

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
March 27, 2013

Present for the meeting was: Commissioners Lee Miller, Jordon Stoddard and Bill Baxter.

Also attended by: Clerk Abbie Mace and Deputy Clerk Laura Singleton

Commissioner Miller called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Tia Gilroy RE: HRA VEBA

Ms. Gilroy discussed the several ways that the HRA VEBA Plan can be used and the benefits of using the plan. She stated that this is basically a tax free medical savings account. Money goes in to the account tax free and when it comes out it is also tax free. The money can only be used for medical purposes such as doctor bills, co-pays, deductibles, or anything that is medically related. The money in the account can also be saved up and carried over from year to year to be used after retirement for medical purposes. This could allow people to retire before age 65 and still receive medical benefits. The commissioners would like to discuss this with the employees to find out what they would like to do before making a final decision on this.

Public Works Director Brandon Harris RE: Department Reports

Road and Bridge – The bid came in at an amount of \$2,846,000 for the Stone Bridge project. There was discussion on how much money the county still needs to come up with to cover the cost of the project and where the money will come from. We were awarded \$1,977,000 for the Salem Road project. This money will not be available until 2016 though. The county will do light maintenance on the road until then but nothing major. He discussed some things that could be worked on over the next few years that would probably save some money in the long run when the major work is done. The state has sent a letter stating the bridge on 100 North over the Enterprise Canal in the Newdale area needs to be shut down to a one lane road. He will be moving that bridge up to a higher priority to be replaced. There have been a lot of complaints on the Old Shotgun Road in Island Park. There was discussion of placing the snowmobile trail in another location that would solve most of the problems on that road. Mr. Harris stated he will make some calls to the landowners to see if some agreements can be made for allowing the trail to cross their property.

Landfills – Mr. Harris needs an approval to pay half of the total amount for the crane that will be installed at the new transfer station. Crane Equipment is requesting that money now so they can continue to build the crane. Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to award the bid for the crane to be used at the Transfer Station for the amount of \$138,700 to Crane Equipment with half of that amount being paid immediately. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

They are continuing to excavate at the transfer station site. The site that the main building will be located has already been excavated.

Sewer – Mr. Harris reported he has finished the prequalification of contractors.

Miscellaneous – Mr. Harris stated that he would like to create a new position for the St. Anthony Road and Bridge. He discussed why this would be very beneficial for the county especially during the summer. There was also discussion on whether it is more beneficial to hire another person from the work camp or create this new position. He stated they can get by with the crew they have now but more work could be done if a new position was created. The commissioners would like to

wait until their meeting on Monday to make a decision. Mr. Harris stated he will be attending a Project Development Conference on April 2nd and 3rd.

Executive Session IC 67-2345(1)(b)

Commissioner Miller made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 67-2345(1)(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student; at 11:17 a.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", Commissioner Miller voting "Aye" and Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye". Commissioner Miller declared the meeting open at 11:32 a.m.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the claims for March 27, 2013 as presented. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to approve the minutes from March 11, 2013 with noted corrections. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with both commissioners voting in favor.

There was discussion on the construction that has been done on 12th West in St. Anthony. The city wants the county to pay half of the engineering fees which would be \$2,500. Commissioner Miller made a motion to pay \$2,500 to the City of St. Anthony for engineering fees. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye", and Commissioner Stoddard voting "Nay". Motion passed by majority vote.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to approve the junior college application for Hernan Labra. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned.

LeRoy Miller, Chairman
Fremont County Commission

Attest: _____
Abbie Mace, Clerk