

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
Monday, April 4, 2022

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 4, 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, Commissioner Mike Burton, Commissioner Ron Mowery, County Administrator/HR Director Justin Saathoff, and Auditor Jim McWhirt. Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and led the prayer. Commissioner Mike Burton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Claims

3/28/2022 - general \$335,487.55, other \$90,075.59, and Highway \$26,878.05 = \$452,441.19. Commissioner Burton made a motion to ratify the claims as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3/0

4/4/2022 - general \$67,870.31, other \$98,805.55, and Highway \$139,653.57 = \$306,329.43. 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 3/29/2022 in the gross amount of \$524,934.72 and paid out on 4/1/2022. Commissioner Mowery made a motion to ratify payroll #7. Seconded by Commissioner Burton; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

Minutes from 9/20/2021, 10/4/2021, and 10/18/2021 have been reviewed and edited. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

Receipt of Monthly Report, Clerk of the Circuit Court - Month ending 2/28/2022 was received.

Receipt of Monthly Reports, Weights and Measures - 1/16/2022 to 2/15/2022 and 2/16/2022 to 3/15/2022 were received.

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

1. Jim McWhirt, Auditor
 - a. Auditor McWhirt announced that there was a Commissioners' tax sale on 4/1/22 that went very well. 1/3 of the parcels were sold. This was the first Commissioners' tax sale since 2019.
 - b. The results from the State Board of Accounts audit for 2021 were received. There were some questions surrounding purchases of equipment and contractor payments from the 911 fund. To correct the issue, the funding will need transferred from the general fund back into the 911 fund.
2. Bob Jackson, EMA
 - a. The EOC held a briefing this morning. The reported numbers of COVID-19 positive cases are currently decreasing. There is still a need to continue monitoring this.
 - b. Base levels at all three tower sites have been constructed. The stacking of the body of the towers are to start within the next two weeks.

IT – Marcus Elliott

1. Mr. Elliott requested clarification for the RFP process for the Data Refresh Project. He has already approved this through the Council. Commissioner Bardsley asked if the storage lease has been paid off. Mr. Elliott answered that it was. Commissioner Bardsley clarified that this new project was a lease and to move forward with receiving quotes. Those quotes will need brought back to the Commissioners and then to the Council.
2. Mr. Elliott inquired if a decision has been made on the AT&T fiber project to the towers. Commissioner Bardsley stated that a decision has not been made. Other parties aside from AT&T are also interested and need discussed as well.
3. The two-factor authentication security upgrade has been installed and implemented for all employees. The next step is to add the same upgrade to the county's firewall and servers. In addition to the upgrade, cloud backup is an important part of security. A quote from Wasabi, a company in Virginia, was received in the amount of \$2,247.26 per year. This is for 30 terabytes of storage. Commissioner Bardsley asked Mr. Elliott to review the request with Mr. Bob Jackson from EMA to make sure that this fulfills DHS requirements.
4. The Coroner has requested a full size copier. They currently have a smaller printer that does not have color or the ability to print on anything other than letter sized paper. Applied Imaging gave a quote of \$80 a month that could be added to the existing agreement. The Board of Commissioners approved the request by common consent.

