

Hancock County Board of Commissioners Minutes

July 20, 2009

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Commissioner Derek Towle, Commissioner Brad Armstrong and Commissioner Tom Stevens. Auditor Robin D. Lowder was also present. Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 7:57am. The recording began at 7:30am.

In The Matter of)

Hancock County Highway)

Council Reduction Of Highway Funds)

Joseph Copeland appeared before the Commissioners to inform them he had received an end of the month of June report from the Auditor's Office. It reflected a 5% cut from a County Council meeting in April on the Local Road and Street fund and the LOHUT/Wheel Tax fund. There was no money taken from the Bridge fund. Joe stated he would like to receive end of month reports sooner so he would know how much money he had available. This took away all of the monies for the chip and seal program. This needs to be done in August when it is hot. Auditor's Office said he could get an additional appropriation but it would be too late in the year to do the chip and seal program. The Commissioners stated they believed the Council did not have the authority to appropriate the money in the highway funds. The Commissioners stated they would talk to the council. The Commissioners instructed Joe Copeland to proceed with the chip and seal program. The Commissioners stated they were the head of the highway and if the Council had requests of the highway they should go through the Commissioners.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Pavement Traffic Marking Bids)

Joseph Copeland appeared before the Commissioners to inform them to expect high bids. He stated there was a lot of work that didn't get completed last year.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Roundabout At McKenzie And Franklin Streets)

Joseph Copeland appeared before the Commissioners to inform them of the roundabout the City of Greenfield is doing at McKenzie and Franklin Streets. Part of the roundabout is in the county. The city inquired if they could buy some of the right of way that is in the county. The Commissioners decided in order to do this they would need to do an inter-local agreement with the City of Greenfield. Joe said he would talk to Mike Fruth the city engineer about preparing an agreement.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Old Fire Station In Buck Creek)

Joseph Copeland appeared before the Commissioners to inform them Buck Creek Township Trustee Mel Branson called Joe to let him know Monroe Custom Bodies wants to purchase the old fire station. Commissioner Armstrong said they were having a sealed bid auction in the next few weeks. The minimum bid is \$293,000. The Commissioners decided to wait until after the auction.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Stimulus Package 600 East And 1050 East)

Joseph Copeland appeared before the Commissioners and reported Indiana Dept of Transportation is letting the projects for the stimulus package July 29, 2009. They are paying 100% of the inspection cost to United Consulting. The only part the county pays is for the design. The NPO stimulus package has been turned in and is still in the process. Commissioner Armstrong suggested the county do a press release about the work being done with the stimulus package.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Sheriff Dept.)

Three Car Accidents)

Deputy Donnie Smith appeared before the Commissioners to inform them there had been three Sheriff Car accidents.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Sheriff Dept.)

Vehicle Surplus)

Deputy Donnie Smith appeared before the Commissioners to have a vehicle declared as surplus. The axle bearing can't be replaced. The car is a Crown Victoria 2005 with approx. 126,000 miles. The last four of the VIN numbers are 7304 number 159. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to declare it a surplus vehicle and Commissioner Armstrong seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Sheriff Dept.)

Reserve Car Computer And Public Safety Mikes)

Deputy Donnie Smith appeared before the Commissioners to request a computer for the Sheriff Reserve Car and Public Safety Mikes. The Commissioners determined the purchase could be a Cumulative Capital Fund purchase. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to purchase a computer for the Sheriff Reserve Car not to exceed \$3000 and Public Safety Mikes not to exceed \$1000. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion was carried 3-0. The Commissioners instructed Deputy Smith to take the C.C.D. request before the county council.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Sheriff Dept.)

Building Repairs)

Deputy Donnie Smith appeared before the Commissioners to inform them of building repairs on the jail. The total is \$27,201.11. The largest repair is for the boiler for \$11,323. The Commissioners instructed him to go before the council and present it as a Cumulative Capital Fund purchase. Commissioner Armstrong suggested he get some additional quotes in addition to McDaniel Fire Systems.

