

## **Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Minutes**

**March 15, 2016**

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President, Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice President and Commissioner Tom Stevens.

Auditor Robin D. Lowder and Deputy Auditor Emily R. Moore were also present.

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:21 a.m.

### **Highway Department**

County Engineer Gary Pool appeared before the Hancock County Board of Commissioners to discuss:

#### **Signatures:**

**Bridge Contract for Bridge #18-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool appeared before the Commissioners to request signing of a bridge contract for Bridge #18. (600 E over Sugar Creek) Commissioner Stevens moved approval of an LPA consulting contract between Hancock County and USI Consulting for Bridge #18 in an amount not to exceed \$197,540. Commissioner Huber seconded. Discussion: Commissioners stated that the County Engineer did a great job with this contract. Motion carried 3/0.

**House Bill 1001 and Senate Bill 67-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool appeared before the Commissioners to state that he is still evaluating the effects that House Bill 1001 and Senate Bill 67 will have on Hancock County. At this time, the County Engineer knows that these Bills will effect MVH funding. After evaluation, the County Engineer will bring information back to the Commissioners.

**Fast ACT Grant-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool stated that the Fast Act Grant application is due April 14, 2016. Public Comment from John Priore- He stated that this is a good opportunity for the 600 E and also 600 W projects.

**INDOT Grant-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool stated that the INDOT Grant application is due May 16, 2016.

**Bridge #91 Construction Inspection-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool appeared before the Commissioners to present the recommendation from the RFP scoring tabulation for: Hancock County Highway DES. NO. 1383325 – Item Title: Bridge 91 Construction Inspection. Gary Pool, Susan

Bodkin, and Joe Hollis participated in this tabulation process. The recommendation for Bridge #91 construction inspection is United. The County Engineer will move forward with negotiating for the price with United. There is no action required by the Commissioners at this time.

**Potholes-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool appeared before the Commissioners with an update on pothole repair. County Engineer stated that there are about 9,000 hours a year spent on the filling and upkeep of potholes. He also stated that there is an online pothole report for the public to access to report and send in information on potholes in need of fixing. Submitting exact location of potholes is very helpful.

**Maintenance Report-** Hancock County Engineer Gary Pool presented a maintenance report to the Commissioners.

### **Hancock County Planning Department**

**Sagebrook PUD Amended Preliminary Plan and Commitments-** Paul Clare appeared before the Commissioners on behalf of Arbor Investments, LLC to request Sagebrook PUD amended preliminary plan and commitments at CR 700 West between 600 N and 650 N. Commissioner Stevens moved approval of amendments for the PUD for Sagebrook. (CR 700 West between 600 N and 650 N) Commissioner Huber seconded. A discussion was had. Motion carried 3/0.

**Woodbury Re-Plat-** Harold Gibson appeared before the Commissioners on behalf of Kimberly and Fred Printz to request a re-plat of a property/vacate ROW located at 500 W IN ST HW 67 at Printz Place at Woodbury. (Lots 1 & 2) Commissioner Stevens moved to vacate existing ROW as specified at Printz Place at Woodbury. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

**Jackley Re-Plat-** Harold Gibson appeared before the Commissioners on behalf of Mel and Alberta Jackley to request a re-plat/vacate drainage rights located at 400 N 400 E at Jackley Estates. (part of lot 8 and lot 9) Commissioner Stevens moved to relinquish drainage easement as specified on the re-plat of lot 9 and part of lot 8 on Jackley Estates. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

### **IT Department**

**New Hire/Advertising-** Bernie Harris appeared before the Commissioners to request permission to advertise for a new hire for the IT Department with LinkedIn for thirty days/\$300. Commissioner Stevens moved to authorize the Hancock County IT Department to advertise for a new hire in the IT Department in an amount not to exceed \$300 to be paid for out of the Commissioner's Advertising Line Item. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

**Nine Star/Upgrade Web Page-** Bernie Harris appeared before the Commissioners to inform them of a security risk problem with Nine Star. Nene Star has informed Mr. Harris that the County's version of the web page software is too old and is a possible security risk. Mr. Harris is negotiating with

Solutions4EBiz for a software upgrade for an amount not more than \$5,000. Commissioner Stevens moved authorization of the expenditure for an amount of up to but not to exceed \$5,000 for software upgrades to be paid for out of software maintenance to Solutions4EBiz. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Concerned Citizens**

