

## **Hancock County Board of Commissioners Minutes**

**September 6, 2011**

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President, Commissioner Derek Towle, Vice President, and Commissioner Tom Stevens. Auditor Robin D. Lowder was also present.

The meeting began at 8:08am.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:26am.

### **In The Matter of Hancock County Highway**

**Bid Date** - for liquid de-icer set for October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am

**Drug Testing** - since the state has now outlawed spice County Engineer Joe Copeland made a request to the Commissioners that drug test for spice can be added to non-INDOT testing at a cost of \$50.00 per test. Testing would be random and if an accident took place. The Commissioners support the spice drug testing at least through the end of 2011.

**Phyllis Miller** - who lives at 600S east of 575 East approached Joe Copeland regarding the right-of-way that was purchased from her approximately in 1986. Ms. Miller stated that she was promised the property would be returned to her if the right-of-way were no longer used. Joe Copeland has been unable to locate anything to support this. Commissioner Stevens moved for execution of a Quitclaim Deed from Hancock County to Phyllis Anita Miller as described in the document presented. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**Culvert Inspection** - Joe Copeland reported to the Commissioners that the final inspection was done on the culvert on 600W North of State Road 52. Only a few minor things such as sod on the West side of the Road have not been completed. The laying of the sod will start on September 12, 2011.

### **In The Matter of Hancock County Surveyor**

**Access** - Surveyor Susan Bodkins appeared before the Commissioners to request permission to enter through the County Farm to access the former railroad which was made into a regulated drain. They need to access trees and drudge out a small section. Commissioner Stevens moved to grant permission to the County Surveyor and her contractor to access the Regulated Drain across the County Farm between US 40 and the old railroad bed. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**Re-certification** - Susan Bodkin presented the Commissioners with the Community Rating System Annual Re-certification, required to be filed annually, stating we have performed the items related to flood plain management, Completion of this form allows residents within the flood zone to get a 10% reduction in their flood insurance.

### **In The Matter of 2012 Commissioner Meetings**

**2012 Schedule** - The 2012 Hancock County Board of Commissioner's schedule for 2012 was presented to the Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Towle moved for approval of the Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting schedule for the year 2012. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

### **In The Matter of Hancock County Clerk's Office**

**Precinct Boundaries** - County Clerk Marcia Moore appeared before the Commissioners to present information on the precinct boundaries. Adding one precinct would only cost the County the additional manpower and meals for that day. Ms. Moore feels that it would be more of a benefit to redraft the County after we determine what the impact of Voting Centers will be. As of now there would be approximately 17 additional precincts.

**Voting Districts** - Greenfield 1 will be divided into separate voting locations. Greenfield 1 would be divided into district 1N, district 1S, district 1E and district 1W. Vernon 1 will have two separate voting locations. This will need to be approved by the state and if approved will be in effect for the 2012 presidential election. Commissioner Towle moved for approval of the proposed changes. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

### **In The Matter of Subdivisions**

**Rose Crest Minor Subdivision and 350 West Major Subdivision** - Bill Evans of Nolan and Gibson Surveyors appeared before the Commissioners for approval of Rose Crest Minor Subdivision and 350 West Major Subdivision which include a dedicated 35 foot half right-of-way as per the County Highway's request.

Commissioner Stevens moved for approval of Rose Crest Minor Subdivision Plat which reflects the dedicated 35 1/2 foot right-of-way along the West side of County Road 350 West. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Stevens moved for approval of 350 West Major Subdivision Plat which reflects the dedicated 35 1/2 foot right-of-way along 350 West. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

### **In The Matter of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department**

**Sheriff Shepherd and Major Burkhart appeared before the Commissioners to discuss ordinances.**

**Speed Regulation** - if not posted on a County Road, the County Ordinance states the speed limit would be 45 mph. However, State Statute states the speed limit if not posted on a County Road will be 55 mph. Attorney Ray Richardson will prepare an Amendment to the Ordinance to meet State Statute.

**Curfew Violation** - it was discussed if using an Ordinance would be a better way to address curfew violations and help lower the cost. Attorney Ray Richardson will research the State laws for curfew Ordinances.

**Spice Ordinance** - The County Ordinance regarding spice is no longer needed since the State now has a law for the substance spice. Attorney Ray Richardson will prepare papers to repeal the County Spice Ordinance.

**Gun Law** - It was confirmed that the Ordinance for carrying weapons was changed accordingly to meet State law.

#### **In The Matter of Ordinance 2011-9A**

**Introduction** - Commissioner Stevens introduced Ordinance 2011-9A, an Ordinance Amending The Licensing Of Itinerant Merchants.

#### **In The Matter of Kids Play**

**Update** - It had been requested of the Auditor, by Christine Schaefer of Kids Play, to inquire if the Commissioners wanted her to appear at one of their meetings. Kids Play is beginning a new rental year. The Commissioners agreed there are no issues and it would not be necessary for Christine Schaefer to appear at one of the meetings.

#### **In The Matter of Stephen J. Christian & Associates, P.C.**

**Introduction** - Dick Robertson from Stephen J. Christian & Associates, P.C. appeared before the Commissioners to introduce himself, as he is new to the Company.

#### **In The Matter of Claim**

**Claims** – Commissioner Armstrong, Commissioner Towle and Commissioner Stevens signed claims presented to them.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41am.

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President

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Commissioner Tom Stevens

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Commissioner Derek Towle, Vice President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin D. Lowder  
Hancock County Auditor