

GRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

Monday, December 21, 2020

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 21, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. in the Grant County Council Chambers.

In attendance were Commissioner Mark Bardsley and Commissioner Ron Mowery. Commissioner Mike Burton joined via WebEx. Also present were Grant County Auditor, Jim McWhirt, County Administrator/HR Justin Saathoff, and Transfer Deputy, Sharon Kirkwood.

Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The prayer was led by Commissioner Bardsley. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Mowery.

Claims, Minutes and Payroll

Claims

Commissioner Mowery moved to ratify the following preapproved claims:

December 15, 2020 - Riverside Community Federal Credit Union for \$98.15.

December 14, 2020 - STAR Card member Service for \$210.10.

December 14, 2020 claims - Highway \$157,089.78, Other \$478,312.45, and General \$90,186.39 with a total of \$725,588.62.

Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Mowery moved to approve claim invoice edit reports for all funds December 21, 2020 totaling \$595,902.95. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

Commissioner Mowery moved to adopt the minutes of a special session on July 8, 2020 between the County Council and Commissioners, and regular sessions of April 6, 2020 and April 20, 2020 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Payroll

Preapproval was given for December 11, 2020 payroll #25 in the amount of \$525,339.33.

Commissioner Mowery moved to ratify Payroll #25. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Receipt of Monthly Reports

Commissioner Mowery moved to receive the Weights and Measures Monthly Report for November 16, 2020 through December 15, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Communication and Board Updates

Auditor McWhirt stated that the Fall Settlement was completed with preapproval from the Department of Local Government Finance. The Auditor thanked the Treasurer's Staff, LOW personnel, and Chief Deputy Angie Jarvis for getting that settled in a timely manner. The checks were out to the units by December 8, 2020. Also, the 2021 Budgets were submitted to the D.L.G.F. and the county is now waiting for final approval.

IT Department

Marcus Elliott, IT Director

Mr. Elliott reported that "The AT&T agreement that was mentioned last month has been revised from \$5,771 per month to \$4,008.15 per month with a savings of \$1,762.90 per month. The difference is adding the internet circuit which would have been a primary for the county but it was suggested leaving the circuit in the annex and that is why the price seems higher than it should have been. We were able to get rid of the IP FLEX circuit and that created some savings. Turning the old circuit into a High Capacity Flex which will become the backup to the Salin Bank Building and will only be charged when it is in use. The price difference between 400 and 500 wasn't that much so the 500 was decided upon so we saved a little by taking out the IP FLEX Circuit. They also included ETP and Dial up Service Mitigation with secure service, so given all of the different cyberattacks, it is more layers of security on our current circuit. It will allow us to stop more malware and viruses before they even get to the county."

Commissioner Bardsley stated, "So more services for less than \$1,700 a month? There have been more communications from the federal and state about increased cyberattacks, so more barriers and a lower price make total sense to me."

Commissioner Mowery moved to approve the AT&T Network Gateway Services Schedule and authorized the president of the commissioners to sign the contract. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Elliott stated "The AT&T representative mentioned a \$250,000 Public Wi-Fi Grant. Do you want me to pursue this for Grant County? The deadline is January 29, 2021."

Commissioner Mowery stated that he wasn't prepared to approve it at this time, but wanted to investigate the grant and its possibilities.

Commissioner Bardsley stated "Conceptually, since we are rolling along with broadband towers and issues with Wi-Fi, it can potentially benefit the county and set us up for future opportunities for grants."

Auditor McWhirt commented that his office gets audited on those grants and requested that Chief Deputy Jarvis be made aware of the grant.

Mr. Elliott stated he will return with information at the January 2021 meeting.

Highway Department

David White, Grant County Highway Superintendent

The annual bid for stone and fuel will be advertised on January 4, 2021. The countywide bridge inspection paperwork has been filed. There is one more email to answer then that project will be completed.

The 2020 Bridge Community Crossing Grant has been completed. After the first of the year, all paperwork will be filed with INDOT to close out the accounts.

