

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

**March 4, 2014**

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

Auditor Robin D. Lowder was also present.

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting began at 8:02 a.m.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:27a.m.

### **The Highway Department**

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

**Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church** – The finalization of acquisition of property at 600 W. and 300 N. Commissioner Stevens moved to approve the advertising only before the Commissioners next meeting if necessary for the acquisition of property in the NE quadrant of 300 N. and 600 W. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0

**Flood Supplies** – additional flood supplies were acquired by the Highway Department for emergencies.

**Right of Way** – the environmental was submitted for the 600 W. corridor. When approved the County will begin acquiring right of way.

**Superintendent** – The new superintendent for the Highway Department is Randy Moore.

**Projects** – 300 N. between 500 W. and 600 W. ,section G will be April call for projects.

**TIGER Grants** – TIGER grants will be advertised in May.

**300 N. Neighborhood Meeting** – a Neighborhood group met and their concerns are being reviewed.

**Road Advisory Committee** – The Road Advisory Committee has maps of road maintenance work to be completed for 2014 to be shared with the public via the newspaper. The Commissioners appreciate the public being kept informed.

**Equipment Advisory Committee** - reviewed the Volvo grader and it is costing \$30,000.00 per year to maintain. The recommendation was to trade the Volvo in. Permission was requested to go before Council to request approval for bidding of a new grader with trade in of the old grader. An additional appropriation would be needed and the estimated cost with trade is \$120,000.00 to \$150,000.00. Commissioner Stevens moved to instruct the County Engineer to go before Council to request an additional appropriation for a new grader with trade in. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**HISP Funds** - The HISP Federal Funding for signs has been dropped. We have a \$68,000.00 shortfall to finish signs.

**Hot Box** - There are funds in the budget to purchase a hot box at a cost of about \$8,000.00 and sell a dirt patcher. The Commissioners recommend a trade in.

**Pipe** - used pipe was sold to the surveyor, 6' x 28' for \$168.00 and to Phil Scott, 6' x 28' for \$168.00.

**Update on Snow Removal Costs** - Hourly will be approximately \$82,000.00 over budget; Salt, about \$30,000.00 over budget; Contracts, about \$30,000.00 over budget (private contractors for snow removal). To keep up with the overages monies are being transferred from other account lines.

**Right of Way** - Broken Arrow between U. S. 40 and 600 W. will have Federal Funds in either 2015 or 2016.

**Pipe** - Commissioner Stevens moved to declare two pipes, 6'x28' CMP and 6'x28' CMP to be declared surplus. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Right of Way** - Commissioner Stevens moved that the County move forward on the purchase of right of way by signing the Statement of the Basis for Just Compensation for Broken Arrow Drive to U.S. 40 portion of 300 W. which would be for parcels #3, #16, #22, #23, #25, and #28. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**INDOT Contract** - Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the INDOT contract EDS#249-14-320804, Des. No. 1383325 between INDOT and Hancock County for Bridge #91. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **Economic Development**

**Street Name Change** - Skip Kuker, Economic Development and Dave Bego appeared before the Commissioners to request the change of N. Awning Court to EMS Way he is making this a corporate campus for his businesses. He feels the owner of lot 45 should not object. Commissioner Armstrong moved to change N. Awning Ct. to EMS Way. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **The Clerk's Office**

**USB Hubs** – Marcia Moore appeared before the Commissioners to request approval to have Electronic Systems & Software install USB hubs in exchange for damaged Automark machines. Commissioner Stevens moved to declare the list of twelve Automark machines with the following serial #'s surplus: AMO106420549, AMO106421113, AMO106421374, AMO106420152, AMO106420563, AMO106420732, AMO106420227, AMO106420558, AMO106420534, AMO106420751, AMO106421462, AMO106410546. Also allow them to be a trade in on equipment needed. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **The Sheriff's Department**

**Annual Report** – Brad Burkhart appeared before the Commissioners to present the 2013 Annual Jail Report. Commissioner Armstrong moved to accept the Hancock County Sheriff's Annual Jail Report for 2013. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Funds** – State Board of Accounts recommended two new funds for a new K9 Police Dog Fund for the Sheriff's Department. There will need to be canine grant fund and a canine donation fund. These must be separate funds. The County Attorney recommends there only needs to be one fund. This will be verified by the Auditor with the State Board of Accounts.

### **Emergency Operations Center**

**Monitors** – Connie Hoy appeared before the Commissioners to request approval to purchase ten monitors at a cost of \$1,865.70 for the E-911 center within her Budget. Commissioner Stevens moved to authorize the purchase of ten monitors in amount not to exceed \$1,865.70. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Color Scanner** – Amber Alerts require a color photo. Approval is requested to purchase a color scanner in the amount of \$149.92 within her budget. Commissioner Stevens moved to authorize the purchase of a color scanner in an amount not to exceed \$149.92. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **Commissioner Action Items**

**Claims and Payroll** – Commissioner Armstrong moved approval of the claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Minutes** – Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the minutes for the Commissioners meeting February 18, 2014. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 2/0. Commissioner Armstrong abstained.

