

## **MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **March 16, 2004**

Sheriff Jon Marvel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Winsor Keeler, Boy Scout Troop 504, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kylissa Miller, Chief Deputy Auditor, took roll call. All members were present.

Mr. Jim Bramble, Auditor, gave the reading of the call.

Mr. Decker called for the approval of the minutes of the February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004 meeting. Ms. Miller moves to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Blade duly seconds the motion.

Mr. Decker called for comments from the Council. Mr. Scott expressed his thanks to everyone for the support shown during the illness and death of his grandfather, Mr. John Scott. He then excused himself from the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Decker asked for a moment of silence for Mr. John Scott who gave many years of service to this county.

Mr. Anderson expressed his concerns, to the Council, on additional expenditures over the approved budget. He stated that we are only in the third month of the year and we have already spent several thousand dollars.

Mr. Anderson also shared his concerns about the County Council getting involved and becoming a Human Resource council. The Council is to take care of emergency spending and he feels they are overstepping their bounds in acting as a Human Resource council every month.

Mr. Anderson also expressed his concerns for a check we have received from the state to be used for a voting machine. The amount we have is in excess of \$300,000.00 and we may be receiving additional money in the future. His concern is that the money should be set aside for the intended use and not be put in the general fund to spend.

Mr. Decker said these issues are definitely worth the council reviewing. We do not want to spend more than we receive. Mr. Decker will meet with the Auditor, Mr. Bramble, before the next council meeting to discuss just where the county stands on spending. At the time the budget was approved the council was in the dark and did not know what kind of budget the county was going to have. There were a lot of uncertainties but the budget was passed based on the information available. He said, along with the issues Mr. Anderson brought up, the Council told the county employees at budget time that the Council would go back and revisit salaries. Mr. Decker would like the Council to consider salaries before next month. He would like to come back with some hard figures

at that time. He will have more answers and put them in the Council's hands before the next meeting. He would like to see these on the agenda next month.

Mr. Decker called for comments from the public. Mr. Bill Miller, resident of Vigo County, addressed the issue of wheel tax in Vigo County. He discussed the many ways the county would greatly benefit more from a fuel tax than a wheel tax. He asks the council to contact any and all persons, at the state level, who may be able to assist in getting a fuel tax passed. Several council members stated that they have tried and will continue trying in the future.

Commissioner Mr. Bill Bryan presented Resolution 2004-04 regarding the records storage of courthouse records during the courthouse renovation.

Commissioner Mr. Bill Bryan presented a request for additional appropriations for the Canal Street Corridor for Cumulative Bridge.

Keith Ruble, Parks Superintendent, discussed a position vacancy in the Maintenance area of the Parks Department. He is asking the council to approve a salary starting at 6/5, not the usual starting position of 6/1. The park department is in need of more qualified personnel and the better paying position would attract more qualified personnel.

Louise Anderson discussed moving the RN position from part-time to full-time. Funds are available in the Bio-Terrorism Fund to pay for the additional pay and benefits. The Personnel Committee gave a favorable recommendation.

Drug Task Force Seized Assets requesting additional appropriations for contractual services.

Infraction Deferral requesting additional appropriations for evidence lab workstation.

Title IV–D Incentive Fund is requesting additional appropriations for overtime to purge child support records.

Group Homes withdrew their request for extra help.

The Juvenile Center withdrew their request for additional positions.

Mr. Bryan presented, for council's approval, an increase for the Juvenile Director's Salary. This request is for the position that needs to be filled due to the resignation of the present director.

Mr. Tim Porter, director of Area Planning, requesting \$125,000.00 to be used to prepare a Comprehensive Plan to aid in community growth. Mr. Anderson suggests we should build a plan to look at these costs in a timelier manner. Mr. Porter stated that the plan would be reviewed every 3-5 years. It is possible the plan would not need updating every 3-5 years. He noted that the City Council has approved their portion. Mr. Decker agreed

that this is necessary for community growth but that this should, in the future, be a budget item. Mr. Decker will talk with the EDIT Committee to see if appropriations can come out of that fund. It was concluded that appropriations would more than likely be approved from the EDIT Fund but that no contracts will be signed prior to approval.