2009 Building Repair Expenses

Date:	Company:	Repair Performed:	Cost:
12/23/09	Fitzgerald & North	Replace bad water cartridge	\$1703.25
12/26/08	Fitzgerald & North	New 400,000 BTU Boiler	\$11,323.00
12/30/09	Fitzgerald & North	Cut out and replace leaky section of pipe	\$758.10
01/15/09	Fisk	Sewer Service in Cell Block	\$267.00
02/17/09	Mid America Elevator	Repair Doors	\$391.25
02/27/09	Fitzgerald & North	140 Degree Hot Water Pump Coupling	\$541.50
03/17/09	Willoughby Indust.	Rebuild 3 Cell Toilets	\$1575.00
03/24/09	Mid America Elevator	Repalce Door Detector	\$2507.00
03/25/09	Fitzgerald & North	Replace 140 Deg. Pump Motor, et.	\$1730.25
04/15/09	Fitzgerald & North	Replace Hot Water Pump Coupling & new Piping	\$2017.15
04/16/09	Fisk	Repair Roof Drain	\$217.50
06/12/09	MacAllister	Repair Transfer Switch	\$1096.11
06/24/09	Fitzgerald & North	Check Chiller Compressors	\$259.00
06/24/09	Willoughby Indust.	Rebuild 2 Cell Toilets	\$1050.00
06/26/09	MacAllister	Annual PM/ Inspection	\$625.00
July 09	McDaniel Fire Systems	Repair/ Update Sprinkler System	\$1140.00
Total:			\$27201.11

January 2009 - June 2009

Miscellaneous Expenses (Plumbing parts, paint & materials, et.) \$3779.73

Current Repairs Needed:

McDaniel Fire Systems - replace 2 1" back flow assemblies, replace 4" back flow preventers:
\$4695.00.

Leach & Russell Mechanical - replace 2 1" backflow devices: \$2345.00.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Auditor)

Bond)

Commissioner Stevens made a motion to change the amount of the Auditor's Bond from \$15,000 to \$50,000 with an effective date of August 1, 2009 per the recommendation of the Hancock County Council. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Auditor is to have Walker Insurance increase the Bond.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock Co. Courthouse and Annex Heating and Cooling)

Trane Service Agreement Extension)

Commissioner Stevens made a motion to extend the Service Agreement with Trane for the Heating and Cooling. The Courthouse cost for \$15,037 and the Annex for \$20,365. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Commissioners' July 13, 2009 Meeting)

Minutes)

Commissioner Stevens made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2009 Commissioners' Meeting. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

In the Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Pavement Traffic Markings Bids)

Joseph Copeland Highway Engineer appeared before the Commissioners to open the bids for pavement traffic markings. There were three bids. The bids came in at Gridlock Traffic Systems \$98,303.93, Indiana Sign and Barricade Inc. \$84,336.80 and Highway Technologies Inc. \$125,897.04. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion for the bids to be taken under advisement by the County Engineer Joseph Copeland. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Fence in County Right-A-Way 550 North)

Larry Bowmer appeared before the Commissioners to inform them there is a fence in the right-a-way of county road 550 North. The highway is drafting a letter and coordinating with Ray Richardson asking the owner to tear down the fence or the county will tear it out.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Highway)

Herron Creek Road Bond)

Attorney Ray Richardson appeared before the Commissioners and informed them the county has been trying to collect on an \$80,000 Road Bond from Herron Creek. The road is 200 North.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Health Dept.)

Non-Smoking Ordinance)

Attorney Ray Richardson appeared before the Commissioners and informed them the business owners are being penalized if someone is violating the Non-Smoking 25 ft. ordinance outside their business. The Commissioners and Attorney Ray Richardson do not feel that was the intention of the ordinance to penalize the business owner. Attorney Ray Richardson said he was going to write an amendment to clarify the owner of the business was not to be penalized.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Weed Board)

Height And Density Of Weeds)

Attorney Ray Richardson appeared before the Commissioners to discuss amending the weed ordinance. The present height is 18 inches. The new height should be 12 inches. The new density will need to be researched before the decision can be made. Attorney Ray Richardson will prepare the amendment for the Commissioners to sign.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Ordinance)

Soliciting License Ordinance)

Commissioner Armstrong inquired about the county adopting a county wide Soliciting License Ordinance. They would register at the County Auditor's Office. Attorney Ray Richardson is going to investigate into the possibility the State of Indiana has a law about soliciting.