**Executive Session Minutes** – Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the minutes for the Executive Session meeting on February 25, 2014. Commissioner Armstrong seconded them. The motion carried 3/0.

### **Riley Festival and Christmas Festival**

**Festivals** – Tom Billings appeared before the Commissioners to request permission to use the Courthouse grounds and water and the Annex Courtroom and hallways for Riley Festival on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> with set up on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Christmas Festival will be on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and permission to use of the south side of the Courthouse is requested. Commissioner Stevens moved to allow the Festival Committee to have use of the buildings and grounds as requested for Riley Festival and the Christmas Festival including set up and use of water. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **Commissioner's Action Items**

**Stop Loss Insurance** – Stop Loss Policy renewal with Anthem changed to \$140,000.00 with \$162.34 premium. Commissioner Armstrong moved to execute the signing of the Stop Loss renewal. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Ordinance 2014-2C** – An Ordinance Amending the Regulation of Ponds. Commissioner Stevens moved for adoption of Ordinance 2014-2C – An Ordinance Amending the Regulation of Ponds. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **The Plan Department**

**Ordinance 2014-3A** – An Ordinance Amending the Hancock County, Indiana Zoning Ordinance. Ron Pritzke appeared before the Commissioners to request a zoning change for property located at 633 W. U.S. 40 and owned by Hunter Transportation. There are three parcels at this address and zoning is requested as follows: 1) 1.29 acres from Heavy Industrial (I2) District to Commercial Community (CC) District, 2) 1.15 acres from Commercial Neighborhood (CN) District to Commercial Community (CC) District and 3) 1.89 acres from Commercial Neighborhood (CN) District to Industrial General (IG) District. The request passed unanimously at the Plan Commission meeting. Commissioner Armstrong introduced Ordinance 2014-3A – An Ordinance Amending the Hancock County, Indiana Zoning Ordinance and moved to adopt 2014-3A – An Ordinance Amending the Hancock County, Indiana Zoning Ordinance. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0. Commissioner Armstrong moved to adopt the zoning commitment for Ordinance 2014-3A. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Annual Report** – Mike Dale appeared before the Commissioners to present and review the Plan and Building Annual Report for 2013. The figures show Hancock County has not recovered from the recession yet.

### **Property on 600 W. and U.S. 52**

**Charles Martin** – appeared before the Commissioners because of concerns about property next to him at 600 W. and U.S. 52. The owner has stated several different uses for the property and he feels the house that is currently on the property devalues his property. He does not understand how he was able to get this far and is just asking for someone to step up and take control of the situation. The current permit for a foundation expires March 5, 2014. The Commissioners will review this to see if they have any authority over this situation.

### **Workshop Damage**

**J.W. Blankenship** – appeared before the Commissioners to request reimbursement for flood damages that were unintended to his house, workshop and acreage due to the new bridge. The Commissioners believe that the bridge has nothing to do with the flood damage and deny the request. County Attorney Ray Richardson concurs with the Commissioners. The Commissioners pointed out that he knowingly built his Workshop in the floodway.

### **Building Analysis**

**RQAW** – represented by Joseph Murat appeared before the Commissioners to verify what results the Commissioners want on the report. There are nine buildings including, Courthouse, Annex, Community Corrections, Prosecutor, Memorial Building, Purdue Co-op Extension, Highway, EOC/E-911 and the Jail in the County. After some discussion the Commissioners will take this under advisement.

### **County Liability and Worker's Compensation Insurance**

**Pence Brooks and Shepherd Insurance** – Bryan Harter representing Pence Brooks and Shepherd Insurance appeared before the Commissioners to present Liability Insurance for the County in the premium amount of \$379,987.00. They were unable to provide a Company that would provide for Worker's Compensation Insurance.

**Walker & Associates Insurance** – Bliss McKnight covers liability with a premium of \$399,071.00 and Bituminous covers worker's compensation with a premium of \$224,309.00. The total premium was \$577,000.00 and will now be \$623,000.00 as a package deal for both liability and worker's compensation. Commissioner Armstrong moved to renew our policy with Walker Insurance for both liability and worker's compensation for a combined premium of \$623,380.00. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Commissioner's Action Items**

**Resolution 2014-3-1** – A Resolution Amending Personnel Policy Regarding Holiday Pay. Commissioner Stevens stated there was not an oversight in the Personnel Policy Handbook and there were several meetings where holiday pay was discussed. After meeting with a few individuals at the Sheriff's Department and receiving several reasons why this Holiday pay policy will not be the best policy for them, this resolution was prepared. Commissioner Armstrong also feels this is not a good fit for the Sheriff's Office as well as Jail Administration and Dispatchers. Commissioner Armstrong moved to adopt Resolution 2014-3-1 – A Resolution Amending Personnel Policy Regarding Holiday Pay. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Renaming Road** – Commissioner Stevens moved to rescind the motion to rename N. Awning Ct., EMS Way and table the issue until all parties have been contacted. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner Derek Towle, President

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President

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Commissioner Tom Stevens

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

Robin D. Lowder  
Hancock County Auditor