

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
April 16, 2018

The Grant County Board of Commissioner's met in regular session on April 16, 2018 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, and Financial Deputy Patti Pyle.

Commissioner Burton called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Commissioner Bardsley led in prayer.

Commissioner Mowery led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Claims

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion for ratification of the preapproved invoice edit reports #10910, 10911, 10912. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve this week's current claim invoice edit reports #10920, 10921 and 10922. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Payroll

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to approve the payroll as presented. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

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

Auditor, Roger Bainbridge submitted the Grant County Treasurer's monthly reports for January & February 2018 as well as amended reports for January & February 2018. There was discussion pertaining to the comparison between the Auditor & Treasurer's reconciliation and the Commissioners suggested that the Auditor being the CFO of the County work with the new Treasurer regarding an explanation and resolution to the reconciling items.

Commissioner Bardsley made a motion to receive the Treasurers reports as presented. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

Commissioner Burton requested the ending time be corrected to 3:00 pm in the February 5th minutes noting that Commissioner Bardsley was not in attendance for that meeting.

Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the February 5, 2018 minutes as corrected. Second from Commissioner Burton; motion carried 2-0 with Commissioner Bardsley abstaining.

Commissioner Bardsley noted correcting the chronological order under New Business in February 21st, 2018 minutes and made a motion to approve as corrected. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

IT Department

None

Highway Department

None

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Area Plan – Variance Request, Larry Strange explained the request is from Ted Evans 4131 N Conner Dr., Marion, IN 46952. He is requesting to construct an accessory building approximately 3 feet from his South property line instead of the required 12 feet as he is trying to avoid driving on the leach field. Mr. Strange has been to the property and does not see a problem and recommended the Commissioners give a favorable recommendation to the BZA. Commissioner Bardsley made a motion giving a favorable recommendation and the President to sign off on it. Second from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

B. Center Township Appeal-Trustee, Bryce Coryea explained that James Ashley was denied Electric assistance on March 28, 2018. In the appeal Mr. Ashley stated he was not receiving his award of \$42 for a utility allotment they checked with the housing authority and was told he was receiving and cashing the allotments. He is the only one in the household, receives section 8 housing paying zero rent and receives the \$42.00 allotment that is to be applied to his utilities. On 3-14-18 he did get \$315 credit on bill from ICAP an energy assistance program. He works at Wal-Mart. Denial Reasons: Failing to apply the allotment of \$42 to the electric bill. The last payment made by him to the electric company was \$40 on November 6, 2017. Wasted resources lack of personal effort as he did not apply his income or utility allotment on the basic necessities.

Mr. James Ashley 323 E 8th Street Apt. A, Marion explained the he started getting the \$42 in November and gave the Commissioners a copy of a ledger. Mr. Ashley stated he was going to play a recording with the real reason he was denied. He played the following: “Hello Mr. Ashley this is Mona from the Center Township Trustee’s Office phone number 662-9140. I know we set up an appointment for you tomorrow at 9:00 for you to bring in additional receipts but I am calling to cancel that appointment. I found out from Marion Housing Authority that you have been getting a utility allotment each month and you have not paid it on your heat and it has to go to your heat. So with the amount you should have paid each month if you had paid it, it would have come to \$370.00 that would have been paid on your account and the disconnect is for \$373.00. That means if you would have made your payments you wouldn’t even be up for disconnect at this point, so I will be mailing a letter of denial to you it will state that you did not apply your government funds which were given to you to apply to the heat source. If you have questions give us a call back but you don’t qualify for the assistance I am so sorry. So we are cancelling your appointment for tomorrow morning, I hope you get this

message before then if not I guess if you come in I can give you your denial letter at that time. So if you have questions give us a call 662-9140. Thank you.”

Mr. Ashley stated something is wrong with that picture. What she is saying the housing authority was giving me was not accurate. He thinks he was denied for other reasons and showed additional paperwork of when he applied and following discussion about what all he had to do and was always told doesn’t qualify. Working Part Time he pays a portion of rent and gets \$15 food stamps per month. Commissioner Burton stated that when he had spoken with him in the office he stated it was going to be disconnected April 2nd. He stated he had an agreement and was hoping to get some help. There was lengthy discussion regarding the apartment landlord, a scooter ramp, and neighbor complaints and so on with both Mr. Ashley and Mr. Coryea.

The Commissioners decided they needed more time to review all the information before making a decision. Commissioner Burton stated they will take it all under advisement and may contact either or both of them for follow-up, and will issue their decision within 5 working days.

Public Comment

None

Commissioner Burton stated the next Commissioner Meeting would be Monday May 7th and recessed the meeting at 2:50 pm.