**Drugs in Hancock County-** Janet Decker, Ryan Covington, and Linda Ostewig all appeared before the Commissioners to share their personal experiences and concerns about drugs in Hancock County and what resources there are available in the county to help. Mr. Covington stated that he is a recovering drug addict and feels that the county doesn't have adequate support for drug addicts. He stated that the program the county has isn't great. (Gallahue) Ms. Decker told of her children's drug addictions. She stated that people are dying and the numbers are increasing. Ms. Decker talked quite a bit about her daughter's addiction. She feels that jail isn't the answer and that the county should have more resources for those with addictions. Ms. Ostewig spoke on her role in the community. (The Landing, for teens) She also spoke of a house that has been donated and the plans for opening it as a non-profit recovery center for women. (526 East Main, Greenfield) It will house ten women, teach life skills, help with recovery, and teach how to live life to the fullest. (\$250,000 to make house operational) There was a discussion between these concerned citizens and the Commissioners on what other things the county could do to help. The Commissioners stated that the county does have a recovery program they fund. (Gallahue - \$350,873 for 2016 and \$342,000 for 2015) The Commissioners feel the lines of communication should be kept open and updates should be brought to their attention.

### **Tourism Commission**

**Tourism Commission Concerns-** John Priore and George Langston appeared before the Commissioners to voice the concerns they have about the Tourism Commission. Mr. Priore voiced concerns on handing a lump sum of money to the HCECC. He believes that the HCECC should submit claims and also go through the budgeting process to receive funding. He also feels that the Tourism Commission should be instructed to follow state statutes and meet all requirements. Mr. Priore requests the Commissioners speak with the Council about these issues. George Langston stated concerns on the HCECC spending money that they don't have in their budget and expecting it to be covered by the county. Commissioner Armstrong spoke about the current proposal, \$30 - \$40 million, and the fact that there has been little progress since this process began about two years ago. He feels that since the initial plan to fund the project, a proposed 1-percentage point increase to the county's food and beverage tax, was rejected and there hasn't been any updated funding sources or any action toward developing a realistic plan to support the project that it's time for the county to take control. Commissioner Armstrong suggested that the amenities are too much and would like to see a scaled down, tiered approach proposal with a lower price point. Commissioner Armstrong would like to hire an engineering firm to re-examine the current proposal, to do inventory of existing site, show development of a master plan, and present an outline of Request for Proposal (RFP). Commissioner Armstrong would also like Hancock County Attorney Ray Richardson to prepare different options for e-mails about the finances and other issues at the Tourism Commission for

review by the Commissioners so that one can be sent to them regarding all concerns. Commissioner Stevens stated that he feels that HCECC needs more time to assess how to fund the project, and feels that hiring an engineering firm to come up with another proposal would duplicate what's already been done. Commissioner Huber stated that he feels that something needs to be done to help this project to move forward. He is opposed to the plan as it sits and feels that the goal should be getting the grounds moved. Commissioner Huber feels that hiring another engineering firm to take a second look at the proposal will answer some of the questions everyone has. He feels that we would be doing our due diligence to have a second opinion. Commissioner Huber stated that if the second company tells us it will take \$40 million, then the county will know that's what it will take, but at least we did right by the county by seeking a second opinion. The Commissioners decided to discuss all issues at the next meeting March 29, 2016. (add to Action Items)

### **County Wide Fire Ordinance**

**Hancock County Fire Prevention Ordinance-** Greenfield's Fire Marshall Brian Lott (representative for county fire chief's group) appeared before the Hancock County Commissioners to request approval of a county wide fire ordinance. (mainly new construction) After adoption by the county it will be submitted to the state for final approval. A discussion was had between all parties. Commissioner Huber moved to have Hancock County Attorney Ray Richardson review Hancock County Fire Prevention Ordinance. Commissioner Stevens seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Hancock County Sheriff's Department**

**Courthouse Security/Metal Detector/X-Ray Machine-** Major Brad Burkhart appeared before the Commissioners to let them know that all equipment will be operational by March 28, 2016. They also discussed an upcoming electrical issue having to do with this equipment.

**Dog Ordinance-** The current ordinance on stray dogs was discussed and the Animal Control's ability to issue tickets.

### **Action Items**

**Claims and Payroll-** Commissioner Huber moved approval of the claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner Stevens seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

**Minutes-** Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the March 01, 2016 Commissioners' Minutes as presented. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 2/0. Commissioner Huber abstained.

**Cracked Glass-** Commissioners went over an estimate for replacement of a 36' by 82' clear glass installed in transom above east side entry doors in courthouse. (does not include film, clear glass only) for \$800.63 submitted from Greenfield Glass & Mirror, Inc. Commissioner Stevens moved to accept proposal from Greenfield Glass & Mirror Inc. for replacement of plate glass in amount not to exceed \$800.63 to be paid for out of Commissioner's Building Maintenance Fund. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

**Ordinance No. 2016-3A-** Commissioner Stevens moved adoption of Ordinance No. 2016-3A an Ordinance adopting Internal Control Standards. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President

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Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice President

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Commissioner Tom Stevens

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Robin D. Lowder  
Hancock County Auditor