The Steuben County Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, January 13, 2020, in the Commissioners’ Room of the Steuben County Community Center. Present this day were Commissioners Ronald Smith, James Crowl and Lynne Liechty. Other Elected Officials also present were Ruth Beer, Steuben County Councilwoman, Ken Shelton, Steuben County Councilman, Judge Allen Wheat, Jeremy Musser, Prosecuting Attorney, Tangi Manahan, Clerk, Kim Anderson, Assessor, Rodney Robinson, Sheriff and Kim Meyers, Auditor.

Gary Fair, Community Center Building Manager, submitted quotes for the replacement of the Purdue Extension Kitchen Floor. Mr. Fair explained that the difference in the quotes is approximately $30.00; however, Sanborn’s can get the project done quicker than the other company. James Crowl made a motion to approve the quote from Sanborn’s in the amount of $2,501.96. Lynne Liechty seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Mr. Fair stated he has spoken to Ross Electric concerning the deficiencies found during the INSHARP Inspections. He requested approval to spend funds, not to exceed $500.00 in order to troubleshoot those issues. Gary Fair said he is also looking into using the bells in the Community Center as a tornado warnings siren. Lynne Liechty made a motion to allow Ross Electric to troubleshoot the INCITE deficiencies, not to exceed $500.00. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.

Ronald Smith stated that Martin Riley has done all of the demographics, studies, etc. and the Commission Board does not want redundancy. Jack Daniel, Martin Riley, thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity and said he is happy to see Steuben County at this milestone and moving forward. He said he wasn’t quite expecting this today and feels a bit unprepared, but said it sounds like the Commission Board is ready to chart what the next steps are, establish a budget, schedule and trying to understand what reasonable start times, completion times, etc. are.

Jack Daniel said he would be happy to return to a Commission Board Meeting with a plan; however, they will need to have some conversations with Department Heads in the meantime. Judge Allen Wheat said Mr. Daniel will need to speak with the Judges regarding their offices and the interior of the structure. Jack Daniel said they are not ready to design yet, this is what they call pre-project planning. Lynne Liechty said this is to figure out the size and imprint of the building.

Mr. Daniel asked what the budget limitation was. Commissioner Liechty said the target, with Council’s approval, would be around the $10 Million mark. Jack Daniel said they work backwards to come up with a proposal that does the most they can for each department and try to help them understand what that looks and feels like. He said a percentage would be new square footage and a percentage towards renovation square footage.

Lynne Liechty specified technology and security are not included in this due to the expense associated with that. Mr. Daniel said there will be consultants that can help with that when the time comes.

The Commissioners scheduled a special meeting for Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the proposed plan. After the meeting, it was discovered that Commissioner Crowl will be at Conference so the meeting was moved to Thursday, February 13, at 8:30 a.m.

Lynne Liechty made a motion to approve a rental rate of $10.00 per class, plus the refundable $150.00 cleaning deposit for Michelle Cook to use the Purdue Extension Kitchen for her Cooking Classes. James Crowl seconded that motion and the motion carried with three (3) ayes.
January 13, 2020 Commissioners’ Administrative/Emergency Expenditure Meeting Continued

STEUBEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

_____________________________________________
Ronald L. Smith, President, South District

_____________________________________________
James A. Crowl, Vice President, Middle District

_____________________________________________
Lynne Liechty, North District

Attest: ______________________________________
Kim Meyers, Steuben County Auditor