

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**Tuesday, March 22, 2022**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday March 22, 2022 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, Commissioner Ron Mowery, County Administrator/HR Director Justin Saathoff, and Chief Deputy Auditor Angie Jarvis (sitting in for the Auditor). Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and led the prayer. Commissioner Mike Burton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Mark Bardsley stated for the record that we are no longer under a State of Health Emergency as declared by the Governor.

**Claims**

3/14/2022 - general \$201,779.93, other \$40,184.34, and Highway \$33,735.27 = \$275,699.54. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

3/22/2022 - general \$183,094.36, other \$18,697.84, and Highway \$56,181.49 = \$257,973.69. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll**

Formal preapproval was given on 3/15/2022 in the gross amount of \$545,476.28 and paid out on 3/18/2022. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to ratify payroll #6. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

**Minutes**

None

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

None.

**IT – Marcus Elliott**

None

**HIGHWAY – David White**

1. Mr. White stated that the concrete for the Pennsylvania St. bridge will be poured on Tuesday. It appears that the bridge could be ready to reopen in late May.
2. Mr. White requested permission to purchase a used paver from MacAllister Machinery out of South Bend, Indiana with a cost of \$66,000.00. It is a 2011 Cat paver with an 8 foot screener. The county currently has a 10 foot screener which makes it hard to pave some of the roads. Mr. White also recommended to sell the old paver in a public auction has opposed to receiving trade in credit. He believed that the county can receive more through the auction. Commissioner Bardsley suggested to clarify with the county attorney that all of the proper steps are being taken before putting it in an auction.
3. Mr. White requested to set the asphalt bid for the April 18<sup>th</sup> Commissioners' meeting. No objections from the commissioners.

4. Work on the 1000E bridge will begin in late July. The bridge should be able to be reopened in late fall.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Naloxone Vending Machine Proposal - Tara Blair, National Center for State Courts  
The Board of Commissioners were unanimously not in favor of placing a Naloxone vending machine in the jail. Commissioner Bardsley suggested that Ms. Blair reach out to Judge Spitzer, as he is over the Grant County drug court and he may have some other thoughts and ideas for the vending machine.
2. Alcohol and Tobacco Commission Appointment - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner  
Stacey Sample is resigning from the commission in April. The recommendation is for Tim Street to fill the vacancy and to be appointed to this position for the remainder of the term. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
3. Asset Planner and Space Planning Proposal - Mark Heirbrandt, Ameresco Senior Account Executive  
This agenda item was tabled until the next Commissioners' meeting.
4. American Rescue Plan Act - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner  
An addendum to the original ordinance is needed in order to declare where the money will be used. Commissioner Bardsley stated that it is the recommendation from the County Council that the first \$10 Million be captured as loss recovery money, leaving \$2.7 million dollars remaining. \$2.5 million dollars of that \$2.7 is designated to Gas City for the new amphitheater project. The county attorney will be contacted for the addendum and it will be brought to the next regular session.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Parking Lot Request - Amber Parker, Parker's Seafood Kitchen  
Ms. Parker opened a new restaurant at 525 South Branson St. in Marion recently. Parking appears to be a challenge, as the only parking available is on the street. The county owns half of the parking lot next to the restaurant. Ms. Parker requested permission from the county to utilize a portion of the lot. Commissioner Bardsley stated that in the past, other businesses that have been in that location were able to access the south part of that lot as needed. Commissioner Bardsley added that he will encourage some of the county employees to park farther north. The Board of Commissioners approved the request by common consent pending Ms. Parker and Grant County enter into a memorandum of understanding. Administrator Saathoff added that he will ask the county attorney to draft a MOU and will work with Ms. Parker to get it signed.
2. Advisory Board Member Appointments - Chris Cunningham, Corrections  
Mr. Cunningham brought forth 2 recommendations for appointments to the Advisory Board. He recommended Joselyn Whitticker as a Lay Person. This would be a renewed appointment. Her term is expiring and she has agreed to serve another four year term. Mr. Cunningham also recommended Joseph Combs, the Department of Child Services Director. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to approve the two recommendations as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.
3. Areawide Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Dillion - Ryan Malott, Area Plan  
On behalf of owners Brad and Amber Dillion of 8113 Wheeling Pike, Jonesboro, Indiana, Mr. Malott requested for 1 acre of their property to be rezoned as general business. The total property is 13 plus acres. They have a small shop on their farm. The written agreement would stay with the Dillions. If they should sell their property or move, it would revert back to the original zoning. Area

