

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
March 20, 2023**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 20, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Grant County Complex Council Chambers located at 401 South Adams Street, Marion, IN.

In attendance were Commissioners Ron Stewart, Steven Wright, and Mark Bardsley. Also present were Auditor Angela Jarvis, County Administrator/HR Director Justin Saathoff, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens.

Commissioner Bardsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Dave Grieve led in prayer. Commissioner Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREAPPROVED CLAIMS

March 13, 2023: General: \$299301.61
 Other: \$34,235.68
 Highway: \$53,231.10
 TOTAL: \$386,768.39

Single Preapproval - Duaine Ashcraft \$262.66. Preapproval was given on March 7, 2023.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to ratify the claim dockets as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

March 20, 2023: General: \$276,124.32
 Other: \$70,991.36
 Highway: \$338,480.89
 Total: \$685,496.57

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the claim docket preapprovals as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL

Payroll #6 carried a gross total of \$628,515.10. Formal preapproval was given on March 14, 2023 and paid out on March 17, 2023.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to formally ratify preapproved payroll #5 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

Receipts of Monthly Reports

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to receive the monthly report months ending January 31 and February 28 from the Clerk of Courts and the monthly report months of September-October, October-November, November-December, December-January, and January-February from Weights and Measures as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

None

Board Updates

Auditor Jarvis shared that the abstract has been approved and she will work with the Treasurer's office to get the bills delivered.

Maintenance Supervisor Vince Beneke stated that the plumbing project at the Sheriff's department was started this morning. They should be finished in 2 to 3 days. Also, TKE Elevator will be here today to put a power head on an elevator that is leaking.

Commissioner Stewart requested a Board of Finance committee meeting on April 3.

IT Report

IT Director Marcus Elliott gave an update on the website transfer. The IN.gov application has been submitted. Also, the new TVs are up and running in the Chambers, allowing the public to have better visibility. Lastly, Director Elliott has continued discussions with MetroNet. An estimate to move the county's services will be available in the coming weeks.

Highway Report

Superintendent David White opened 2 bids for liquid oil. Asphalt Materials bid AE90 at \$469.68 per ton. The Klink Group bid AE90 at \$610.00 per ton. 1 bid was received for paving materials (asphalt) from Brooks Construction at \$65.25 per ton. The bids will be reviewed and brought back for recommendation.

An unofficial detour from the state was presented for State Road 5, north of State Road 22. The project is to start in 2024. The unofficial detour is 400 south to county road 1000 east, then back to 300 south. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the unofficial detour contract. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent White updated the Board on other projects. He reported that the county attorney is now involved in drafting a road agreement for Blackford County regarding the wind farm project. It was reported that the Highway Department salted the roads over the weekend. The pipe on 1200 east was repaired last Thursday afternoon. Superintendent White requested the Highway Department to return to a four-day, 10-hour work week on April 10. All 3 Commissioners agreed by consent. Grant County was not chosen for federal aid for the Branson Street project. Lastly, it was reported that the 10th street bridge project is on schedule.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Assignment of Parcels Request - Michael Conner, SHSHC&P

Michael Conner presented an updated resolution regarding tax certificates for Jonesboro that was approved in the last regular session. It has been updated with correct parcel numbers. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve resolution #9-2023. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of Grinder Pump Replacement Quotes - Vince Beneke, Maintenance

Maintenance Supervisor Vince Beneke presented 3 quotes for the replacement of the sewage pit in the basement of the Central Dispatch building. The estimates are as follows: 1. Central Industrial Contractors for \$46,330.00, 2) EMCORE Services for \$37,755.00, and 3) Chuck's Sewer & Drain for \$37,600.00. The pump that is there now is not a commercial pump and is beginning to show wear. Mr. Beneke recommended Chuck's Sewer & Drain. His estimate includes a solid, seamless tank and he is a local vendor.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to accept Chuck's Sewer & Drain estimate. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

2. Grant Request Proposals - Bob Jackson, EMA

Director Bob Jackson stated that he received a grant proposal on March 8. There are 2 grant opportunities available through the state Homeland Security program. One is for National Priority Operation. This deals with cybersecurity. One of the things this grant will pay for is cybersecurity assessments. Both grants are capped at \$150,000.00. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve Director Jackson to apply for the grant. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0. The other grant is called Enduring Needs, which will assist with a new radio system. Grant county recently fell into inoperability with statewide communications. There are also issues internally within the county. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve Director Jackson to apply for the grant. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

3. Community Corrections Grant proposal - Chris Cunningham, Corrections

Chris Cunningham presented a Community Corrections grant. This is a grant established under the Community Corrections statute IC code 11-12. Grant County has received this grant for nearly 30 years. This is a grant the Community Corrections board approves then it comes to the Commissioners for approval. The grant is made up of 3 separate areas: Adult Community Corrections, Court Recidivism, and Jail Treatment. Discussion ensued about the grant. Commissioner Stewart made a motion for Mr. Cunningham to move forward with the Community Corrections grant as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

4. Petition to Vacate Public Right of Way - Randy Miller, RMA

Randy Miller presented a petition to vacate a marginal street right of way and a general ordinance on behalf of Aaron and Bridget Smith and Kathleen Rumble. The property is a subdivision on 500 E. There were no objections when advertised. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve ordinance #3-2023 with a caveat of new paperwork including an attest line, new date, and document prepared by line. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

5. Proposal to Add Regulation in the Areawide Zone Ordinance, B&B - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

Director Ryan Malott proposed to add regulation to bed and breakfasts and Airbnb locations. Indiana adopted IC36-1-24 in 2018 for short term rentals. A bed & breakfast is an owner-occupied short-term rental. An Airbnb is a non-owner-occupied short-term rental. Grant County allows bed & breakfasts by special exception in all zones but R1 and R2. Director Malott read through land use and fees. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve ordinance 4-2023 amending the Areawide Zone Ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

6. Proposal to Amend Restrictions in the Areawide Zoning Ordinance, Streams - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

Director Malott presented amendments for restrictions around streams. The current ordinance states that no structure other than a fence can be erected within 75 feet of the high-water line of any county-maintained ditch, stream, or other water line. This contradicts the Drainage Board. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve ordinance #5-2023 as presented correcting the contradiction. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

7. Proposal to Amend the Areawide Zoning Ordinance, Grading Permits - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

Anytime there are plans to clear an acre or more, the request must go in front of USDA Soil and Water to be approved. From the USDA it goes to IDEM and then IDEM sends it to Area Plan for a grading permit.

None of this process is in the current ordinance. Director Malott requested the amendment to reflect the proper steps. The request has been presented to the Drainage Board and the APC. It also went through a public hearing and was presented with a favorable recommendation. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve ordinance #6-2023 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Julie Hartman of 2640 E 1050 S Fairmount asked a question about the solar ordinance and Area Plan ordinance about streams today. Commissioner Bardsley stated he will investigate this inquiry.

The next scheduled meeting will be April 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bardsley recessed the meeting at 11:30 a.m.