

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**MONDAY JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 10:03 a.m. Commissioner Bardsley led the prayer and Commissioner Mowery led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Bardsley stated that the state remains under emergency order by the governor due to the ongoing pandemic until the end of the month.

**Claims**

**Preapproved Single Claims 6/14/2021** - Government leasing and Finance Inc. in the amount of \$50,491.88

**Preapproved Single Claim 6/15/2021** - Visa in the amount of \$504.35

**Claim dockets 6/14/2021** - general \$214,548.39, other \$91,063.90, highway \$5,597.79 = \$311,210.08.

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

**Claim dockets 6/21/2021**- general \$231,036.08, other \$24,493.00, highway \$1920.78 = \$257,449.86.

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

**Payroll**

Payroll #12 was preapproved by Commissioner Bardsley on 6/8/2021 and paid out on 6/11/2021 in the gross amount of \$527,614.47. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify payroll #12. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

**Minutes**

None

**Receipt of Monthly Report, Clerk of the Circuit Court- Month ending 5/31/2021**

Commissioner Burton made a motion to receive the Clerk of courts report ending 5/31/2021. Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

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

Jim McWhirt, Auditor – Auditor McWhirt reported that spring settlement is done as of 6/7/2021 with joint efforts from the treasure office.

Bob Jackson, EMA Director- Grant County had ten new cases over the weekend. The new Delta variant strain is becoming more prevalent and it appears to be affecting the younger population. This variant is in almost every state at this point. There are 97 cases currently in the state of Indiana. The delta variant is very contagious and easily spread. “We, as a county, are trying to be as prepared as we can be,” said Mr. Jackson.

**IT – Marcus Elliott**

None

**HIGHWAY - David White, Highway Superintendent**

1. The annual budget has been completed and will be submitted to the Auditor’s office.
2. Mr. White stated the Pennsylvania Street bridge and the Washington Street bridge projects are still being worked on. The bridge out on 1000 east will start this year and finish up sometime

next year. Mr. White stated that he would like to put the bridge on 1000 east in next month for a Community Crossing grant.

3. Signatures were requested from the Commissioners for the annual budget that is submitted to the state.
4. The United Consulting contract with the state requires signatures stating that the county will pay the full amount and will later be reimbursed 80% of that amount. Commissioner Burton made a motion to accept the contract as presented (A249-21-L210110 for United Consulting). Seconded with support by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
5. There is a meeting tomorrow at 2 pm for the bridge on Pennsylvania street. Mr. White will meet preconstruction with the contractor and state to get a better idea of a start date.
6. Mr. White received a request from the contractor to use a different kind of concrete for the Washington Street Bridge that is scheduled to begin the first of August. Mr. White has contacted the design company, Butler, Fairman & Seufert, to ask them about the new design that has been introduced. The product has only been used five times in the state of Indiana. It has been preapproved for full depth but it has not been preapproved for just overlay. BF&S feel it would be suitable for this job. They have added a 2 year extension warranty on it. Mr. White stated that he has no issue trying the product but would like input from the Commissioners. It is a different design mix and a lot has to do with the curing. The objective is to make it last longer. The company doing this has done 4 out of the five in Indiana. Commissioner Mowery asked if Mr. White had references as to whether this product was a success or failure. Mr. White responded that he did have references. Commissioner Bardsley would like to have more history on this new product before the county uses it. "How long has this product been available and what states have it been utilized in?" The requested information will be gathered and presented at the next meeting.
7. The log jam on Branson will have to wait until it stops raining.
8. Chip sealing will start tomorrow, weather permitting.
9. Line striping on the west side of the county that did not get completed last year will be done tomorrow.
10. A large culver pipe on 700 east north of wheeling has been replaced. Another large one on 38<sup>th</sup> street, just west of State Road 5, will be replaced this week.

#### **Old Business**

1. Proposal for Central Dispatch Building - Terry Burnworth and Todd Durnil, Pyramid  
Mr. Burnworth nor Mr. Durnil are in attendance Commissioner Bardsley stated that this will be revisited at the 7/6/2021 Commissioners' meeting.
2. Van Buren Public Library Board Appointment - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner  
This will be revisited at the 7/6/2021 Commissioners' meeting due to no decision being made at this time.