Plan gave a favorable recommendation and all requirements have been met. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Ordinance 1-2022. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

4. Application for Development Standard Variance, McVicker - Ryan Malott, Area Plan  
On behalf of owner Jeff McVicker of 1240 E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Marion, Indiana, Mr. Malott presented the request to build a 10 foot addition to an already existing detached garage. The required setback is 5 feet. This request would take the setback to 0 foot. Area Plan does have a letter from his neighbor stating that they have no issue with this request. The closest dwelling is 200 yards away, so this extension would not impede on anything. Area Plan has put forth a favorable recommendation without opposition. Commissioner Burton made a motion for a favorable recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
5. Presentation of Change Order - Todd Durnil, Pyramid  
This agenda item was tabled until the next Commissioners' meeting.
6. Presentation of Payment Request Packet #12 - Todd Durnil, Pyramid  
Mr. Durnil presented payment request packet #12. MPX Solutions (TP35TL) application #1 in the amount of \$141,893.50 was presented. This amount covers 75% of the tower labor. There is still \$10,000 left for retainage and \$50,000 until everything has been completed and final inspections have been done. Commissioner Burton made a motion to pay the MPX invoice. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0. Mr. Durnil also presented professional services (1910405-25) Pyramid Architecture/Engineering in the amount of \$9,665.54. \$5,000 is a contract fee and the remaining \$4,665.54 are for reimbursables. Auditor McWhirt questioned the receipts for the reimbursables. Mr. Durnil did not currently have them at this time. Commissioner Burton made a motion to pay the \$5,000 to Pyramid for contract fees only. Seconded by Commissioner Mower; motion carried 3-0. The remaining \$4,665.54 for reimbursables will be revisited once documentation has been received.
7. Addendum to the SRI Tax Sale Services Agreement - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner  
The upcoming tax sale is set for April 1,2022. An addendum to the original agreement was presented. Commissioner Burton made a motion to sign the addendum for the SRI. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
8. Memorial Day Fund Request - Justin Saathoff, Administrator  
The request for the Memorial Day flags came in from the county American Legion Posts for \$2,000. It is budgeted every year for \$1,800. The request stated that the cost of the flags have increased recently. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the \$1,800. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Bardsley stated that the county has budgeted \$1,800 for quite a few years to assist with the flag project for Memorial Day and that he does not see a problem increasing that to \$2,000 in the 2023 budget but as of right now, the county is locked into the \$1,800.
9. Flooring Bids and Proposal, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor - Justin Saathoff, Administrator  
3 bids were received to carpet the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Annex building. The lowest bid was in the amount of \$18,276.00 by Morrell Floor Covering of Marion, Indiana. Commissioner Burton made a motion to award the flooring project to Morrell's in the amount of \$18,276.00. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
10. Policy Change Proposal, Sick Bank - Justin Saathoff, Administrator  
This agenda item was tabled and will be brought forth in a future meeting.
11. Parcel Data Request, Power Engineers - Justin Saathoff, Administrator  
This agenda item was tabled and will be brought forth in a future meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Wimmer of Wimmer Land Surveys, Inc. of Marion, Indiana requested to split the house off of property address 8729 East 750 South, Upland, Indiana 46989. The reason behind the request is that the land has exceeded the split amount Area Plan allows. The requesting family would like to eventually build a residence on the backside of the property. The Commissioners' recommendation will be presented at the May meeting due to the current workload of Area Plan. Letters have been sent out to the surrounding property owners, Commissioners, Drainage Board, and the Town of Upland. Commissioner Burton made a motion for a favorable recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

This regular session was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:20 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 10 a.m.