

## Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Meeting

January 3, 2019

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioner's President Brad Armstrong, Vice President John Jessup and Commissioner Marc Huber. Auditor Debra Carnes, Deputy Auditor Trish George and County Attorney Ray Richardson were present.

***Sheriff Brad Burkhardt called the first Commissioner's Meeting of 2019 to order.***

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting began at 9:00 am. Commissioner Armstrong called to order the January 3, 2019 Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting. Commissioner Armstrong welcomed all newly elected officials and wished best of luck and that we will have good government for our continuants.

### Election of Officers

Commissioner Armstrong moved to nominate Commissioner Jessup as President of the Board of Commissioners for 2019. Commissioner Huber seconded. **Motion carried 3/0.**

Commissioner Humber moved to nominate Commissioner Armstrong as Vice President of the Board of Commissioners for 2019. Commissioner Jessup seconded. **Motion carried 3/0.**

### Highway Department

Gary Pool (Highway) appeared before the Board of Commissioners to discuss:

Reviewing a no cost change order for RDC for United. Basically we are changing the scope of work, but not authorizing more money to be spent by RDC for the additional work as a restructuring contract for more. Make it fit more with INDOTS current restrictions.

The mitigation project for the RDC will be let March 9, 2019. This will be a half million dollar project that will be funded and managed by the RDC.

There was a complaint regarding 150 North (a small road East of Cumberland) about trucking traffic. They wanted this road to be made a no trucking route. There is very few trucks on this road. I believe the complaint had to do with the late harvest going on this year. There was no accident data or issues found for this road. Gary explained this really wasn't an option at this time.

Gary should be getting two tri-axel trucks that were ordered for this year and last year. They built three total. Gary is trying to negotiate for the third that was built to his specs.

The next large project will be the Mitigation project in 2019. Then in 2020, 300 North to the (East of the RAB) will get built. Then in 2021, 600 West (North of the RAB) will be built. Then in 2022, the rest of the section within the county will be built. This will complete our sections within the county. McCordsville is working on their own projects. Gary will keep the

Commissioners appraised of the next RDC meeting. 500 North is the stop. The project on the North goes half mile into McCordsville. Gary said we are handling the drama, political and cost of that ROW project.

### **Claims**

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve claims as presented. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Commissioner Minutes**

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to approve Commissioners' Minutes for 12/18/18 as presented. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **2019 Appointments**

**Hancock County Drainage Board:** Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to appoint Ronnie Mohr to a 3 year term on the Hancock County Drainage Board ending January 31, 2022. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Planning Commission Board:** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint John Jessup to the Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2019. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Planning Commission Board:** Will check with Dan Craig to refill this position. This will be put on the Commissioners Action items list.

**Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA):** Will check with Dan Craig to refill this position. This will be put on the Commissioners Action items list.

**XPLEX Board:** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint George Langston to the XPLEX Board for a one year term ending December 31, 2019. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee:** Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to appoint Gary Pool to the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee for a term ending December 31, 2019. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Hancock Economic Development Council:** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Brad Armstrong to the Hancock Economic Development Council for a one year term ending December 31, 2019. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Hancock County Redevelopment Commission:** Four of these positions were filled at the 12/18/18 Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Armstrong will verify Mike McCarty for the Superintendent's term (a non-voting position).

**Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Board:** Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to appoint Marc Huber to the Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Board for a four year term ending December 31, 2022. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Board:** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint reappoint Robert Holland to the Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Board for a four year term ending December 31, 2022. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Alcoholic Beverage Commission:** Commissioner Armstrong will verify Bob Bucy to refill this position.

**Pioneer Cemetery Commission:** Verify Jennifer Burke, Ron Horning and Cyndie True to refill positions on the Commission expiring January 31, 2019. Commissioner Armstrong will verify with the Commission these appointments.

**Hancock Regional Hospital Board:** This is on the Commissioners Midterm Action items list to follow-up in June/July.

**Hancock County Health Officer:** Commissioners certify these appointment.

**Hancock County Board of Health:** Commissioners certify these appointments.

**Hancock County Emergency Operation Center Policy Board:** These positions are appointed when they are replaced. The Town Marshall is recommended by the township Marshals, so they need to bring a recommendation. The Fire Marshall is recommended by the Fire Chiefs, so they need to bring a recommendation. These positions are appointed till their successor is appointed.

**Public Defender Board:** No changes needed.

**Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA):** This is on the Commissioners Midterm Action items list. Will check last year's minutes, this may not have been filled in 2018.

**Hancock County Library Board:** Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to appoint Zach Schroer to the Hancock County Library Board for a term ending May 1, 2021. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Fortville/Vernon Township Library:** Information is out of date. This can be verified in the May Commissioner meeting minutes.

