

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY MAY 17TH, 2021

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 17TH, 2021 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, County Administrator/HR Justin Saathoff, and Auditor Jim McWhirt. Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Commissioner Burton led the prayer and Commissioner Mowery led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Claims

Single Preapproval 5/4/5021 - Brighthouse - \$3,434.22

Preapproval 5/10/2021 – general - \$345, 559.23, other - \$156,092.82, highway - \$26,808.83 = \$528,460.88. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to ratify the claims presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

5/17/2021 – general - \$225,757.07, other - \$37,162.44, highway - \$570,998.24 = \$883,917.75. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the claims presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

Payroll

Payroll #10 was preapproved on 5/11/2021 and paid out on 5/14/2021 in the gross amount of \$535,124.76. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify payroll #10. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

Receipt of Monthly Report, Clerk of the Circuit Court Month ending 4/30/2021

Commissioner Mowery made a motion to receive the Clerk's report as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

Minutes

None

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

Dr. Moore, Health Department Director- Update on CDC Recommendations and COVID-19 Pandemic "How much should the government be imposing rules and guidelines? It is time for the government to start stepping out of people's lives and let people make their own decisions. Knowing that we don't have a real understanding why over the holiday the rate of infections spiked. It has since come down. We should still provide guidelines and information but I feel that we should let individuals make their own decisions. As it relates to when we opened the building, we did the right thing. We are at the point where we need to start defining the new normal." Commissioner Bardsley stated that "because we are still under the governor's executive order until the end of the month for masks to be worn in state and local government buildings, the schools are still required to wear masks. It is also required for testing and vaccine sites. Do we still have to require everyone that comes into the building to wear a mask since we are a vaccine center or can we lighten up on that protocol?" Dr. Moore suggested that the county continue to follow the governor's lead unless the county has a good reason to do otherwise. "We may have slightly different opinions, but we are all going in the same direction. Commissioner Bardsley asked at what frequency is the county going to continue to do vaccines in the county building? Dr. Moore answered that he doesn't know at this time. The age window for people to be vaccinated has gone down due to people not wanting the vaccine. There are also several places to go to receive the vaccine. The health department may remain the place that is the last resort for the vaccine. Dr. Moore

commented, “We are looking to give the vaccine out of regular office. We can just move it to the nurses area on a scheduled basis.” Commissioner Bardsley asked if the county should continue to have the mask wearing through the end of the month or should entry restrictions be relaxed. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to stay with the governor’s plan at this time, adopt it to the county’s plan, and act accordingly. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried. Commissioner Bardsley announced that as of June 1, 2021, the county building will relax the use of masks in the building. This will give everyone the option to wear masks.

IT – Marcus Elliott

Mr. Elliott presented Advance imaging proposals that would replace copiers for the Recorder’s and Purdue Extension offices. The Recorder’s copier lease is ending as of July 2021. It is a wide format copier and several offices in the county building use it. The Purdue extension copier is a black and copier and HP printer. They use a lot of color prints because of 4H. By replacing the current device with a color copier, this would reduce the cost per page by 50%. The Recorder’s replacement would be a Canon Color iPF TM-305 MPF T36 wide format copy, print, and scan at \$229.00 monthly. This would be a savings of \$685.32 annually. It is a 5 year lease and the county would own it once it is paid in full. The device for the Purdue Extension office would be a Lanier IMC6000 color copy, print, and scan at \$173.94 monthly. It would be a savings of \$1,267.44 annually. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve and proceed with the replacements for the two offices. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

HIGHWAY - David White, Highway Superintendent

- a. Mr. White stated that he is waiting one more week on salt quotes.
- b. The Highway department is scheduled to clean log jams on Branson Street within the next couple of weeks.
- c. In regard to Bridge #254 (Pennsylvania Street) (a Federally aided job), the bid came in at \$2,267,348.42. Commissioner Bardsley has already signed off on that project. The county’s portion of the construction will be \$525,000.00. This was submitted and will be sent to INDOT.
- d. Mr. White stated that he has a virtual meeting at 10 a.m. tomorrow for the Washington Street bridge. This is to see when the construction will start on that bridge.
- e. The trees have been removed on 650 S.
- f. Mr. White met with United last Tuesday on Bridge #39 (county road 1000 E between 100 N and 250 N). He is hoping to get this in on the Community Crossing Grant on the next call which is in August. There is a meeting Thursday about replacing Bridge #789 (10th street Marion). The design work has already been approved and he is hoping to submit this to the Community Crossing Grant in August.
- g. The Highway department has been working with Area Plan this week to help with demolition and the hauling away of unsafe structures.
- h. Mr. White presented an agreement with Wildman Uniform Company. The county attorney has reviewed the contract already. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the 3 year contract as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- i. Mr. White sought consent to help the homeowner on 761 W 600 N place a new pipe off of the right of way if the homeowner purchases the tile. Hopefully, this would redirect the water away from the owner’s garage and storage shed. The Commissioners gave a common consent.
- j. Shelia Taylor of 8402 E 125 N in Marion spoke on the issue with a neighbor encroaching on the right of way. She accused Bob Sparks of 966 N 1000 E of using rocks, mailboxes, and cars to keep vehicles out of his lawn. It is a danger to drivers and it prevents farmers from navigating the road in heavy equipment. She claimed that this has been going on for about 6 years now.

