

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**October 16, 2017**

The Grant County Board of Commissioner's met in regular session on October 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the Grant County Complex Council Chambers at 401 South Adams Street, Marion, IN.

In attendance were Commissioners Mike Burton, Mark Bardsley and Ron Mowery. Also present were Auditor Roger Bainbridge, Commissioner's Secretary T.C. Hull and Financial Deputy Patti Pyle.

Commissioner Burton called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.  
Commissioner Bardsley led in prayer.  
Commissioner Mowery led the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Burton stated he would be adding an item under New Business item H. Request for Cell Phone allowance by Veteran Affairs Officer. Also under New Business item G. Proposal for Work on Elevators moving up to Communications and Board Updates.

**Claims**

Commissioner Bardsley stated we have preapprovals and move to ratify invoice edit #10604, #10605 and #10606. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bardsley explained we also have some standalone's one to Spitzer Herriman Stephenson Holderead Conner Persinger in the amount of \$7,750.00, one to Tipton Clerk of Courts on behalf of the Highway for \$10,000.00 and another to Tipton Circuit Court on behalf of the Highway Department regarding Garthwaite Road Project at \$10,500.00 and move their approvals. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bardsley stated we have this week's claim dockets, invoice edit reports #10615, #10616 and #10617 and move their approval. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

**Minutes**

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve October 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes as presented. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll**

Auditor Roger Bainbridge stated payroll is in order. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve current payroll. Second from Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

### **Communications and Board Updates (Elected Officials, Boards, Special Committees)**

Commissioner Burton stated we have the Weights & Measurers report for August 16 through September 15<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Commissioner Mowery to accept the monthly report. Second from Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

Maintenance Director Vince Beneke-Proposal for Work on Elevators-Mr. Beneke explained that the State Elevator Inspector was in last month and the phones in the elevators are in violation as they are not programmable and we need to bring them up to date. The phones needed are programed that when they are picked up it automatically routes the call to dispatch and it will tell the elevator and location.

Commissioner Bardsley inquired as to where we were getting the money, Commissioner Burton stated we would take it from Contractual Services it is \$5,850.00, with a down payment of \$2,925.00 and \$2,925.00 upon completion. Mr. Bardsley inquired as to taking it from Preventative Maintenance. Mr. Burton stated they will take a look use whichever is best. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the request for Elevator Maintenance. Second from Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Roger Bainbridge stated he was giving Commissioner Burton the Treasurer's Monthly report for September which is timely, and the comparison shows a difference of \$.78 which is very minor so we are in good shape.

### **IT Department**

Marcus Elliott stated he has our Annual SMART Net with Presidio, which is support for our server infrastructure and courtroom equipment it is \$16,571.93 for 1 year to be paid from Data Processing/Contractual Services and can be paid the 1<sup>st</sup> of next year.

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion approving the 1 year contract for \$16,571.93 as presented. Second from Commissioner Mowery and the motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Elliott explained that he has been looking for client management software for a few years but has been too expensive; the company that helps with our helpdesk software has a product out and had it on sell so we received a quote. This will allow us to install applications remotely and also take control of computers on our network. We currently use other software that is an annual cost that would be eliminated. This will be a good investment and will keep us from having to stay after work hours. The total cost is \$11,504.88, which will be paid out of Computer & Phone Maintenance. Commissioner Bardsley asked about the software that will be eliminated and the Company that has the new software.

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the purchase from BMC at \$11,504.88. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Elliott stated the Courts Video Conference software is Web X which is going away and a new product called SPARK has been introduced that will work the same but is cheaper and you get more users. The 12 month cost is \$2,808.00 coming from Data Processing Contractual Services. Commissioner Bardsley asked if this was the software that the Judges could talk with the DOC. Mr. Elliott said yes and they are going to upgrade their systems to something like this.

Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the \$2,808.00 for the purchase of SPARK. Second from Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

### **Highway Department**

Superintendent White explained we have an unofficial detour from the State of Indiana they are going to close State Road 37 between State Road 35 and 600 South. The detour he is recommending is County Road 600 S to 100 W which is basically straight south of the Marion Airport. Needs 3 signatures and is scheduled for the spring of 2018.

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the unofficial detour regarding State Road 35 and 600. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Mr. White stated that the floor for the Salt Building was poured today and walls completed a few weeks ago. Clear Span is scheduled to bring the building in and start the structure on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Superintendent White presented prices on a truck chassis trading in a 1999 International:

Vomac Truck Sales \$114,878.56 trade in value \$17,000.00 total \$97,878.56.

General Truck Sales, \$117,350.00 trade in value \$16,000.00 total \$101,350.00

Selking International \$115,995.00 trade in value \$15,000.00 total \$100,995.00

Mr. White is recommending the Vomac Truck Sales.

Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the Vomac for \$114,878.56 less the trade in value of \$17,000.00. Second from Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

Mr. White would like to use WA Jones for the body part of it. They are the company that we used for the chassis just built and they were the lowest bid. For the bed, hydraulics, sander, hitch and everything they would honor the same price of \$45,496.00 for the same combo. Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the WA Jones quote as presented. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent White stated we did receive the new pick-up truck from RAM for the Recycle Center and would like to buy a warranty that is bumper to bumper for 7 years or 70,000 miles it is around \$4000.00. The Commissioners agreed by consensus to proceed with that.

Mr. White explained that the County Auction brought in \$65,000.00 last Friday. When he does the deposit he will have a breakdown of the amounts going into the General, Recycle & Highway funds.

Superintendent White added that they should pour the bridge deck on Stone Road this week.

