

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
August 21, 2023**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 21, 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. Executive Pastor Amy Biegel of The River Church led in prayer. Commissioner Bardsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREAPPROVED CLAIMS

August 14, 2023: General: \$75,140.04
Other: \$164,750.75
Highway: \$12,765.65
TOTAL: \$252,656.44

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

August 21, 2023: General: \$251,966.60
Other: \$189,708.96
Highway: \$121,498.86

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

PAYROLL

Payroll #17 carried a gross total of \$581,212.63. Formal preapproval was given on August 16, 2023, and paid out on August 18, 2023.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to formally ratify preapproved payroll #17 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the minutes from May 15, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

Receipt of Monthly Reports

Commissioner Wright made a motion to receive in the monthly and annual reports from Weights & Measure. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

Board Updates

Public Safety Director Kevin Hicks presented a maintenance agreement for three battery back-ups for the tower sites. These carry the communication system load between the time of power failure and the time

the generator kicks in. They are also utilized during generator failure. Director Hicks presented a 3-year agreement totaling \$33,780.00 for all 3 sites. Administrator Saathoff provided the Commissioners with a copy of the agreement. This will come out of Contractual Services. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve as requested pending attorney approval of the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

IT Report

None

Highway Report

Superintendent David White presented the road paving list for this year. Brooks Construction will do the Community Crossing roads around Labor Day. Initial meetings have begun for Bridge #16 on E00W. The plan is to start mid-October. A large culvert is being placed today on 400 E south of 200 S. This will take 2-3 days to get completed. He also stated that he had met with a design company last week for the 14th street bridge to see where designing, utility agreement, etc. stood. Lastly, Superintendent White presented a \$32,000 quote to fix the roof damage on the new storage building.

OLD BUSINESS

1. EMS Building Update – Dawn Harness, EMS

Billing Administrator Dawn Harness gave an update on estimates for the new building. She presented the board with a list of items to be completed and estimated costs totaling \$33,547.16. After some discussion, Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the request at \$26,267.16 minus the stairs and any other items that could be done in-house. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

2. Gas City-Mill Township Public Library Appointment - Justin Saathoff, Administrator

Administrator Saathoff stated that he confirmed that the appointment was vacant. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve Christina Payne as the new appointee and to fulfill the unexpired term at the Mill Township Public Library. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

3. Central Dispatch Project Invoice, J&K - Mark Bardsley, Commissioner

Public Safety Director Kevin Hicks stated that he felt the county should go ahead and release the owed amount to J&K. He stated that they have worked diligently to resolve any and all issues. There are still some things that need worked out, but J&K have completed the scope of work described in the agreed upon work order. Commissioner Wright made a motion to pay the final installment for J&K Communications in the amount of \$283,054.24. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Jail Camera Proposal - Jason Camery, Detention Director

Detention Director Camery expressed the jail is seeking to install 2 new cameras based on a recommendation from Stanley Security, who does the camera service for the jail. There are blind spots by doors 14 and 22. This is a main traffic area for inmates that go to court on Mondays and Wednesdays. The quote for the 2 cameras is \$6795.00 and we will run the cat 6 line. These 2 cameras fall under the current contract, and the contract will not increase in any way this year. This request is a direct result of a recent incident that resulted in injury. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve 2 additional cameras in the amount of \$6795.00 per the attorney's approval. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

2. Eastbrook Safety Officer MOU - Del Garcia, Sheriff

Detention Director Jason Camery presented the MOU for a Service Resource Officer to be in Eastbrook Community Schools. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the Sheriff to enter a contract with Eastbrook Community Schools on behalf of Grant County. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

3. Upland STEM Open Area Project - Matt Voss, NearSpace Education

Matt Voss was not present. This item was tabled.

4. Overdose Awareness Event - Carly Snyder, GC Drug Court, and Brian Blevins, Core2.0

Brian Blevins presented the Overdose Awareness walk to the board. The date is August 31st from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The request is to have the main event at the courthouse lawn. This is to raise awareness about overdose prevention and the importance of supporting those affected by addiction. There will be a free food vendor to feed everyone that comes to the walk. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the event request. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

5. Funding Proposal - Liz Wright, Marion Grant County Senior Center

Liz Wright presented printed materials to the Commissioners. Ms. Wright spoke about the history of the Senior Center and what the Senior Center offers to the senior citizens of Grant County. Discussion ensued about the county helping to fund the Senior Center. Commissioner Wright explained this is more of a County Council item. Auditor Jarvis suggested that Ms. Wright submit a letter to the Council for their September meeting.

6. Cell Phone Stipend Request - Dawn Harness, EMS

Ms. Harness requested a cell phone stipend for Alexis Case, a new EMS supervisor. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the request as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

7. Employee Leave Request - Justin Saathoff, Administrator

Administrator Saathoff presented the extended leave request #1-2023 to the board. This employee has exhausted their FMLA 12 weeks leave and needs one more week before they are released back to work by the doctor. Per policy, this extended leave request is to be brought to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the extended leave of absence as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wright; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

The next scheduled meeting will be September 5, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bardsley recessed the meeting at 11:29 a.m.