

Union Township Advisory Board – Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2007 - 7:00 PM

Union Elementary School

Attending: Dan Montgomery, Craig Phillips, Jim Sanford, Candace Ulmer and Eileen Sims

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman (Dan Montgomery)

Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum – Secretary (Jim Sanford)

Approval of Agenda and Approval of Minutes - Dan Montgomery

Motion made by Jim Sanford to accept the agenda and minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Craig Phillips.

Treasurer's Report – Presented by Trustee, Candace Ulmer. Receipts for February are the COIT payment. Disbursements have been made for three payments for township assistance. Of the \$236,000 in the bank, \$200,000 is in rolling CD's earning at over 5% interest, the remaining \$36,000 is in the checking account. Craig Phillips made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Jim Sanford.

Trustee's Report presented by Candace Ulmer reporting on the board meeting held for the Union-Worth Joint Fire Protection Board. It appeared that Union Township owes over \$67,000 compared with the 2006 budget expenditures. Further investigation will be made to be sure all funds have been taken into consideration. Other issues discussed were: ownership of the ambulance - Union gave \$60,000 toward the purchase of which \$30,000 went toward the ambulance purchase and \$30,000 went toward equipment and supplies for the ambulance. The ambulance is titled in the name of Worth Township only; costs to be shared by Union and Worth - what are they?

In connection with the above issues, an possible agreement with Witham Health Services to take over the ambulance service at Worth Township/Fire Department has surfaced. John Merson, the Director of Boone County EMS presented the proposal as it currently stands. The contract is still in the draft stage. The highlights are that Witham would provide a paramedic from 8:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. with Worth providing the EMT. Witham would cover the cost of the ambulance and operating expenses. Witham would provide medical training. Worth would cover maintenance and insurance. The ambulance would take the patient to whatever facility desired even though Witham is responding to the call.

Questions arose which would have to be researched, such as what legal entities will

the contract be binding upon - who will sign this contract, what are the costs attached, and what is typically the medical billing revenue of such an ambulance operation? The board thanked Mr. Merson for attending the meeting and explaining Witham Health Services part in the negotiation and concluded that more information will have to be obtained.

Committee Reports:

Fire & Public Safety – Craig Phillips & Candace - Nothing more to report other than the above discussion regarding the Fire Board meeting.

Development & Planning – Jim Sanford & Candace - nothing to report at this time.

Cemeteries – Dan Montgomery & Candace - Dan reported that the township has the deed to Johns Cemetery. He is looking into alternatives for summer maintenance, such as a project for a Boy Scout troop.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Other Business - Candace reported that some of the assessing has been completed. Candace also reported that she met with Linda Lessaris, Department of Local Government Finance to better understand the budget process and how distribution of COIT is allocated. COIT is distributed based on need. If a taxing entity is in debt, there is greater need - therefore more COIT is allocated to that entity. There are coming issues for Union Township that will have to be faced. The 2007 proposed budget requested \$300,000 for fire protection when the tax distributions and COIT received are more in the range of \$60,000. An interest payment is due in July, 2007 on the bonds. No taxing entity has been put in the budget for the bonds.

Public Input/Concerns - Many questions were asked in regard to the possible change in the ambulance service. Minutes will appear on the township website, there has been a temporary computer glitch which will be fixed soon. Question arose as to whether the designated trustee had voting power on the advisory board in the absence of the trustee which was answered that the trustee does not have voting power on the board.

Adjourn - motion made by Jim Sanford, seconded by Craig Phillips. Meeting adjourned at 8:18.