### **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

A. Petition to Vacate A Public Way-Charles Edgington, 7308 W 200 S Swayzee, In 46986. Mr. Edgington explained they are asking to vacate the easement between the old church property and the adjoining church property. Attorney Phil Stevenson did the work on this and there were no objections received. The reasoning for the vacation is in the future they should decide to expand that will be taken care of.

Commissioner Mowery made a motion approving Ordinance 10-2017 An Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of a Public Way. Second from Commissioner Bardsley and the motion carried 3-0.

B. Proposed Changes to County Health Plan-Commissioner Burton explained that during the 2018 budget hearings with the County Council to have an operating balance in the General Fund the Commissioners agreed to reduce CUM Bridge by \$250,000. The Council also approved to pay the county dispatchers from E-911 which the Commissioners advised against as the City will more than likely request funding to pay their dispatchers. Both of these expenditures can only be done for 1 year. During the Budget process it became apparent that the Medical costs will have to be reduced along with personnel costs and find additional revenues for the 2019 budgets. Looking at the County Health Insurance in 2014 we spent 4.8 million, 2015 7.1 million, 2016 6.7 million and for this year projected a little over 6 million. We will be increasing the employee premiums and deductibles. Based on what the Council has said there will not be pay increases next year, so the Commissioners realize this will result in a slight decrease in take home pay for County employees. If the Commissioners do not take action to control the health costs we would be faced in a few years with a large problem.

The Commissioners are recommending a 25% increase for full time employees. Some examples of the changes would be Employee only is a bi-weekly deduction is \$28 and will increase \$7 for a \$35.00 bi-weekly deduction. Employee & Child will go from \$42.00 to \$52.50. Employee & Spouse will go from \$49.00 to \$61.25 and Family goes from \$64.00 to \$80.00. Retirees will increase \$30 per month for a \$333.00 total. Deductibles will go from 1,500 to 2,500 per person and family \$3,000 to \$5,000. The out of pocket per person goes from \$5,000 to \$6,000 and family \$10,000 to \$12,000. Commissioner Bardsley stated healthcare is not just a county issue it is a National issue, so we are trying to protect employees as much as possible, however if we do not make some allowance's we may not even be able to provide healthcare for employees. Commissioner Burton stated the effective date is January 1, 2018 and Open Enrollment is coming up.

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the health insurance premiums increasing by 25% for employees on the plan, retirees increase from \$303 to \$333 per month also with the deductible increase of \$2,500 per person and \$5,000 for family effective January 1, 2018. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

C. EMA – Nixle Agreement-Tom Culley explained the mass notification system we have been using and Expanding to the Nixle Engage and the expanded coverage and notifications allowed, group notifications, unlimited messaging and emails, Warnings through the National Weather Service will be automatic, with unlimited groups, and useful tool for law enforcement.

Mr. Culley stated we were awarded a Communication Grant of \$12,060.00 which covers the program for 2 years at \$5,800 per year and the startup cost of \$460. Commissioner Bardsley stated this is an excellent tool, next generation in getting awareness out to constants. Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the Nixle Grant and have it operational as soon as possible. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

D. CUM Bridge Reduction For 2018-The Commissioners did agree at a recent County Council meeting to reduce Cum Bridge by \$250,000. Superintendent David White stated he had made the changes and gave the paperwork to Angie Jarvis. Commissioner Bardsley stated the Commissioners were reluctant to release these funds because of the continuing work going on, on our bridges. Commissioner Mowery added that the \$250,000 is what we agreed to and are commended for doing so. Commissioner Burton stated that Mr. White plans years ahead and it means \$250,000 worth of projects has to be pushed back, we emphasized to the Council this could only be done for 1 year next year the levy will go back to the maximum. Commissioner Bardsley agreed we are cannibalizing our infrastructure and cannot let that be in jeopardy whether that is CUM Bridge or E-911 money.

Commissioner Bardsley explained the Commissioners set the levy for CUM Bridge as he made a motion that as agreed to at the County Council we release \$250,000 of CUM Bridge to the General Budget. Commissioner Burton added that the 2017 Levy was \$687,118.00 so the levy for 2018 will be \$437,118.00 and an operating balance of \$120,190.00. Second from Commissioner Mowery adding that everything we are talking about has to do with tightening our belts and everybody give and we are going to have to work exceptionally hard next year to get to a better place. Mr. Burton stated that in the Circuit Breaker loss under the Property Tax Reform Act the county lost about 1.3 million in revenue so either there is going to have to be cuts or new revenue or a combination of both; Motion carried 3-0.

H. Veteran Affairs Officer-request for cell phone allowance-Commissioner Burton explained the request from Brad Hodson for the cell phone stipend for the 1<sup>st</sup> pay in November. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the stipend for a cell phone for the Veteran Affairs Officer. Second from Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

F. TMA Homestead Deduction Contract-Auditor Roger Bainbridge explained that we do business with TMA through the Assessor's Office and they have a program that has identified approximately 90 parcels that could be ineligible homesteads. We are weak in identifying those that have homestead deductions in other states and since they have a nationwide data base if they identify any that we have missed we would agree to pay them 30% of what we would get and that would come from the ineligible homestead fund. Mr. Bainbridge stated this has been reviewed by Kyle Persinger and he says he is comfortable if you wish to approve. Commissioner Bardsley questioned the \$650 charge and Mr. Bainbridge explained that is if we do not follow through and he will not let that happen. Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the Tax Management Associates Homestead Deduction Audit program as presented and move its adoption. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

**Public Comment**

None

Commissioner Burton stated our next meeting will be Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> because there is 5 Monday's this month we will go without a meeting but as always the Commissioners have an Ordinance in place if need to preapprove anything and recessed the meeting at 3:05 pm.