARTNERSHIP dba APPLIED THERMAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC. ABATEMENT:

Linda Heyerly, representative of Bradican Realty Partnership dba Applied Thermal Technologies, Inc., noted she appeared before Council in January, 2009 requesting approval of a Declaratory Resolution for Bradican Realty Partnership. Heyerly then presented a Confirmatory Resolution for Council's approval noting this Resolution was for real property only. President Harold Jones stated Council has reviewed this abatement request and past practice has been to allow abatement for a seven (7) year term. Council Member Larry Tegtmeyer noted the salaries within the resolution also meet Council's criteria.

MOTION:	Larry Tegtmeyer	TO: Approve Confirmatory Resolution on real
SECOND:	Bob Sanders	property presented with tax abatement of seven
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	(7) years.
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF BIOMET ABATEMENT:

President Harold Jones stated Biomet had submitted two (2) Statements of Benefits-1 for Council's approval. Jones noted he could not find an area where Council's criteria had not been met after reviewing the SB-1s.

MOTION:	Tom Anglin	TO: Approve (2) Statements of Benefits as
SECOND:	Charlene Knispel	presented.
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF MAINTENANCE SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT:

County Administrator, Ron Robinson, requested a salary ordinance amendment for a part-time employee in the maintenance department. Robinson noted he is attempting to cover the work with two (2) full-time employees but would like to have the salary ordinance in place in case it is needed. Robinson further noted he is requesting for the high end of the pay scale to cover whatever salary is needed. Robinson added this part-time position is for 37 hours per week.

MOTION:	Bob Sanders	TO: Approve salary ordinance amendment for
SECOND:	Charlene Knispel	part-time maintenance employee as presented.
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT:

County Administrator, Ron Robinson, requested a salary ordinance amendment for part-time in the Commissioner's budget. Robinson stated the amendment would compensate an employee of the Auditor's office who is covering a maternity leave and is willing to work after hours completing claims for Commissioners. County Auditor, Marsha McSherry noted the pay rate would be \$13.55 per hour through end of 2009.

MOTION:	Bob Sanders	TO: Approve salary ordinance amendment in
SECOND:	Charlene Knispel	the amount of \$13.55 (experienced) per hour
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	for part-time in the Commissioner's budget.
MOTION CARRIED		

IN THE MATTER OF CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE:

County Administrator, Ron Robinson, stated the process of refurbishing the building that previously held the First Christian Church is complete noting new carpet and paint for the upstairs.

IN THE MATTER OF 2009 INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION:

Marsha McSherry, County Auditor, presented an Inter-local Agreement between the County and Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission. McSherry explained the Agreement allows the County Auditor to serve as Controller of the CVB for 2009 and is the same as in the past.

MOTION:	Larry Teghtmeyer	TO: Approve and sign Inter-local Agreement
SECOND:	Bob Sanders	between the County and the KCCRVC for
AYES: 5	NAYES: 0	County Auditor to act as controller for the
MOTION CARRIED		CVB.

IN THE MATTER OF UPDATES:

- ❖ Council Member, Bob Sanders, stated he met with DLGF representatives wherein the DLGF stated they have twelve (12) counties that may be able to send out a timely tax bill. Sanders also stated work is being done to attempt to ensure next year's tax statements are on time.
- ❖ **KDI:** Sanders stated KDI is restructuring into sub-committees to further work within the County and work with the Redevelopment Commission.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COUNCIL

Harold Jones, President

Tom Anglin, Vice President

Absent
John Kinsey

Charlene Knispel

Bob Sanders

Absent
Brad Tandy

Larry Teghtmeyer

Attest:

Marsha McSherry, County Auditor