Commissioner Mowery suggested having the mailbox moved back away from the roadway if the post office would agree. Mr. White stated that the boulders need removed simply for safety reasons alone. Commissioner Bardsley asked how far out the rocks/boulders were into the right of way. Mr. White stated that the rocks are within a couple of feet from the asphalt and that he has told the homeowner that the telephone poles are sitting on the right of way. Commissioner Mowery suggested to remove the rocks due to the fact that we are trying to work with the homeowners and their safety and he should be willing to work with the county. Mr. White suggested taking a deputy with him when they remove the rocks. Commissioner Mowery agreed. Mr. White stated that he would provide a copy of the ordinance that Area Plan has in regard to right of way safety. Commissioner Mowery added that as long as the county acts in good faith, it can be defended.

Old Business

- a. Resolution for the Transfer of Tax Sale Certificates - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner
This resolution is for the town of Sweetser, location Lot Number thirty five (35) in the original plat of the town of Sweetser, of Grant County, Indiana. There is an exception of a strip six (6) feet wide of equal width off of the west side of the common address of 118 Bragg Street Sweetser, Indiana, 46987 - parcel number 27-03-32-303-083-000-024. The Commissioners have had a request to sign off on this. This would be Resolution 2-2021, Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 2-2021 for the transfer of tax sale certificate. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
- b. Ordinance Creating a New Fund for ARP (American Rescue Plan) - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner
The Commissioners met with members of the council on this item and both parties are now satisfied with the language of the ordinance. This ordinance needs to be passed as the next step in receiving the ARP funds. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Ordinance 6-2021 creating a new fund to receive funding from the ARP. Seconded from Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

New Business

1. Presentation of Condor Agreement - Kathy Foy, Recorder
Condor is going to assist the Recorder's office with the back-indexing project. There are two contracts. The first is for the first half of the 1980's and the second contract is for the second half of the 1980's. This will come out of the perpetual fund. Ms. Foy requested approval for both contracts and for the Recorder to sign on behalf of the county. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve both contracts and for the Recorder to sign on behalf of the county. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried
2. Crime Stoppers Request for Postage Fund - Bryce Coryea (not present)
Administrator Saathoff spoke on behalf of Bryce Coryea. There is an annual golf scramble event coming soon for Crime Stoppers. Envelopes are currently being stuffed at Star Financial and traditionally those envelopes are brought to the county building and the Commissioners allow for postage. Commissioner Bardsley stated that Crime Stoppers is run through the Sheriff's department and Probation and at one point it was all done in the county building. The cost is around \$180.00 in postage. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
3. Proposal for Jail Repair - Vince Beneke, Maintenance
Mr. Beneke presented bids for time and material rates for tearing out the showers and repairs from EMCOR Services/Shambaugh. They have inspected 4 of the showers. 2 of the 4 will have to be repaired due to leaks in the shower pan. The rate quoted is \$100.00 per hour per man. They

will provide a time ticket at the end of each day that will need signed. This will include what was done that day and all materials used. Mr. Beneke stated that he had a conversation with the service manager, Chris Weeden, and was quoted \$7,125.00 to form and pour a concrete step over the existing one. Bid 4 has already been completed as it was preauthorized. There is a bid from Bowman Construction for the 4th floor ceiling tile and tracks repair in the control room in the amount of \$5,881.77. Mr. Beneke requested that the county award bids 1 & 2 to Bowman Construction and bids 3 & 5 to EMCOR Services/Shambaugh with the change on 5 of seal tight instead of concrete. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried. Bowman also gave a bid for the 4th floor control room for the floor panels. This is a raised floor and has had a lot of wear and tear over the years. The cost of the repair is \$5,432.06. The Sheriff is also wanting a quote for the 5th floor. Bowman will do the floor before the ceilings. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the Bowman bid for the flooring on the 4th floor control room. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

4. Presentation of Electronic Meeting Ordinance 3-2021- Mark Bardsley, Commissioner
This is a new action that the state legislation enacted and it was signed by the governor. The resolution allows for public meetings and signatures to continue electronically if necessary. The requirement is that two of the three of the board have to be the meeting room in order for the third to participate. There will be a sister resolution that has been drafted for the County Council and each of the boards that meet. This includes Area Plan, the Drainage Board, and the Health board. All boards have to adopt this resolution as well if they desire to have the capacity for electronic meetings should it be necessary. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to adopt Resolution 3-2021. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
5. Ratification of Emergency Shutdown Pay Correction - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner
One employee from the Sheriff's department was overlooked and not included in the hazard pay in the amount of \$500.00. This payment was preapproved by the County Council and the Commissioners. The Commissioners just need to ratify their preapproval of the one hazard pay. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the preapproval on the hazard pay. Seconded by Commissioner Mower; motion carried.
6. Review of Payment Request - Terry Burnworth (not present), Pyramid
Administrator Saathoff presented invoice #1910405-17 from Pyramid for contractor fees along with travel & lodging in the amount of \$7,140.65. This will be paid from the 911 fund. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton with support; motion carried.
7. PSC and EMS Addition Project Updates - Terry Burnworth (not present), Pyramid
No updates at this time.
8. Scanners Discussion - Mike Clayton, Central Dispatch
As progress continues with the new tower system, there has been talk of what the radio landscape will look like after we go live. There is some discussion on encrypting all channels for the field officers' safety. Nothing is set at this time. After all of the phone calls that Mr. Clayton has received, the county is leaning towards not having the dispatch calls encrypted because of followers like the Grant County Scanner Freaks and other Facebook pages. The intent is to protect the first responders as well as the community. Mr. Clayton will update the board as necessary.

PUBLIC

None

This regular session was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:31 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, May 7th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.