#### **New Business**

1. Presentation of IMG Service Agreement Renewal - Michelle Bunker, IMG  
The consulting agreement between the county and IMG is set to expire at the end of 2021. The agreement would be from January 2022 through December 2024. This is a three year contract. As per the agreement, IMG will update and meet with the Commissioners' office quarterly and on an as need basis. The agreement is simply an extension of services with no price increase. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the service agreement with IMG. Seconded with support by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
2. Ratification of Jail Equipment Purchase - Vince Beneke, Maintenance

Lieutenant Kevin Carmichael presented on Mr. Beneke's behalf. A Hobart AM15-2 dishwasher was purchased for \$11,717.95 for the jail kitchen with preapproval from Commissioner Bardsley. Maintenance had been done on the old dishwasher multiple times previously, but it was beyond repair this time. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the purchase of the new dishwasher in the amount of \$11,717.95 for the Sheriff's department. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

3. Jail Renovation Proposals - Vince Beneke, Maintenance

Lieutenant Kevin Carmichael presented on Mr. Beneke's behalf. The first bid is for the 5<sup>th</sup> floor control room. The flooring needs replaced. Parts of it are coming up and creating trip hazards. The bid is in the amount of \$7,650.00. The cabinets will not need to be moved. The project will take about three days. The last time this was replaced was in 1992. The second bid is for the 5<sup>th</sup> floor control room for casework & sally port block repair. This is for countertops and drawer cabinets with locks in the amount of \$7,455.00. This will be paid out of the jail maintenance fund. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve both proposals as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

4. Request for Approval of 2022 Community Corrections Grant - Chris Cunningham, Corrections

Mr. Cunningham presented the application for Grant Summary Grant County 2022 Application. This can be broken down into three sections: General Community Corrections Grant in the amount of \$881,128.00, Court Recidivism Reduction Programs Reentry in the amount of \$391,450.00, and Jail Treatment in the amount of \$52,500.00. The grand total is \$1,325,078.00. This is just the initial application. Mr. Cunningham will return in a couple of months for authorization for the completion of the grant. Upon approval, Mr. Cunningham provided a letter for the Commissioners to sign for the grant application. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve and adopt the 2022 Community Corrections Grant. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

5. Application for Development Standard Variance, Overman - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

The petitioner, Steven Overman of 3111 S 400 W, Marion, Indiana 46953, has requested for a storage shipping container to be an accessory building. The county's ordinance does allow these containers for 6 months as a temporary storage. The petitioner is asking for a variance to make it a permanent structure. The BZA voted to allow the 6 month temporary storage structure per the ordinance. Mr. Malott stated that "We really don't want these containers popping up everywhere, so we need to decide if these are mobile or accessory structures." Mr. Malott has prepared a new ordinance for special exceptions and will present that in August. This was brought to the BZA that the county needs an ordinance so that the county has some sort of control. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to give an unfavorable recommendation on the Overman request. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

6. Application for Development Standard Variance, Felton - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

The petitioner, Russell Felton of 6620 S. Meridian Street, Marion, Indiana 46953, Elliott addition, Section 1, has requested a variance for construction of the addition. It would be about 80 plus feet on the west side of Meridian Street, which would be six foot from the north property line. The required footage is 11ft. This will not impede on any other structure. This has not been presented to the BZA at this time. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to grant a favorable recommendation to the request presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

7. Request for Amendment to Areawide Zoning Ordinance, AG to GB - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

The petitioners, Kyle and Brittany Nelson of 8014 Wheeling Pike, Jonesboro, IN 46938, have requested to build a 15 x 15 shop in an existing pole barn for wholesale trades. Mr. Malott has had discussions with the APC for the past three months on this matter. From the discussions, a written commitment has been created that will allow them to sell the freezer meats out of that

area, which is approximately a one acre area. With this written commitment, there is a list of the uses and restrictions. A stipulation within the commitment states if the house is sold, the land goes back to AG zoning. If an exception from the commitment is needed, the BZA will need to be involved. Commissioner Mowery moved to approve Ordinance 7-2021. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

8. Request for Amendment to Areawide Zoning Ordinance, I1 to R1 - Ryan Malott, Area Plan  
The location is 11823 S. Wheeling Pike, Fairmount, IN 46928. The owners bought the property with the intention of bringing down the old house and building a brand new one. This property is southeast of Nottingham Excavating. It is unclear as to why this is zoned as an Industrial area. This is southeast of Matthews and most of that area is residential. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the map zoning change, Ordinance 8-2021. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.
9. Right of Way Ordinance - Ryan Malott, Area Plan  
Mr. Malott is currently working on an ordinance that will address and clarify issues with right of ways. He is hoping to present this in August.
10. Ratification of Preapproval for Leave of Absence - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner  
An employee is requesting a 12 week leave of absence without pay due to not being qualified for FMLA. Individuals must be employed for one year to qualify for FMLA. The employee handbook contains a policy that states all newly hired full time employees who do not qualify for FMLA could be granted a leave of absence without pay. The supervisor did provide a recommendation because the employee is a good employee and he wants to keep the employee on and not terminate them. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the request presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
11. New Federal Holiday - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner  
Juneteenth was passed as a federal holiday on June 15, 2021. In talking with the county attorney, the Board of Commissioners will be reviewing with state and local officials to see if the state adopts Juneteenth as a holiday. If so, Grant county will do the same. Not all federal holidays are required that the county recognize them. However, the Board will be analyzing and working with the county officials to do the best possible thing for the county employees and community.

## **PUBLIC**

None

This regular session was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:08 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.