

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday September 8, 2020

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday September 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Grant County Complex Council Chambers at 401 South Adams Street, Marion, Indiana.

In attendance were Commissioner Mark Bardsley, Commissioner Ron Mowery, Commissioner Mike Burton, Auditor Jim McWhirt, and Justin Saathoff, County Administrator/HR. This public meeting has been made accessible to all via WebEx.

This Grant County Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Commissioner Bardsley.

The prayer was said by Commissioner Mowery and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Burton.

Preapproved Claims

8/24/2020 - general \$172,251.66, other \$29,543.88, and highway \$9,466.70 = \$211,262.24.

8/31/2020 - general \$45,372.41, other \$53,915.78, and highway \$36,645.47 = \$135,933.66.

Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the preapproved claims. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

Preapproved Single Claims

8/25/2020 - AT&T \$1,824.75, AT&T \$2483.72, hometown Media \$10,595.94, Vectren \$43.02, Central Indiana Hardware \$81.28, Vectren \$225.69, and Chuck's Sewer and Drain \$143.00.

8/31/2020 - Vectren \$754.7 and Brighthouse \$104.00.

9/2/2020 - Brighthouse \$124.00, AT&T \$135.29.

9/3/2020 - Constellation New Energy Gas Division \$699.84 and Liberty Mutual Insurance \$50.00.

Commissioner Mowery made a motion to ratify the preapproved single claims. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

Claims for **9/8/2020** - general \$299,136.89, other \$58,234.12, highway \$21,033.92 = \$378,404.93.

Commissioner Burton to approve the claims as presented. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

PAYROLL

Payroll #17 in the amount of \$508,977.96 was preapproved on 8/19/2020 and paid out on 8/21/2020.

Payroll #18 in the amount of \$510,783.34 was preapproved on 9/1/2020 and paid out on 9/4/2020.

Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify payrolls #17 and #18 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

MINUTES

None

RECIPT OF MONTHLY REPORT, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES for 7/16/2020 to 8/15/2020 and **RECIPT OF MONTHLY REPORT, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT** for month ending 7/31/2020. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to accept both reports as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS & BOARD UPDATES (ELECTED OFFICIALS, BOARDS, and SPECIAL COMMITTEES)

Jim McWhirt, Auditor - State Board of Accounts will be doing an exit conference the last week of this month. Also, the tax sale is scheduled for September 15, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Bob Jackson, EMA - EOC weekly meetings continue. Grant County is in the midst of another spike. The numbers for the last seven days are at one hundred and four. Approximately fourteen positive cases a day are being reported. The numbers over a fourteen day period is at one hundred and seventy three cases, which averages about twelve cases a day. "This is not where we want to be, so we will be increasing our efforts to enforce the mask wearing and hand sanitizer stations in upcoming events. We will be meeting this afternoon with health care officials, Marion General Hospital, long term care facilities, and schools. July was our worst month with three hundred fifty cases reported. As of today, September 8, 2020, we are already over one hundred cases reported."

IT

None

HIGHWAY REPORT

David White, Highway Superintendent

- 1) All compost and mulch were ground up last week.
- 2) The bridge on 700 E, bridge #93, has been started and should be completed next week.
- 3) The Bridge in Jonesboro on Sixth street was started this morning. The anticipated completions time is about two weeks.
- 4) The quote for the guardrail repair from a specialty company that we use is in the amount of \$12,025.00. Some of that amount the county gets back through insurance claims.
- 5) The traffic study in Fairmount concluded that there is really not a concern where anyone would be hit. Commissioner Mowery stated that the request was for a stop sign and asked Mr. White what would be the recommendation. White stated that he doesn't really recommended the stop sign due to lack of statics. "You cannot use a stop sign as a traffic control device. It can only be used for stopping". Tyler Street is county controlled and Barclay Street is city controlled. As an option the speed limit can be lowered. The current speed is 30 mph. A limit of 20 or 25 mph could be made due to it being a residential area. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to install a stop sign in request of the complaints that would be east and west bound stop signs. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried. There will need to be an ordinance drawn up to complete the process of the stop signs being put into place. This will make it a three-way stop.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Central Dispatch Update (EMD Training, New Hires, Holiday Pay) - Michael Clayton, 911 Director – The schedule is being finalized with the instructor for EMD training. One new hire will start training next week. The holiday pay is still being worked on. It is just a slow process.