A bucket truck was purchased for \$22,500 out of the 2020 equipment budget. The 1982 bucket truck has a bad motor and is costing more in repairs than what it is worth. It was purchased for \$5,000. Commissioner Mowery asked what it would be used for. Mr. White stated the truck is used mainly to trim trees.

Commissioner Mowery gave consent to purchase the truck. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

INDOT awarded Grant County \$812,739.50 for the Community Crossing Project of which \$413,485.09 was used on the Washington Street Bridge. The other \$399,253.54 will be used on paving projects for 600 E to State Road 18 to the northern Marion city limits to the northern county line.

Superintendent White stated that he hoped to bid Pennsylvania Street Bridge on March 7th, 2021 and another project close in proximity so the contractor could work on the two projects together. Commissioner Bardsley stated that that had worked in the past and saving manpower and materials is a great money saving strategy.

Commissioner Mowery commended Superintendent White on the awarding of 20+ years of service award to highway workers. He expressed his gratitude and congratulations. Commissioner Burton stated he appreciated their service as well.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1 – Central Dispatch Update - Michael Clayton, Director

Mr. Clayton sought approval for the Priority Dispatch System Implementation Agreement in the amount of \$55,306.

Annual maintenance costs include:

December 1, 2021 – November 30, 2022	\$8,100
December 1, 2022 – November 30, 2023	\$8,100
December 1, 2023 – November 30, 2024	\$8,650
December 1, 2024 – November 30, 2025	\$8,650

Training fees are \$7,300.

This is a grand total of \$88,806.

Commissioner Burton asked whether the money was transferred or appropriated. Mr. Clayton stated neither. Auditor McWhirt stated that “if it wasn’t already in the 2020 budget, it would have to be appropriated in 2021 in which it may be too late for the January 2021 meeting. We are already closing books down on 2020 so the appropriation would die and there would have to be an appropriation in 2021. You can approve the contract pending an appropriation.”

Commissioner Mowery moved to approve the Priority Dispatch System Implementation Agreement pending County Council appropriation approval and also to have the president of the Commissioners sign the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Clayton requested approval of Policy #27, which allows central dispatch personnel hired from the sheriff’s department to be grandfathered in under the old policy and any new dispatchers hired after June 8th, 2020 to follow the newly written policy for requested time off.

Administrator Saathoff stated Attorney Kyle Persinger had reviewed the policy.

Commissioner Mowery moved to approve Policy #27 for Central Dispatch Personnel. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Auditor McWhirt asked for copies to update Chief Deputy Jarvis and Stacey Stevens in Payroll. Administrator Saathoff stated he would forward copies to personnel.

2 - Contractual Service Agreement Proposal - Stephanie McCulley, Purdue Extension

Ms. McCulley stated the agreement was the same as 2020. The agreement is for 2 ½ educators’ pay of \$81,890 to be contracted with the county. Administrator Saathoff stated this agreement was reviewed by Attorney Persinger. Auditor McWhirt stated that the council did appropriate \$81,890 for 2021.

Commissioner Mowery moved to approve the Purdue Extension Contractual Service Agreement for 2021 in the amount of \$81,890. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

3 – Proposal of Mold Removal Quotes, Juvenile Detention Center - Vince Beneke, Maintenance

Maintenance Supervisor Beneke proposed 3 bids for mold removal in the Juvenile Detention Center pod areas.

AdvantaClean of North Central Indiana	\$30,786.00
Indiana Mold Remediation	\$29,690.00

Protechs, Inc.

\$52,909.35

The only difference is the Protechs bid will use scaffolding to complete the task. Mr. Beneke stated that the HVAC was short cycling and humidity was up to 70%. The cycle was increased for a longer run time and that seemed to help. The filters have been changed in the HVAC system as well.

Commissioner Burton asked for a recommendation. Mr. Beneke has no references or previous experience with the companies for any recommendation. Brad Driver of Ameresco asked if the process had to be completed now. Captain Todd Fleece mentioned that the state inspectors do inquire about the problem. The mold is not an airborne problem but it needs to be addressed. Commissioner Burton asked if it could be handled during the remodeling. Mr. Beneke stated that the filters were changed in the system but it didn't change much. Commissioner Bardsley asked if it could be approved up to the expense of \$30,786 and allow time for the consultants to determine if it is needed. Commissioner Burton agreed.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the remediation up to \$30,786. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

4 – Advisory Board Member Appointment - Chris Cunningham, Community Corrections
Director Cunningham requested Mike Roorbach for a renewed 4 year appointment.

