

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
May 1, 2023**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 1, 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, Steve 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. Tim Ross of Real Community Covenant Church in Marion led in prayer. Commissioner Bardsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREAPPROVED CLAIMS

April 24, 2023: General: \$268,994.20
 Other: \$41,753.11
 Highway: \$69,741.14
 TOTAL: \$380,488.45

PREAPPROVED SINGLE CLAIMS

Hare Chevrolet (Sheriff Vehicles) - \$46,200.00

Formal preapproval was given by Commissioner Bardsley on April 21 for the above preapproved claims. Formal preapproval for the single claims were given by Commissioner Bardsley on April 27. Commissioner Wright made a motion to ratify the claim dockets as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

May 1, 2023: General: \$162,207.64
 Other: \$146,982.82
 Highway: \$49,693.42
 Total: \$358,883.88

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

PAYROLL

Payroll #9 carried a gross total of \$564,092.26. Formal preapproval was given by Commissioner Bardsley on April 25, 2023 and paid out on April 28, 2023.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to formally ratify preapproved payroll #8 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

None

Board Updates

Auditor Jarvis stated that her office has been working with LOW and AOD on the new time keeping system for the last several weeks. The Auditor's office will go live this week as a trial.

Receipt of Monthly Reports

By common consent, the Commissioners received in the Clerk's monthly report month ending March 31, 2023.

IT Report

IT Director Marcus Elliott presented the Granite Solutions proposal. This is a continuation of the discussions of seeking a new internet provider. Granite combines all services under one umbrella and can save the county approximately \$60,000.00 annually. The ISP would change from AT&T to MetroNet. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve Granite Government Solutions as presented with Commissioner Bardsley signing the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

Director Elliott also presented the Purdue Technical Assistance agreement. This is a cybersecurity assessment valued at \$3,600.00, but it is at no cost for the county. Commissioner Wright has been involved with this project and recommends the assessment to be performed. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the Purdue University Technical Assistance agreement as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

Director Elliott requested permission to switch help desk software vendors from Solar Winds to Ninja One. The cost is the same at \$10,500.00 annually. The Commissioners approved by common consent.

Highway Report

Superintendent David White presented an unofficial detour from the state while State Road 37 from State Road 26 to Marion city limits is repaired. The unofficial detour will be 200 W to 700 S to 100 W to US 35 to 150 W to 300 S. Commissioner Wright made a motion to adopt the request from INDOT. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent White has quotes for concrete work on the new building. He would like to review them and bring them back to the next meeting.

Superintendent White requested to set the paving bid opening for the recently received Community Crossings grant for June 5th. The Commissioners agreed by consent.

He also reported that all county belongings are out of the Boys and Girls club. When the time comes to donate the building, all that will be left is to remove the locks and transfer the utilities.

In other updates, the bridge on 10th Street (Bridge #789) in Marion should be completed by the end of this week. Chip seal work continues. The bridge north of Matthews should be fully opened in 2 weeks. The county attorney is currently working on a road use agreement with Blackford County for their solar project.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Sick Bank Policy - Nancy Bender, HR

Nancy Bender presented eliminating the current sick bank policy and replacing it with a voluntary donation policy. The sick bank policy has outlived its usefulness. Participation has dwindled so much that

it could easily go bankrupt. Many see it as antiquated and easily manipulated. After some discussion, Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve eliminating the current sick bank and bringing a draft of a new volunteer donation policy to the next meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of Economic Growth Opportunity - Darren Reese, SESCO

Darren Reese introduced SESCO as an engineering, environmental, and public safety planning organization that is based in Indianapolis. SESCO works in over 1/3 of Indiana counties. Mr. Reese stated that he was recently made aware that the Commissioners are considering taking possession of the old Dana property. Mr. Reese offered his company's services, mainly environmental studies and cleanup. After some discussion, Commissioner Wright stated he felt that this conversation needed to be further explored and that he would meet with Mr. Reese and the county attorney.

2. Vacation of Public Way, Jalapa - Phil Stephenson, SHSHC&P

Phil Stephenson stated Jalapa Chapel is located on part of a lot which adjoins these alleys. This is a situation where they are going to need to do something about size. They are looking at enlarging, but they cannot do anything unless these alleys can be closed off. All the alleys are nonfunctioning and are not being used for anything. The consents of every surrounding landowner were presented alongside proof of publications. There are no objections from any utility companies. Mr. Finny of Jalapa Chapel spoke about the church and the property. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve ordinance #8-2023. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

3. BOT Procurement Resolution - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

This agenda item was tabled.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

There is a Board of Finance Meeting directly following the Regular Session.

The next scheduled meeting will be May 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bardsley recessed the meeting at 11:19 a.m.