**Weed Board:** This Board is no longer needed Dean Falkening does a good job.

**Central Indiana Regional Workforce Board:** Commissioner Jessup made a motion to appoint Marc Huber to the Central Indiana Regional Workforce Board for a one year term ending December 31, 2019. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Work Force Development Board (WorkOne) Appointment:** Need to find someone. Did not refill this position in 2018.

**Indianapolis Airport Authority:** Kurt Schleiter filled this position was expiring in December 31, 2018.

**Airport Authority Land Use Advisory Committee:** Expired, need to find someone for this position.

**Chief Elected Official:** Commissioner Armstrong clarified this position was dropped.

**Tourism Commission Board:** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Travis McMichael, Bob Mattsy, Will Ronan and Carolyn Flynn to the Tourism Commission Board for a two year term ending December 31, 2020. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion.  
**Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Payroll**

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve payroll as presented. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Workers Comp Issue**

Sheriff Burkhardt introduced new appointments; Major Robert Campbell is now the Chief Deputy and Captain Robert Harris is Law Enforcement Division Captain. Keith Oliver will remain Jail Commander. Captain Ted London is the Division Commander for investigations. This is the top leadership staff for the Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Burkhardt concerned with worker's comp pay for an officer injured in the line of duty. The officer tore ligaments in his arm and sustained a concussion. Worker's comp pay is 63% of what the officer's salary. Sheriff Burkhardt feels the officer is being punished by not receiving his full salary. Sheriff Burkhardt remembers when the Workers Comp check could be turned into the county and the officer was reimbursed full pay. He tries to get officers back as soon as possible working light duty. Commissioner Armstrong said the reimbursement is set by Worker's Comp. Commissioner Huber said he does not want any employee feeling like they are punished for an injury on the job. He does feel a change like this should be for all employees not just one department. If full salary is not offered county wide, many county employees would not feel this is fair and this would cause issues. Sheriff Burkhardt requested the Commissioners consider full salary for officers injured in the line of duty.

### **Recovery Houses**

Josh Sipes (Chief Probation Officer) and Brent Eaton (Prosecutor) requested funds for Recovery Houses. The Progress Recovery House contract is May 1, 2018 through May 1, 2020. In talking with the previous Auditor, this was funded through Food & Beverage and not budgeted, Josh wants to be sure he can pay half of \$73,000 (\$36,500) for the Progress

Recovery House to maintain our contract for beds there. Josh is requesting approval to spend \$36,500. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to fund the remaining portion of the contract with Progress Recovery House for 2019. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Josh requested approval for himself and the Prosecutor to negotiate with Dove Recovery House for additional recovery beds. Commissioner Huber made a motion to allow the Prosecutor and the Probation Department to continue discussion with Dove Recovery House to bring back options for recovery beds. Discussion; Brent (Prosecutor) The practical side, the longer to lock-in the better the price. This is requested annually, but a two year contract would allow for a better price. But because of the way this is budgeted this allows for more uncertainty. Commissioner Jessup suggested putting it in as a line item under Food & Beverage. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Josh also requested funds for the Pre-Trial Supervision Officer for 2019, because this happened after submission of the 2019 Department Budgets. The former Auditor suggested this entirety to come out of Food & Beverage, with the hopes of moving to County General Fund. Commissioners agreed this was already a position and referred Josh to the Hancock County Council for funding.

#### **Contract Termination**

Katie Molinder (Assessor) requested termination of the contract with Nexus for annual adjustments and field work. Per the contract this requires a 30 day notice. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to terminate the contract with Nexus Group Inc that was signed 12/19/17 with a 30 day notice from this date 1/4/19. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

#### **Vacation Carry Over**

Judge Sirk requested 41.50 hrs vacation carry over for an employee. Commissioners remarked they just denied a vacation carryover for one of their staff at the previous Commissioner meeting. Commissioners would like for Judge Sirk to explain the special circumstances for this request. Commissioner Armstrong said the idea behind vacation pay is that it is used and it does not carry over. Under special circumstances we have allowed it for very limited circumstances and normally not nearly that amount. There is no explanation of any special circumstances or reason why we should change the rules on that. We are not going to vote on this at this time. If Judge Sirk could come in tell us why to make an exception with this policy, our policy is not to carry over vacation time it is to be used during the year. The theory is have a rested worker and not a liability we can't pay.

**Stellar Grant Plaque**

Commissioner Armstrong represented the Board of Commissioners at the Stellarbration. Greenfield received a Stellar Grant. Fortville was kind enough to make and present a plaque to Commissioner Armstrong on behalf of the Hancock County Board of Commissioners.

**Executive Session**

An Executive Session has been scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2019 at 11am.

**The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:00 am**

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner John Jessup, President

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice-President

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Commissioner Marc Huber

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Carnes  
Hancock County Auditor