

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
Monday October 19, 2020

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 19, 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 County Administrator/HR Justin Saathoff.

This Grant County Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Commissioner Bardsley. The prayer was led by Commissioner Burton and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Mowery.

Public Safety Communication Infrastructure Bid Opening - Terry Burnworth and Todd Durnil, Pyramid Seven bids were received. The bids are for tower compounds pending funding; concrete, prefabricated shelters, electrical work, earthwork, chain link fencing, tower structures, and tower labor.

- A. Fredrick's Inc. of Pendleton, Indiana - Bid on packages #03C (concrete) with a base bid of \$203,322, #13 (pre-fabricated equipment shelters) with a base bid of \$136,535.00, and #31 (earthwork) with a base bid of \$122,425.
- B. Yoder Construction, Inc. of Nappanee, Indiana - Bid on packages #03C with a base bid of \$250,000.00, #13 with a base bid of \$200,000.00, and #32F (chain link fencing) with a base bid of \$60,000.00.
- C. Rex Collins, Inc. of Marion, Indiana - Bid on packages #13 with a base bid of \$141,366.00 and #26 (electrical) with a base bid of \$233,566.
- D. Infra Critical Facilities Engineering & Consulting, LLC of Westfield, Indiana - Bid on package #26 with a base bid of \$449,295.00.
- E. MPX of Anderson, Indiana - Bid on packages #03C with a base bid of \$134,612.00, #13 with a base bid of \$128,208.00, #35TL (self-support tower-labor only) with a base bid of \$202,705.00, and #35TM (self-support tower material-only) with a base bid of \$266,074.00.
- F. Sabre Communications of Sioux City, IA - Bid on package #35TM with a base bid of \$304,854.00.
- G. Keith Sullivan Excavating of Marion, Indiana- Bid on package #31 with a base bid of \$135,750.00.

All bids are to be reviewed immediately. All bids must fit within the established budget. Mr. Burnworth and Mr. Durnil will return with a recommendation later in the meeting for approval pending financing.

CLAIMS

10/13/2020 – Other - \$31,456.49, Highway - \$18,802.17, and General - \$174,775.04

Total = \$225,033.70

10/14/2020

Two single claims for Cook Excavating - \$1,575.50 and \$2,937.50. Both claims were preapproved on 10/14/2020.

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

10/19/2020 – Other - \$131,060.43, Highway - \$47,568.65, and General - \$109,918.50
Total = \$288,547.58.

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

PAYROLL- #21

Preapproval was given on 10/13/2020 and is to be paid out on 10/16/2020 in the amount of \$509,404.47. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify payroll #21. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

MINUTES

None

RECIEPT OF MONTHLY REPORTS, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES - 8/16/20 TO 9/15/20 AND 9/16/20 TO 10/15/20 - Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve both reports as presented. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

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

Commissioner Bardsley – “Let the record reflect that county council member Mike Roorbach is in attendance at the meeting today. To update and report from this morning’s EOC meeting; numbers are starting to go back up slowly. Not only is the state concerned, but also we as a county are concerned. In the region, the hospitalization is increasing. Right now, schools, with the exception of Eastbrook, are on fall break which in turn means an increase in vacations, gatherings, and other mingling. The CDC is still encouraging mask wearing. We are already seeing other countries preparing for a shutdown again. We are under the mask wearing advisory until mid-November per the Governor and still in the state of emergency. We are currently looking at protocols. If needed, some county buildings will be shut down to appointment only. We just need to be prepared in case there is a need to move back into a protective mode.”

