

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**Monday October 5, 2020**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 5, 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 Grant County Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Commissioner Bardsley. The prayer was said by Commissioner Burton and it was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Mowery.

**CLAIMS**

9/28/2020 – general - \$205,241.75, other - \$39,879.61, highway - \$212,026.86 = \$457,148.22.

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

10/05/2020 – general - \$76,726.28, other - \$83,607.06, highway - \$2,746.94 = \$163,080.28.

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

**PAYROLL- #20**

Preapproval was given on 9/29/2020 for payroll #20 to be paid out on 10/2/2020 in the amount of \$514,994.76. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify payroll #20. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

**MINUTES**

None

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

Robert Jackson, EMA - 9 positive cases were recorded today. This brings Grant county to 1,392 positive cases since the beginning of the pandemic. 2 deaths were reported last week. The local schools are doing a great job. The hospital has zero cases in the critical care as of today's date. In the last 7 days, the county has had 81 cases reported. That is an average of 11 ½ a day. In the past 14 days, there has been 147 cases reported. That is an average of 10 ½ per day. The month of September has been our highest month yet. EMA did receive a grant for hazard materials through the LAPC. In the spring, EMA also received two other grants. \$8,998.00 was received to buy two monitors and \$2,400.00 was put towards an annual hazmat operation awareness training class for first responders. Four more Cares Act checks were received Friday.

**RECIEPT OF MONTHLY REPORT, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT-MONTH ENDING 8/31/2020-**

Commissioner Mowery made a motion to receive the monthly report ending 8/31/2020. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

IT

None

### HIGHWAY REPORT

David White, Superintendent

1. The Highway Department is currently paving the bridge in Jonesboro. This will be the second phase for the Community Crossing Grant. Both bridges will then be completed.
2. Bridge #93 on 700 East is about a third of the way completed. Mr. White is expecting to have it finished in mid-November.
3. Other paving is currently being done around the county.
4. Mr. White requested to apply for the Community Crossing Grant for the Washington Street Bridge #728. The county can apply for up to one million dollars. The estimated cost for the bridge is about \$900,000.00. The county would have to match \$450,000.00 and use the remaining balance to do some other paving. Again, the county would need to match half of the amount. Mr. White requested for the Commissioners to sign a financial agreement stating the county will make the match through the Highway department. Once the agreement is signed and approved, it will then be presented to the County Council. Commissioner Bardsley stated that county and the City of Marion are working together to take care of the foot traffic. Mr. White stated the grant will be available for use in 2021. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the letter for the department of transportation for Bridge #728 of Washington Street. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
5. The Highway Department is back to a five day work week.
6. Mr. White will give an update to the Commissioners at the next meeting regarding the stop signs at Tyler and Barclay Streets in Fairmount and whether they have been installed or not.

### OLD BUSINESS

Area Plan Commission Appointment - Larry Strange, Area Plan - Commissioner Bardsley appointed Grant County Surveyor James Todd on 9/30/2020 as the new appointment for Area Plan. The paperwork has not been filed yet. Mr. Strange stated that a letter is needed from the Commissioners to Chuck Briede, APC President, to make him aware of the decision that has been made. By consent, the Commissioners approved James Todd as the new appointment.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance to Amend Grant County Code Section 153 (Areawide Zoning) - Larry Strange, Area Plan – The proposal for a rezoning is for the property located at 200 South 800 West North of Swayzee. The property is owned by Kenneth Cates. Mr. Strange requested that the rezoning go to a general retail type store. The APC did give a favorable recommendation. Residents in that area have no objections to this rezoning. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve Ordinance 12-2020 subject to county attorney review and approval. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
2. Central Dispatch Update - Michael Clayton, Central Dispatch
  - a. Mr. Clayton is waiting on a signed agreement so that Central Dispatch can continue the EMD classes. He has received signed agreements from both attorneys, but is making sure that funding is in place so that the training can move forward.
  - b. Mr. Clayton discussed the policy for paid time off with dispatchers that came over with the merge and new dispatchers as well. Dispatchers with the merge are losing time off. The Central Dispatch Policy Board discussed how to prevent the dispatchers who came over with

