

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2021

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 15, 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 Mike Burton, County Administrator/HR Director Justin Saathoff, and Auditor Jim McWhirt. Commissioner Ron Mowery attended the meeting via WebEx as allowed under the State's Emergency Declaration. Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Bardsley led the prayer and Commissioner Burton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Claims

11/8/2021 preapprovals - general \$109,413.94, other \$122,055.41, and Highway \$83,446.66 = \$314,916.01. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

11/15/2021 - general \$411,457.04, other \$77,437.91, and Highway \$28,407.66 = \$517,302.61. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried

Payroll

Formal approval of payroll #23 was given on 11/9/2021 in the gross amount of \$516,831.45 and paid out on 11/12/2021. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the preapproval of payroll #23. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

Minutes

The minutes for 6/21/2021 and 7/6/2021 have been reviewed and edited. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve and receive the minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

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

Bob Jackson, EMA – Mr. Jackson updated the Board of Commissioners on the COVID-19 pandemic. 599 positive cases have been reported for this month. If this trend continues, the county will pass the high number of cases that were reported in October. The strike team that came to Garthwaite Road in Gas City on November 3rd through the 6th to do testing and vaccine performed approximately 250 tests and 200 vaccines. The strike team will return from December 1st through the 4th again at the Garthwaite Road location. Mr. Jackson also reported a shortage of the pediatric vaccine across the state.

IT – Marcus Elliott

Mr. Elliott requested to speak at the Commissioners' meeting on December 6th to present a Request for Proposal for the Data Center upgrade for next year. It will need to be advertised and bids will need to be presented. Commissioner Bardsley asked if this would be available so that it could be reviewed before the next meeting. Mr. Elliott stated that it would be.

HIGHWAY - David White, Superintendent

1. The close out meeting for the Washington Street bridge is tomorrow. Mr. White requested additional funding from the state and was denied the additional money from the Community Crossing Grant. He was informed that funds are not distributed after the initial award.

2. \$45,000.00 was awarded to the county for line striping from the Railroad Grant. Commissioner Bardsley will need to sign the e-document. With this grant, the county will need to pay the invoice up front and be reimbursed later. This project is set to begin in the spring of 2022. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve and receive the federal railroad crossing grant. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
3. Community Crossing Grant 2-2021 awarded \$340,000.00 for Bridge #39 on 1000 E between 200 N and 250 N. This can also be signed via an e-document. The financial letter has already been preapproved. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve and receive the Community Crossing grant. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.
4. Mr. White requested to speak at the January 3, 2022 Commissioners' meeting to present stone and fuel bids. The Commissioners agreed with common consent.
5. Mr. White stated that he is hoping to get stone by the end of the month for all three tower project locations.
6. The Highway department is working with Area Plan on demolition of a house located at Bocock Road and State Road 9. It should be completed this week.
7. Mr. White reported that he registered for the upcoming Commissioners/Superintendent conference at the end of the month.
8. The Dunn's farm's beans have been picked so the Dunn project can begin. Mr. White asked Commissioner Bardsley where everyone stood at this point with the Chapel Pike project. Commissioner Bardsley was unsure if the landowner's, just west of the property, signature had been obtained at this this point. That will be needed before the work can begin.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Grant County Performing Arts Center Project Update - Bill Rock, Gas City Mayor
David Glickfield, Gas City Attorney, spoke on Mayor Rock's behalf. Mr. Glickfield stated that he was there to provide an update and to answer any questions the Commissioner may have. Mr. Glickfield also inquired as to a timeline on an answer from the county's perspective. Gas City did apply for a READI grant for about \$4 million. It is estimated that the city has about a 30% chance of receiving that. From previous conversations, there is a gap of about \$4.5 million between what the projected costs are going to be and what the city has on hand. The city asked for at least \$2.5 million from the county through the county's ARPA funds. If the city receives the READI grant, the city will use some of that. The city has a TIF district and since this project is going to be done over a 3 year period, there is TIF revenue that can be used to close the gap. Gas City is ready to go as soon as or if and when the county allocates the \$2.5 million. The goal is to start bidding the end of this year or early next year. Gas City cannot start that process until it knows where everyone stands on the funding. Commissioner Bardsley stated that they have met with members of the Council and Auditor's office and are going to work on this request with the London Witte Group. They will assist the county by putting things together so that Grant County can start staging assignments. Commissioner Bardsley assured Mr. Glickfield that Gas City is still at the top of those discussions.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Central Dispatch Shift Change Proposal - Kevin Hicks, 911
Mr. Hicks proposed changing Central Dispatch from an 8 hour shift to a 12 hour shift schedule due to staffing issues. Mr. Hicks stated that this will maximum coverage in the center. Current staffing is at 50%. There are 3 applicants that are ready to hire and the 4th candidate needs to finish testing. Commissioner Bardsley expressed that with the 4 new hires, the center will be at a 75% staffing

level. The Commissioners gave common consent to make the change and will revisit on December 30th to see how the staff and center functions are responding with the new schedule.

2. Vote Center Change Proposal - Pam Harris

Ms. Harris reached out to all vote centers in regard to the 2022 elections and received a positive response from all but one, Eastview Wesleyan. Ms. Harris reached out to the pastor of First Christian Church in Gas City on North D Street. They have served as a vote center in the past. They were very eager to step into that role again. Ms. Harris requested to change the Gas City location from Eastview Wesleyan to the First Christian Church. Commissioner Bardsley asked if any locations would be used for early voting. Ms. Harris stated that Westview Wesleyan will be the satellite location and that they will be open the two Saturdays prior to the elections for early voting. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the request as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried.

3. Request to Use Courthouse Square - Rosa Cadena, Walkway of Lights

Ms. Cadena requested to use one of the pavilions on the courthouse square and to have use to electricity for a Walkway of Lights event. The event will be on November 20th from 12-8 p.m. There will be several activities for the families. Commissioners were all in agreement by common consent of the request as presented.

4. London Witte Group Agreement - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Commissioner Bardsley presented the LWG agreement. Auditor McWhirt commented that he thinks that is something that should be done to ensure that all guidelines are followed that are required of the county. Commissioner Bardsley stated that this is an agreement between Grant County and London Witte Group and Mr. James Higgins is to be the main contact and focal point. This is a consulting service that will assist with the American Rescue Plan funds. There is a cap not to exceed the amount of \$25,000.00 for the course of the county's agreement. This will help for the first round of the spending of ARP money. The general fund will not be taxed when it is time to pay London Witte. This will be paid from the ARP money as well. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

5. Amendment of 2021 Ordinance #'s - Justin Saathoff, Administrator

It was found that there are two #9 ordinances. They were adopted on 8/16/2021 and 9/20/2021 respectively. Administrator Saathoff requested to amend the ordinance numbers to Ordinance 9A-2021 (8/16/2021) and 9B-2021 (9/20/2021). Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the ordinance number changes. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

6. Payment Request Packet #8 - Todd Durnil, Pyramid

Dated 11/1/2021, packet #8 contains the following: TP03C application #6 (concrete contract) MXP Solutions for \$7,426.70 to be paid from the general fund, TP26 application #4 (ground work and generators) Rex Collins Electric for \$36,500.00 to be paid from the general fund, TP35R application #4 (microwave piece for FCC) J & K Communications, Inc. for \$61,605.72 to be paid from US Bank, and professional services applications 1910405-22 Pyramid for \$17,666.42 to be paid from the 911 fund. The grand total is \$123,198.84. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve payment request packet #8 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

This regular session was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 10:50 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, December 6, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.