

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
July 17, 2023**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on July 17, 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, Mark Bardsley, and Steve Wright. 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. Bill Sparks of Gilead Ministries led in prayer. Commissioner Bardsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREAPPROVED CLAIMS

July 10, 2023: General: \$66,652.85
 Other: \$14,658.45
 Highway: \$62,584.89
 TOTAL: \$143,896.19

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

July 17, 2023: General: \$130,067.93
 Other: \$78,414.15
 Highway: \$101,731.59
 TOTAL: \$310,213.67

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

PAYROLL

Payroll #14 carried a gross total of \$581,345.90. Formal preapproval was given on July 5, 2023 and paid out on July 7, 2023.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to formally ratify preapproved payroll #14 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Bardsley; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

None

Receipt of Monthly Reports

None

Board Updates

EMA Director Bob Jackson stated he has begun to release information regarding the solar eclipse in April 2024. He is in the process of putting together a planning task force. The state has given guidance and

he will continue to meet with them as he has since November. There will be more to come in the next few months. FEMA & IDHS were here last Friday and presented EMA and Charlie Myers of the YMCA with a certificate of appreciation for helping them through the tornado recovery efforts. The HMEP (Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness) grant will be open soon. A discussion with the LEPC will be held on Wednesday to identify needs the grant could possibly supply.

IT Report

None

Highway Report

Superintendent David White opened the bids for Bridge #16 on county road E00W between 600 and 700 north. The bids are as follows: Hoosier Pride Excavating at \$566,837.33, Milestone Contractors at \$890,465.36, R.L. McCoy at \$877,717.76, and Duncan Robinson at \$601,579.72. United Consulting was in attendance for a review of the bids. A recommendation will be brought forth at the end of the meeting.

An unofficial detour for state road 22 for next spring was presented. Commissioner Wright made a motion to accept the unofficial detour purposed by INDOT for the bridge work over Deercreek, 2.5 miles north of State Road 9. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

In other updates, chip sealing will be completed today. The Highway department will be working on a project with Fairmount the next couple of days. The log jam on Branson will be addressed next Monday. Discussion concerning the wind farm in Blackford County is still taking place. An agreement has not been signed yet.

Superintendent White stated he is still working on the Keefe project in Chapel Pike. Utilities were located a couple weeks ago. There is a 6-inch, high pressure gas line on the south side of the project and 3 fiber optics on the north side. Plans are being developed on how to best address the issue.

OLD BUSINESS

1. EMS Job Classifications Discussion - Duaine Ashcraft, EMS

Director Ashcraft stated that the issue had been resolved and no further discussion was needed.

Commissioner Bardsley noted a special request. He is allowing Jerry Soultz, citizen, and Randy Miller from RMA to speak to a concern with a property in Fairmount. They can address the board just prior to the jail study presentation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Food Vendor Request, Sprinkled by Stephanie - Stephanie Lahr, Owner

Ms. Lahr requested permission to set up her food truck on the courthouse square once a week. She has been in business since 2019 and launched the food truck in 2020. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve Fridays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm beginning on July 28, 2023, through the end of October as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

2. Review of Annual Fees, LOW - Angela Jarvis, Auditor

Auditor Jarvis presented the annual fees for the county's financial and tax system. This also includes the new time keeping system (AOD). The time keeping comes out of the Commissioners' budget and the

rest comes out of the Auditor's budget. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the LOW agreement for the next year. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

3. Randy Miller from Randal Miller and Associates Engineering and Mr. Soultz addressed the board regarding Mr. Soultz's Fairmount property. RMA is contracted to do a boundary survey at Third and Main Street in Fairmount. The survey has been recorded and was presented to the board alongside a GIS sheet. The issue is the alleyway meanders. A dispute has arisen between neighbors regarding property lines and right of ways. Discussion ensued resulting in Commissioner Bardsley suggesting to Mr. Miller and Mr. Soultz to begin discussion with the Fairmount Town Council. The County Commissioners do not have any authority on the issue.

4. Legal Services Agreement - Ryan Malott, Area Plan

Director Malott presented a legal services agreement for David Glickfield to become the attorney for the APC. The contract states anything above the normal duties of the attorney will be \$150.00 per hour. This contract is for \$20,000.00, and if there is more litigation on a project, Mr. Glickfield or another special attorney would be compensated at \$150.00 per hour. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve and sign the contract to hire David Glickfield to provide legal services to the APC and Area Plan at \$20,000.00. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

5. Bid Recommendation – David White, Highway

Superintendent White recommended Hoosier Pride Excavating for the work on Bridge #16. The bid is for \$566,837.33. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

6. Jail Study Presentation - Dale Davis, Envoy

Jonathon White from Envoy introduced Eric Ratts from DLZ. Mr. Ratts presented a copy of the full study and a copy of the presentation. Mr. Ratts went through the presentation speaking to current facility assessments and the need for a new one. At the end of the presentation, the floor was opened for questions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Soultz presented a drawing the contractor had given to Area Plan. Discussion ensued with Mr. Soultz and the Commissioners.

There will be a Board of Finance meeting directly following this regular session. The next scheduled meeting will be August 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bardsley recessed the meeting at 11:40 a.m.