In The Matter Of)

Jackson Township Trustee)

Old Charlottesville School)

Bob McDaniel, Jackson Township Trustee, appeared before the Commissioners to inquire if they had an alternative because they had too many fire runs to the old Charlottesville School owned by Thomas and Betty Dick. The Dick's are using it for storage. Attorney Ray Richardson stated first you need to show it is unsafe and it is not a legitimate storage facility. The building inspector going out to see if it is unsafe would be step one.

In The Matter Of)

Blue River and Jackson Township Trustees)

Ambulance Service)

Paul Cooper Blue River and Bob McDaniel Jackson Township Trustees appeared before the Commissioners in reference to the letter the Commissioners sent out that in 2010 they are only going to fund one half of the county wide ambulance service and then in 2011 there will be 0 dollars. The trustees stated they had 0 dollars for ambulance service for their townships. The Commissioners informed them that by law the Commissioners were not required to fund county wide ambulance service and due to budget restraints the Commissioners were not going to be able to continue to provide the service.

In The Matter Of)

Senior Services)

Quarterly Claim)

Linda Hart appeared from Senior Services to present the quarterly claim to be signed for the Public Transportation. Senior Services made 4688 one way trips this last quarter.

In The Matter Of)

Senior Services)

Stimulus Package)

Linda Hart appeared before the Commissioners to inform them that the county received three new vehicles through the stimulus package. One of the new vehicles is a small bus. This will be very helpful for the larger wheel chairs. The older cars are being sold so they will have the same amount of vehicles. The vehicles will be in the counties name so the Commissioners instructed Senior Services to inform Walker Insurance and show the certificate of insurance.

In The Matter Of)

Association Of Indiana Counties)

Executor Director)

David Bottorff appeared from the Association Of Indiana Counties. He came just to offer his services to the County and the new Auditor if the county needed any help he was available. The Commissioners thanked him for his generosity.

In The Matter Of)

Surveyor Office)

Beam Longest and Neff)

Susan Bodkin appeared before the Commissioners to have them sign a contract with Beam Longest and Neff they had previously agreed to. The one report contains 3 prices with three options for \$1200.

In The Matter Of)

Prosecutor's Office)

Painting)

Dean Dobbins appeared before the Commissioners to show them a painting done by a local artist. The painting is of the Prosecutor's Office painted from the view of the Annex. He was trying to decide where would be the safest place to hang the painting. He decided he would probably put it in the Christmas auction.

In the Matter Of)

Prosecutor's Office)

Car)

Dean Dobbin's the County Prosecutor wanted the Commissioners to declare a car as a surplus. He felt recent repairs were costing more than the car was worth. The Commissioners agreed.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Department Heads)

Group Purchasing)

Hancock County Department Heads appeared before the Commissioners to participate in a discussion about Group purchasing. Twenty-four Dept. Heads or their representatives were present for the discussion. The Commissioners discussed targeting certain items to buy in bulk. The Commissioners stated if we buy as a group we can encourage vendors to compete for our dollars. We owe it to the taxpayers to be good stewards of their tax dollars. We want to remember we serve the taxpayers. Our budgets are getting tighter every year. Bernie Harris our I.T. person has developed a program where we can replace our old copiers by leasing new copiers at a cost of \$179 and that includes services and cartridges. We are now paying \$191 and that is just services for our old copiers. We are also looking at less expensive but more efficient phone services.

Commissioner Armstrong encouraged people to participate in the free health screening the county is providing. Our present health insurance is costing the county 1.9 million dollars. The county is looking at different types of alternatives that would be a better value for the county and provide better services for the employees. The Commissioners suggested bi-monthly meetings with department heads.

In The Matter Of)

Hancock County Buildings)

Repairs)

The Commissioners instructed the department heads when their office or building needs a repair, they are to call the Auditor's Office and talk to Robin, the Auditor, or her Chief Deputy, Rosemary, and report the needed repair. If they can't then their representative should make the call. She will then call one of the Commissioners and report the problem. The Commissioner will then give her permission to call the appropriate repair company.

The Recording stopped at 11:33A.M.

Hancock County Commissioners

Attest: _____

Robin D. Lowder
Hancock County Auditor