IT

None

HIGHWAY REPORT

David White, Highway Superintendent

1. The 2020 INDOT community crossing for the Washington Street Bridge will be submitted at the end of the week.
2. Unofficial detours with the state for the 2021 season include work being done on State Road 22 over by Upland and State Road 9 just south of Marion. This will have to have approval.
3. INDOT consulting firm’s applications needs to be submitted for bridge inspections by November 18th by 2 pm for 2021-2024.
4. The stop signs were installed at Tyler and Barclay streets in Fairmount last week.
5. 700 E bridge #93 deck will be poured in the next two weeks.
6. The building behind Central Dispatch should be removed by the end of this week.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request Permission for Blood Drive - Megan Borgmann, Indiana Blood Center - The date for the drive is Tuesday, December 8, 2020 from 9 am to 1:30 pm. Ms. Borgmann requested permission to have the drive over at the courthouse square. This would be by appointment only due to Covid-19 standards. The Commissioners agreed by common consent to allow the request for a blood drive. Commissioner Bardsley did voice that he would get with maintenance to assure at least three spaces would be blocked off for the bloodmobile to utilize.
2. Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant – Tim Eckerle, Economic Growth Council - Attendance was taking before the hearing. On behalf of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Mr. Eckerle presented two items:
 - a. A public hearing application for \$1,000,000.00 allocated to the revolving loan fund - This is CGB money. Certain criteria and national objectives must be met.
 - b. Entrance into a subrecipient agreement – This would be per recommendation of Auditor McWhirt. This has been around since 1989. Two bankers are used: CPA and someone from the board will make sure that they are credit worthy to review.The floor is open for discussion. Auditor McWhirt asked how long the process was for this grant. Mr. Eckerle stated that he was hoping to have it completed in two years. The Commissioners by common consent asked to push forward and apply for the grant. Commissioner Bardsley stated that the county will receive the funds and then pass it to the growth council. The growth council is responsible for record keeping. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the subrecipient agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
3. Central Dispatch Update – Michael Clayton, Director
 - a. The Point Isabel tower is scheduled for repair on Wednesday.
 - b. The Central Dispatch team has went down four employees but have hired two that have cleared their training. In the process of backgrounding two more candidates. They will then go through training and one will be chosen to fill the last spot. At this time, there are seventeen full time employees. 18 employees would be considered a full staff. We did lose three part-time staff that were not able to meet necessary requirements for working a minimum requirement of hours monthly.
4. Application for Development Standard Variance - Larry Strange, Area Plan - Petitioner Adam Westgate of 888 W. 406 S., Marion, Indiana, 46953 requested a barn for personal use to be located 10 ft. from the west property line instead of the required 25 ft. There are no conflicts or objections at this time. This will go to the BZA on November 2, 2020. Commissioner Burton made a motion that the Commissioners give a favorable recommendation to this request. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
5. Application for Development Standard Variance – Larry Strange, Area Plan – Petitioner Dr. Mark Westfall of 5351 E 350 N., Marion, Indiana 46952 requested to build a garage up to two feet of the west property line south of the house. The property line is uncertain and Area Plan is unsure if there is even a variance. There is a chance that the variance is not needed. A survey is being done. The owner is making the request to make sure he can do it one way or another. Commissioner Mowery made a motion for a favorable recommendation. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

6. Application for Special Exception - Larry Strange, Area Plan – This is for the SE Tower Location with the petitioner being Pyramid Consulting. The owner is Gregg Ballinger of property location 8015 E 500 S, Upland, Indiana, 46989. Mr. Strange requested to install the Public Safety Communication System (300 ft. radio tower). There were no objections. This location has been advertised. Commissioner Mowery made a favorable recommendation on this request. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
7. Request for Filing of 1095-C Forms – Justin Saathoff, Administrator. This is for 2018. It was never filed with the IRS. This is left over from a former employee who did not complete the process. The price for this filing fee is \$2,572.00 and it would be paid out of the health insurance fund. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the filing of the 1095-C form from 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
8. Marion Public Library Board of Trustees Appointment – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner - The current term of Mike Cline, a trustee appointed by the Grant County Board of Commissioners, will expire December 31, 2020. Reappointment for Mike Cline was requested. The appointment will be a four-year term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024. The Commissioners agreed by common consensus for the reappointment of Mike Cline.
9. Broadband Assessment Presentation – Terry Burnworth, Pyramid – The assessment was completed in September 2020 and it was paid out of the Cares Act money. Indiana Digital Divide Ranking sets Grant County at #76 in the state. It is not the best number, but not the worst. All the schools will benefit from these towers. All school superintendents stated they have a direct need as this helps with the e-learning in the area. Mr. Burnworth stated that “with this, you look at not only e-learning but you look at telemedicine and working from home. This helps to know where your problem areas are so that you can have an idea where fiber activity is needed. You can apply for grants for this broadband. This will help the underserved. Getting ready for a broadband ready community requires an ordinance and a technology board. This takes it above and beyond if you develop a board. Then you get vendors to lease. The county attorney will need to review and approve the broadband ready ordinance. When you or a vendor wants to put in fiber to reach a certain area, this ordinance helps to get it approved quicker. This also opens the county up for grants. This could help raise population in the community.”
10. Request for Approval of CSA – Terry Burnworth, Pyramid – Mr. Burnworth requested approval pending funding for J&K in the cost of \$2,150,000.00. This includes the three site system, microwave system, the link between dispatch and first tower, bridging between radios, programming 100% of the radios throughout the county close to thousand radios that’s the VHF, pagers, and 800MHz radios. Pyramid did the scoring and recommended J&K. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve pending funding from the county council. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
11. Public Safety Communication Infrastructure Recommendation – Terry Burnworth and Todd Durnil, Pyramid – Pyramid recommended the following contractors pending financing:
 - Package #03C (concrete) - MPX in the amount of \$134,612.00
 - Package #13 (pre-fabricated equipment shelters) - MPX in the amount of \$128,208.00
 - Package #26 (electrical) - Rex Collins in the amount of \$233,566.00,

- Package #35TL - MPX in the amount of \$202,705.00 (35TL)
- Package #35TM (self-support tower- labor and material)- MPX in the amount of \$266,074.00. MPX is using the Nello Corporation out of South Bend, Indiana.
- Packages #32f (fencing) and #31 (earthwork) are not being recommended at this time. The bids were too high and we will have a rebid on those two packages.
- The tower material (35TM) and pre-fabricated shelters (13) can be paid out of Cares Act money.

Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the recommendations pending funding. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried. A spreadsheet will be presented at the council meeting on Wednesday.

PUBLIC

None

The meeting was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:40 a.m. The next Commissioners' meeting will be held on Monday November 2, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.