Mr. Setliff, Director of Civil Defense, is requesting a salary reduction at the request of the employee. The employee is requesting the reduction due to Social Security benefits. The savings is to remain in the Emergency Management budget and transferred to vehicles.

Mr. Bryan is requesting additional appropriations for the Riley Locks. Mr. Decker explained that money was appropriated from the EDIT Fund to the Parks Department for this purpose. Mr. Bryan explained this would be good for economic development, as this should draw tourist to that area. We did receive \$450,000.00 from the Indiana Department of Transportation department and this request would be part of our 20% of matching funds. Mr. Roman commented that the City of Terre Haute received the lowest allotment of many other cities. Mr. Decker stated this would be another advantage of our EDIT Plan we will have more money for matching grants.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## **MOTIONS**

### **March 16, 2004**

**Minutes of the February 17, 2004 Meeting** - Ms. Miller moves to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2004 meeting as submitted, Mr. Blade seconds the motion. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

**Resolution 2004-04** - Mr. Roman moves to approve Resolution 2004-04 regarding the lease of warehouse space, Mr. Blade seconds. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

**Cumulative Bridge** - Ms. Miller moves to approve \$150,000 to #406-88 Canal Road Bridge, Mr. Blade seconds. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

**Parks Department** – Mr. Curley moves to approve #412-50 General Maintenance at grade 6, step 5, Ms. Miller seconds. All members voting aye with a roll call vote, the motion passes.

**Health Department** –Mr. Roman moves to approve \$9,988.00 to #411-95 RN position from part-time to full-time, \$765.00 to #415-21 Social Security, \$1,777.00 to #415-22 Retirement and \$10,081.00 to #415-23 Group Insurance as long as money is available through the Bio-Terrorism Grant, Mr. Blade seconds. All members voting aye with a roll call vote, the motion passes.

**Drug Task Force Seized Assets** – Ms. Miller moves to approve \$4,412.00 to #433-30

Contractual Services and \$210.00 to #436-70 Operating Expenses, Mr. Blade seconds. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

**Infraction Deferral** – Ms. Miller moves to approve \$5,300.00 to #446-00, Mr. Blade seconds. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

**Title IV-D Incentive Fund** – Ms. Miller moves to approve \$10,000.00 to #411-21 to Overtime, \$765.00 to #415-21 Social Security and \$675.00 to #415-22 PERF. Mr., Blade seconds. All members voting aye with a roll call vote, the motion passes

**Juvenile Center**– Mr. Roman moves to approve #411-10 Director as non-rated position at \$45,000 annually, Ms. Miller seconds. All members voting aye with a roll call vote, the motion passes.

**Civil Defense** – Mr. Roman moves to approve salary reduction for #411-30 Deputy Director to \$14,575.04 and the transfer of \$8,287.96 from #411-30 Deputy Director to #444-60 Vehicles, Mr. Blade seconds. All members voting aye with a roll call vote, motion passes.

**Economic Development Income Tax**- Ms. Miller moves to approve \$40,000.00 to #440-10 for the Riley Locks #47, Mr. Curley seconds. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

**Adjourn** – Mr. Anderson moves to adjourn the meeting 8:00 pm, Ms. Miller seconds. All members voting aye, the motion passes.

*Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 14th day of April 2004.*

AYE

NAY

_____	Brad Anderson	_____
_____	Cedric Blade	_____
_____	Tim P. Curley	_____
_____	Effie N. Miller	_____
_____	Turk Roman	_____
_____	Darrick C. Scott	_____

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David W. Decker, President

*Attest:*

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James W. Bramble  
Auditor