HIGHWAY – David White

1. Mr. White presented an unofficial detour. The proposed detour is for SR 5 south of Van Buren. A bridge deck is being replaced. The recommended route is from 300 N to 1000 E back to 400 N on the east side of Van Bureau. The Board of Commissioners approved by common consent.
2. Bids will be opened at the next Commissioners' meeting for the hot mix asphalt for the 2022 season.
3. The deck for the Pennsylvania Street Bridge has been completed. Work on the approaches and painting still needs to be completed.
4. Mr. White requested to begin 10 hour shifts at the Highway department on April 18. There were no objections from the board.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Asset Planner and Space Planning Proposal - Brad Driver, Ameresco
Mr. Driver reintroduced the asset planner and space planning proposal. Commissioner Mowery commented that he was opposed to the proposal and that he felt the Council would be as well. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the asset planning as presented pending appropriation by the council. Seconded by Commissioner Bardsley. Commissioner Mowery opposed; motion carried 2-1.
2. Presentation of Payment Request Packet #12 - Todd Durnil, Pyramid
There was no new information for packet #12. The presentation was tabled. Instead packet #13 was discussed. so want to table at this time. A claim for Rex Collins Electric in the amount of \$48,483.00 was presented for work at the tower locations. Commissioner Burton made a motion to authorize Commissioner President Bardsley to approve, sign, and release the funds to Pyramid professional services in the amount of \$32,455.56 and to Rex Collins in the amount of \$48,483.00. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Pretrial Services Grant Application Request - Melissa Stephenson, Court Services
Ms. Stephenson stated that the Pretrial Services Grant is now open for application for 2023. She wanted to bring this to the Commissioners' attention and remind them that there is a cap of 30% for fringe benefits by the Indiana Office of Court Services and the State Department of Corrections. Since the grant is used to pay for the 3 full time probation officers' salaries, this will equate to a deficit of \$52,865.00 for the health benefits that the Commissioners typically cover. Commissioner Bardsley stated that the funds will be transferred to cover the cost. Ms. Stephenson added that pretrial services save the county hundreds of thousands of dollars a year when considering the daily rate of incarceration costs is \$52.61 a day per inmate.
2. Request for Courthouse Square Usage - Kayla Johnson, City of Marion
Ms. Johnson requested to use the courthouse lawn for festivals on the following dates: 5/20 - 5/21, 7/15 - 7/16, 9/16 - 9/17, and 11/18 - 11/19. Electricity would be required for the events and the Health department would be involved due to food vendors. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0. Ms. Johnson also requested to use the courthouse square for a food event named "Soup on the Square." This event is sponsored by The Rescue Mission. The Board of Commissioners gave approval via common consent.
3. Communications Policy Board Appointment - Bob Jackson, EMA
Mr. Jackson recommended Fire Chief Brad Daily to the Communications Policy Board. This recommendation came from the Grant County Mutual Aide. This appointment would replace Fire Chief Virgil Hall who passed away in January. The Commissioners endorsed the recommendation by common consent.
4. Mail Service Proposal - Justin Saathoff, Administrator
Administrator Saathoff presented two quotes for an in-house mailing meter machine. Pitney Bowes gave a quote of \$274.09 a month and Quadient gave a quote of \$291.92 a month. Both were for a 5 year lease. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Pitney Bowes. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
5. Health Screening Proposal - Justin Saathoff, Administrator
The proposal presented was for Marion Health to come onsite at the county to perform physicals on employees. This would satisfy a requirement of the wellness program. The goal is to encourage more participation resulting in healthier employees. The county would cover all costs which would amount to approx. \$25 per employee. A MOU will be drafted and brought back to the Board of Commissioners for a decision.
6. GIS Data Request - Justin Saathoff, Administrator
The Howard County Surveyor has requested some GIS data. This was previously presented to the Drainage Board by Commissioner Bardsley. The Drainage Board had no objections when shared drains were taken into consideration. The Board of Commissioners approved the request by common consent.
7. Presentation of EMS Fuel Tax Agreement - Justin Saathoff, Administrator
This an annual agreement giving MALCON power of attorney to recoup funds from a hidden tax that is on certain fuel. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.
8. Policy Change Proposal, Sick Bank - Justin Saathoff, Administrator
Administrator Saathoff presented three variations of the Sick Bank policy. Option #1 contained updated language and some revisions. Option #2 was to take the current policy and change it to a donation platform. Option #3 was to eliminate it completely. Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve Option #1. Seconded by Commissioner Mowery; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

This regular session was brought to recess by Commissioner Bardsley at 11:40 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 10 a.m.