

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, February 22, 2022

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Grant County Complex Council Chambers located at 401 South Adams Street, Marion, Indiana.

In attendance were Commissioner Mark Bardsley, County Administrator/HR Director Justin Saathoff, and Chief Deputy Auditor Angie Jarvis. Commissioner Mike Burton and Commissioner Ron Mowery attended via WebEx as allowed under the Governor's emergency health declaration. Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Burton led the prayer and Commissioner Bardsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Claims

Preapproved single claim 2/9/2022 - UMR \$91,686.40

Preapproved claims 2/14/22 – general \$239,073.82, other \$38,550.52, and Highway \$167.04 = \$277,791.38. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify all preapproved claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

2/22/2022 - general \$92,788.63, other \$41,087.87, and Highway \$103,319.63 = \$237,196.13. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Payroll

Formal Approval of Payroll #4 - Preapproval was given on 2/15/22 in the amount of \$561,307.70. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify payroll #4. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

Commissioner Bardsley made a recommendation to approve minutes from 9/7/2021 as presented. They have been reviewed and edited. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Bardsley asked for permission to use Commissioner Burton and Commissioner Mowery's signature stamp for the claims, payroll, and minutes. Both Commissioners gave their permission.

Receipt of Monthly Report, Clerk of the Circuit Court – Month Ending 1-31-2022

The report was received by common consent from all Commissioners.

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

Bob Jackson, EMA – Positive COVID-19 numbers continue to reduce. The hospital is reporting that they are still receiving patients daily. Mr. Jackson added that all indications are pointing toward moving from the red status to orange in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Jackson reported that he and Kevin Hicks, 911 Director traveled to Columbia City for testing of new radio equipment. The steel for the Upland tower site is scheduled to arrive tomorrow. Mr. Jackson also commented that the weather services are calling for about ½ inch to 1 inch of rain. Depending on how quickly that falls, flooding could be a possibility. Ice is predicted toward the end of the week.

IT – Marcus Elliott

Mr. Elliott presented the AT&T proposal for running fiber to the towers. This proposal does not include the Fairmount/Liberty site. There is no availability or room to add on for this particular site. Mr. Elliott

recommended to award the bid to the DNS Service group as a result from the RFP review. Commissioner Bardsley took this under advisement and added that a commitment will not come until the financial piece has been reviewed by the council.

HIGHWAY – David White

Mr. White reported that the Highway department has been working with snow and ice the last couple of weeks. Mr. White requested to attend a road school training at Purdue University on March 15-16 with his foremans. The Commissioners consented to the training. Mr. White presented two quotes to run electricity to the new oil tanks. Rex Collins Electric of Marion gave an estimate in the amount of \$7,530.00 and Burman Electric of Marion estimated the job at \$6,500.00. The recommendation was to use Burman Electric. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Grant County Performing Arts Center – Bill Rock, Gas City Mayor
Gas City's Attorney, David Glickfield, spoke on behalf of Mayor Rock. Mr. Glickfield requested for the board to approve the updated MOU between Grant County and Gas City. The MOU has recently been improved with input from the Commissioners. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the MOU. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Advisory Board Appointment – Chris Cunningham, Corrections
Mr. Cunningham requested the appointment of Lisa A. Dominisse, Mental Health Administrator. This is a four (4) year term that will replace Dr. Mariannne DiMatteo. Ms. Dominisse will be the new president and chief executive officer of Grant Blackford Mental Health. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
2. Liability Insurance Renewal – Greg Lane, IMG
Mr. Lane presented his recommendations for renewal of the county's liability insurance. Several options were explored. Mr. Lane recommended to stay with Liberty Mutual as it is the best option for the property and causality insurance for the county. Mr. Lane stated that the worker's compensation line item is something to watch. Claims have been on the rise and that will ultimately increase premiums. The recommendation for worker's compensation is to stay with IPEP. Cyber liability is another hot topic right now across the world. Mr. Lane stated that this is a real issue and that cyber claims continue to grow daily. His recommendation for cyber is to go with a new company by the name of Node International. Mr. Lane also suggested dropping the terrorism policy. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the recommendation for the renewal of the liability insurance as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.
3. Presentation of Jail Repairs – Vince Beneke, Maintenance
Mr. Beneke presented two jail repairs to the board. The jail's kitchen has a door that is rotten and needs replaced. Cunningham Glass estimated the replacement at \$1,068.75. Mr. Beneke recommended to go with a galvanized door at an additional cost of \$65.00. Also, the tile in the 4th floor visitation room is crumbling and coming up. Kyle's Fine Paints and Floors estimated the repair with vinyl planks at \$878.00. Both costs would be taken out of the jail maintenance fund. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the two requests as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
4. Ratification of Medical Waste Solutions, Inc. Agreement - Justin Saathoff, Administrator

This is for the medical waste pickup for the Health department. This is a new company and would be saving the county money from who it is with currently. Commissioner Bardsley signed this on 2/15/2022. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the request. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

5. Ratification of Midwest Presort Agreement - Justin Saathoff, Administrator

DMS will no longer be the county's mail provider. DMS was bought out by Midwest Presort. Midwest Presort increased the daily handling rate to \$75 a day. This agreement will be in place until Administrator Saathoff has a new mail service in place. Due to the urgency, Commissioner Bardsley signed this on 2/15/2022. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the request. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

6. Highway Bridge Inspection - Chris Dyer, United Consulting

Grant County is currently in a 4 year contract with United Consulting beginning in October 2021. The federal highway administration requires that counties have all their bridges 20 feet in length or over inspected every two years. Mr. Dyer presented the final inventory bridge report. All 192 bridges were inspected. Conditions were noted and filed at the federal level, keeping the county in compliance. The county will get an 80% reimbursement of the cost of these inspections from federal highway. The report also contains several summary reports, an asset management plan, structural inventory reports, appraisal reports, inspection photos, a county map, and a flash drive. The flash drive has an interactive PDF that shows reports and photos of the bridges alongside guiding the user to useful links. A 2 page summary of the final report was presented and can be used as an overview. The Commissioners asked Mr. Dyer if any bridges are critical at the very moment. Mr. Dyer responded that he did not believe so, although that is not to see maintenance isn't needed right now. There are statistics of how Grant County compares over all with the state average. The average age for bridges in Grant County is 46 years old which is parallel to the state average. Typically, depending on structure and the amount of traffic, the average age is normally 50 to 75 years. Commissioner Bardsley added that Mr. Dyer made a list of the top 5 bridges for replacement, as well as 4 bridges that need some rehabilitation. Also included in the report, is a check list that includes adding guardrails around the structures, cleaning out the joints in roadway approaches, clearing debris, etc. The county has recently completed 5 bridge rehabs in the last few years. The priority schedule shows bridges that United Consulting recommended replacement/rehabilitation. These are prioritized by structure, low capacity, and traffic counts, alongside county input. Mr. Dyer stated that the cost listed is a general summary for planning purposes. Local bids are typically lower than what is shown on the report. Commissioner Bardsley added that United Consulting has been a great support for the county, not only in bridge inspections but some of the other projects as well. Community Crossing grants and their advantage were also discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jackie Sheets, 9409 E 1200 S-27, Gaston – Ms. Sheets asked the board to keep solar decisions with the BZA as a special exception.

This regular session was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:08 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.