Commissioner Mowery moved to approve the reappointment of Mike Roorbach to the Community Corrections Board for another 4 year term ending December 31, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

5- Capital Lease Agreement US Bank - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley stated that he met with Auditor McWhirt and the President of the County Council Shane Middlesworth last Friday and signed all necessary paperwork.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the signing for the Capital Lease Agreement with US Bank. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

6 – Visitor's Bureau Appointments, Sullivan and Edwards – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley requested Mark Sullivan and Patricia Edwards be reappointed to the Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Commissioner Mowery moved to reappoint Mark Sullivan and Patricia Edwards to the Convention Bureau for a two year contract ending in 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

7 - Health Board Appointments – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley stated that this was information only and the list will need to be reviewed before voting new appointments. Commissioner Mowery stated he was sorry to lose those who were serving. Commissioner Burton thanked them for their service.

8 – Jackson Township Library Appointments – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley presented a letter from Andrew S. Horner, Converse-Jackson Public Library Director, requesting Chris Ybarra and Annie Larrison to the library board.

Commissioner Burton moved to appoint Chris Ybarra for the term of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022 and Annie Larrison for the term of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025 to the Converse-Jackson Public Library Board. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

9 - Ratification of 2020 EMPG Salary Contract – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley stated that this is an annual process for the EMA director and EMA employees. This provides for up to half of their salary annually.

Commissioner Mowery moved to ratify the 2020 EMPG Salary Contract. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

10 - Union of Police Associations Local No. 825 Agreement Proposal – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Burton gave permission for Commissioner Bardsley to represent the Commissioners and sign the Union of Police Associations Local No.825 Agreement Proposal. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

11 – Broadband Ready Community Ordinance Proposal – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley questioned the document and discovered it was the wrong ordinance. The Community Ordinance will be brought forward to the January 2021 meeting.

12 – Broadband Technology Board Ordinance Proposal – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley proposed the Broadband Ready Community Ordinance Proposal which is establishing two groups with no financing yet. “By putting these two proposals in motion, we are taking the opportunity to look and qualify for grants on broadband in our rural technology areas.”

Administrator Saathoff stated that Attorney Persinger did make suggestions that changed a few items making the proposal updated for approval. Gary Bates of Pyramid also signed off on the changes.

Commissioner Bardsley stated in having these two boards established, it makes the county eligible for future grants.

Commissioner Mowery moved to accept General Ordinance 12-2020 establishing Grant County Broadband Technology Board. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

13 – Adoption of FFCRA Policy v.3 – Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Administrator Saathoff stated that this is the 3rd amendment to the Coronavirus Response Act. The CDC has now updated the quarantined period and recommends time from 7 to 10 days meaning:

7-10 days with a negative test after 5 days or more.

10 days with no test being done and monitoring symptoms for 14 days.

Commissioner Mowery moved to amend Grant County's Employee Policy First Coronavirus Response Act for the updated CDC recommendations for quarantined time. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

14 – Communication System Agreement, J&K - Terry Burnworth and Todd Durnil, Pyramid

Commissioner Bardsley stated there were no representatives from Pyramid available. Commissioner Bardsley stated that the Communication System Agreement will allow the US Bank instruments to be signed which will allow the county to place the order agreeing to get the system up and running. It has been approved with funding.

Commissioner Mowery consented to the process. Commissioner Burton consented as well.

15 – Proposal of Tower MOU's - Terry Burnworth and Todd Durnil, Pyramid

Administrator Saathoff stated that there were no Memorandum of Understandings at the present time. They should be ready by January's meeting.

16 - Review of Payment Requests and Change Order - Terry Burnworth and Todd Durnil, Pyramid

There was no action taken on this item.

Public Input

None.

President Bardsley recessed the meeting at 11:13 a.m.