- 2) Proposal of Waste Disposal for Central Dispatch - Vince Beneke, Maintenance – Central dispatch is needing a dumpster for the building. The contract calls for it to be dumped one time a week. It can be changed to every other week if need. The cost will be \$173.65 monthly. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to accept the one-year service agreement with Waste Management. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
- 3) Ratification of Elevator Work Order - Vince Beneke, Maintenance – The courthouse elevators are due for their annual and five-year tests. The cost is \$10,184.00. This will allow the county to get elevator permits for the next year. This was preapproved on August 26, 2020 by Commissioner Bardsley. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the preapproval. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- 4) Proposal of Concrete Repair - Vince Beneke, Maintenance – Two quotes were received. Quote #1 is from Bowman in the amount of \$19,645.20. Quote #2 is from Dave's Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$14,139.00. The recommendation would be to use Dave's Excavating as they have the lower bid. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to use Dave's Excavation for the concrete work. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
- 5) Application for Development Standard Variance - Larry Strange, Area Plan – The property location is 5155 South 700 East in Gas City. The owner is Terry Davis. Mr. Davis is requesting to encroach on the north side setback line adding a bedroom. The request is a 19' setback rather than the 22' setback. There are no complaints or questions in the Area plan office about this. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to move forward with a favorable recommendation. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
- 6) Resolution Condemning Racially Restrictive Covenants - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner - Resolution 8-2020 condemns the existence of racially restrictive covenants in real property. The Grant County Board of Commissioners urged the State of Indiana and Grant County residents to remove such restrictive covenants. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve Resolution #8 in its entirety. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
- 7) Ratification of KNOWiNK Agreement (Electronic Poll Books) - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner – The Commissioners need to sign the master software license and services agreement. It has been reviewed by the County attorney. Some changes were made on our end and accepted by KNOWiNK. This is being presented for review and ratification. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the agreement for our electronic poll books. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- 8) Public Statement/Resolution on Payroll Tax Deferral - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner - Resolution 9-2020. Commissioner Burton made a motion to opt out of the voluntary payroll tax deferral. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- 9) Correction and Readoption of Coronavirus Policy - Justin Saathoff, Administrator – This policy was originally adopted in March 2020. There was an oversight in the percentage for qualifying reason number five that pays out at two-thirds pay. It was accidentally inserted that it paid out seventy-five percent. In accordance with the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, it is proposed that we readopt this at the two-thirds rate. Commissioner Burton made a motion to

readopt the policy at the two-thirds rate. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

- 10) Proposal of 2021 Wellness Program - Justin Saathoff, Administrator – It was proposed to not change anything with the program with the exception of creating one deadline for requirements as opposed to staggered deadlines as done in the past. Mr. Saathoff requested to make the standard deadline September 30th. Commissioner Burton made a motion to make one standard deadline of September 30th for the wellness program. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- 11) Proposal of 2021 Holiday Schedule - Justin Saathoff, Administrator - 2021 is not an election year, which eliminates two holidays. One note of importance, Christmas Day does fall on a Saturday in 2021 so to observe on that Friday before would push Christmas Eve to the 23rd. New Year's falls on a Saturday. Observance will be on December 31st. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to recognize both days early so there is a Thursday and Friday off for Christmas and accepting all other days on the 2021 holiday schedule, a second with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
- 12) Proposal of County Personnel Policies Handbook Committee - Justin Saathoff, Administrator - The handbook is in need of some updates. This committee would consist of county employees. All documents would still have to pass through the county attorney and also adopted by the Board of Commissioners. There will be no need for a third party. The last update was about ten years ago and cost \$40,000.00. This will save the county some money keeping it internal. With the Commissioners' consideration, recommendation of the committee names will be brought to the next meeting. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
- 13) Request for Approval of EMS Garage Addition - Todd Durnil, Pyramid – This construction will be south of the existing building. The new building will be bigger. There will be a couple of bays for drive thru testing as needed. Cares act funds will be used to cover the cost and is already approved. Pyramid is working on designs for the new building and will need approval on the designs when completed. This has been advertised in the newspaper. A pre-bid meeting is on Friday. All bids will be due the 21st. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve and move forward on the new EMS addition. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- 14) Request for Approval of Broadband Assessment - Todd Durnil, Pyramid - Cares act funds will also cover this cost. This will be a survey to give an idea of what and where extra towers may be needed or required. The idea is to use the three tall safety public towers as a backbone for this system. Then off of that, small towers can be placed wherever the need may be. Cities and schools can also put up towers. This survey will give a good map of where there is and is not connection. This project is already approved under the Cares act money. There is paperwork still needed for this. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the broadband assessment. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

15) Review of Pay Request - Todd Durnil, Pyramid - There are two requests for Rex Collins. It is recommended that the Commissioners table those pay request for now. One we believe is a duplicate and the other one for \$35,966.54 is retainage. There is a final change order due to additional work. There is still documentation needed for that work. Retainage is also being held on JGBowers due to some construction issues. The Fredericks requests can be paid. As for a roject update, the IT room is now available and Pyramid is making arrangements to have the fire suppression system put in. The city of Marion BZA did not recommend the radio tower behind the bank building. Pyramid has been looking for a different location. Mr. Durnil proposed a new location of Thurgood Marshall Middle School. "I did meet with the school corporation and they are excited about this as it helps with the wireless broadband for their students." The zoning hearing for that is at 3 o'clock today. "I will meet with the County BZA on Monday September 14th and with the property owners of Walnut Creek Golf Course along with the property on State Road 37.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

The meeting was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:45 a.m. The next Commissioners' meeting will be on Monday, September 21, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.