- the merge from losing paid time off. New dispatchers that hired in after June 8, 2020 will fall under the county handbook from the start. Commissioner Mowery asked what amount is being lost. Mr. Clayton stated he has employees that has been there for twenty plus years and will lose at least 3 days on the average.
- c. Holiday day pay has been paid out. Mr. Clayton is going in front of the Council on 10/21/2020 to have that added to the salary ordinance.
  - d. Mr. Clayton is currently working on using interns for certain tasks within Central Dispatch. This helps the department and also helps with interns earning credits for college.
  - e. Central Dispatch is still waiting on the proposed fee pay ordinance presented at the last meeting. The Commissioners are waiting on County Attorney approval. The County Commissioners set the policy and the County Council will set the price.
3. Antenna Repair Proposal - Michael Clayton, Central Dispatch - Repairs to the antenna were done by J & K Communication, Inc. on 8/31/2020 in the amount of \$549.45. This was for testing and adjustment to the repeater. J&K also adjusted the model 250 line out and tested with dispatch. An antenna system replacement will cost \$4,222.32. The Matthew's tower was also evaluated due to some reported issues. Upon inspection, it was discovered that a part had fried and will also need replaced. A quote has not been received at this time. Mr. Clayton requested approval for the Point Isabel Tower repair in the amount of \$4,222.32 to get the tower working at full strength. Auditor McWhirt suggested that this repair would come out the contractual repair line item from the E911 1222 fund. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to pay for this from the E911 account. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
  4. Proposal of Grant Extension and Contract – Melissa Stephenson, Community Corrections - This grant covers general community corrections (\$440,564.00), court recidivism reduction programs (\$195,725.00), and jail treatment (\$26,250.00). The grand total of the grant is \$662,539.00. It is noted that the grant is set up to be distributed in the first six months of 2021, which covers January 1 to June 30. Distribution for July through December will be known at a later date. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the grant extension and contract and to have the Auditor sign the contract. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
  5. Preventative Maintenance Proposal - Vince Beneke, Maintenance – Mr. Beneke made a recommendation for Bischoff to perform the preventive maintenance to the courthouse boilers at \$1,984.76, the juvenile center boiler at \$2,765.00, and the jail boiler at \$ 2,189.00. This will be paid from maintenance and repair fund. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the recommendation. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
  6. Fall Express Lane Proposal - Tiffany Griffith, Treasurer – The fall express lane has worked great in the past. Taxpayers appreciate that the lobby express is open during the tax season. Treasurer Griffith said that she would like to have this available from October 26<sup>th</sup> to November 10<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioners approved the proposal by common consent since this method has been successful in the past.
  7. Drop Box Unit Proposal - Tiffany Griffith, Treasurer – Treasurer Griffith purposed using the Cares Act money to purchase a drop box for the complex breezeway to make available for taxpayers to drop off payments. She requested that only the Treasurer's office have access to this box just as they do for the Adams street drop slot. Auditor McWhirt did ask if the county has preapproval to be able to use the Cares Act funds on this. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve

the request for the drop box in the complex breezeway upon approval of the Cares Act money. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

8. Presentation of Carpet and Paint Quotes - Justin Saathoff, Administrator – This is for the 6<sup>th</sup> floor remodel of the Annex building. Four quotes for the painting and two quotes for the carpeting were received. All were taken into consideration. The following bids were awarded: Painting Concept in the amount of \$3,560.00 Morrell Carpeting in the amount of \$4,680.00. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the recommendations presented. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
9. Ratification of ICJI Grant Agreement - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner – This was preapproved and signed on 9/23/2020. It is in the amount of \$146,000.00. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the signing of the ICJI grant agreement for law enforcement. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
10. Postage Reimbursement - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner – The Clerk’s Office had to purchase stamps on 9/19/2020 to mail out Mandated 2020 Election Ballots. The ballots had to go out that day. Reimbursement for the postage in the amount of \$600.00 has been requested. Auditor McWhirt stated that the proper receipt with the person’s name would have to be submitted for reimbursement. Commissioners approved the request per common consent with proper receipts provided.
11. Resolution for the Transfer of Tax Sale Certificates - Mike Conner, Attorney – Mr. Conner is representing the utilities. The property is where Home Ave comes to 3-way stop. The property is a wooded area south of the railroad tracks (Clark Street area). Mr. Conner requested the transfer of tax sale certificates to the city of Marion so that they can make improvements. The property has gone through several tax sales and did not sell. It has little to no value. The resolution has been reviewed by the County Attorney and it is legally appropriate to take this action. This would be Resolution 10-2020 for The Transfer of Tax Sale Certificates to the City of Marion. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 10-2020. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried. Parcels are noted as follows:
  - a. 27-07-08-302-049-000-002
  - b. 27-07-08-301-025-000-002
  - c. 27-07-08-301-024-000-002
  - d. 27-07-08-301-023-000-002
  - e. 27-07-08-302-110-000-002
  - f. 27-07-08-302-117-000-002
  - g. 27-07-08-302-126-000-002

This will be advertised to see if anyone has any interest in these parcels.

12. Recommendations for New SE Tower Site - Todd Durnil, Pyramid – The MOU for the SE location will need to be updated to 4465 from 4475 County Road S 800 E Marion, Indiana 46953. This property is owned by Randy Ballinger. He is also the owner of Walnut Creek Golf Course. The new location will have to go through the BZA. Commissioner Mowery asked about the population surrounding the new site was. Mr. Durnil stated that there were less residents than the first site. The MOU is being reviewed by the County Attorney. The SW tower, which will be located at Strawtown Pike and 800 south in Fairmount, goes before the BZA Monday night for

approval. Robert Jackson, EMA, stated that he is closer to securing a placement for the third tower site, which is just west of Marion near State Road 18. This site is an industrial zone.

13. Review of Payment Request - Todd Durnil, Pyramid – Mr. Durnil presented two amounts that are cares act reimbursable: Grant County Broadband Assessment at \$5,375.24 and Grant County EMS addition AE work at \$3,400.00. Auditor McWhirt stated that these amounts should complete the contractual fees. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the two amounts presented. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried. The Grant County Central Dispatch Public Safety Communication System in the amount of \$120,457.60 was tabled until the October 19, 2020 Commissioners’ meeting. Commissioners Bardsley stated that the Care Act money this will not affect the general county fund. The county will pay and then it comes back as a reimbursement.
  
14. Construction update - Todd Durnil, Pyramid – The construction for the new EMS garage addition is beginning this week.

PUBLIC

None.

This meeting was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:30 a.m. The next Commissioners’ meeting will be on Monday, October 19, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.