

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Meeting

February 18, 2020

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioner's President John Jessup, Vice President Brad Armstrong, Commissioner Marc Huber, County Attorney Scott Benkie, Auditor Debra Carnes and Trish George Secretary to Commissioners and County Council. Commissioner Jessup called to order the February 18, 2020 Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:00 AM.

Commissioner Jessup announced we lost a great leader and part of our Community this weekend, Sheriff Nick Gulling and requested a moment of silence.

Highway

- Gary Pool notified Commissioners he won 3 of the category 4 grants. Bridge 36, Bridge 95 and Stinemyer Road will be funded.
- Diesel Hot Box found. Gary would like get out of propane and into diesel.
- Need to consider next big capital projects (600 West North, 300 North, 600 East, 600 West South to County Line).
- Gary discussed the funding won to connect Stinemyer Road to the High School.

Regional Detention Studies

Susan Bodkin (Surveyor) requested signatures for the Regional Detention Studies. The studies were approved by the County Council. Commissioner Huber made a motion to enter into the Professional Services Agreement with Christopher Burke Engineering for the two studies on the proposed Regional Detention areas as presented. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Maintenance

- Dean Mullins updated commissioners on maintenance.
- Dean notified Commissioners the Memorial Building was almost finished.
- Commissioner Jessup notified Dean he referred Jennifer Payne (Johnson Controls) to contact him for a Thursday tour of the facilities to research saving the county money.
- Commissioner Huber notified Dean he will have partitions delivered for the Commissioners Room for early voting. He asked Dean to work with Lisa Lofgreen (Clerk) to set-up the partitions.

Drainage Issues

Jeff Grey discussed drainage issues with the Commissioners. He purchased his home in 2017 and has water backing up on his land. He has had eight major floods and the flooding is destroying his septic system. Jeff said by trade he is a machinist, he repairs engines and has lost many engines due to this flooding. He has purchased pumps, pipes, hoses and clothes to aide in the flooding. Jeff has contacted Susan Bodkin the surveyor regarding the drainage issues. Jeff would like to know if there is anything the Commissioners can do. Commissioner Armstrong asked if the previous property owners disclosed any flooding issues. Jeff responded no. Susan Bodkin (Surveyor) said there was a petition signed and an engineering study was completed. It would cost about \$550 per acre for reconstruction. Susan suggest Jeff talk to the bigger land owners to agree to reconstruction fees. Commissioner Armstrong suggested Jeff look at options to do on

his property. Commissioner Huber suggested getting some neighbors to sign up and pay for a water shed in his area.

Annex Building Renovation

Commissioners, Recorders Office, Prosecutors Office, Probation Department and IT Department discussed renovations to assist facility needs. Brent Eaton (Prosecutor) suggested a stand-alone temporary trailer in the parking lot, but the biggest issue would be security. Brent expressed serious concerns with safety. Commissioner Huber stated he is embarrassed to have people work in that building and he feels it is unsafe for employees. Commissioner Armstrong asked Bernie Harris (IT Director) if his department was moved to EOC and one employee kept at the Annex, would this work for him? Bernie said yes, but a switch would be needed at a cost of (\$8,000). A united public access area was discussed. Debra Carnes (Auditor) is concerned with space for Auditor's office books. Janice Silvey (Treasurer) said all she would need is a computer. Marcia Moore (Recorder) also expressed a concern with space for Recorder's books. Commissioner Armstrong said in 30 days he would like to get a program together. Brent (Prosecutor) would like to move only child support services, versus moving all of the Prosecutors office. Commissioner Jessup said this will be discussed at the Commissioners next meeting, March 3rd at 9 AM.

Public Hearing / Vacate Alley / Adopt Ordinance 2020-2B

Commissioner Jessup **called to order the Public Hearing at 9:29 AM** to vacate an alley at 2235 W US 40 and adopt Ordinance 2020-2B. Commissioner Jessup asked if there was anyone to speak in opposition to the vacation; calling once, calling twice, calling three times; seeing there is no opposition Commissioner Jessup **closed the Public Hearing at 9:30 AM**. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-2B. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Update Indianapolis Airport Authority Board

Kurt Schleiter updated the Commissioners on Indianapolis Regional Airport. Kurt is the Hancock County Indianapolis Airport Authority appointed Board Member. Kurt attends monthly board meetings. The IAA built the airport and owns it on the west side of the county. They maintain the common facility, the fence, they mow the common areas and they do snow removal on the runways, taxiways and common roadways. They also provide a storage area for airplane fuel, they deal with the FFA regarding approaches and air traffic control. The IAA leases the T-hangers to individual airplane owners. T-hangers hold one airplane for the small users (electricity provided). They lease land to others with long term leases; if they agree to build the appropriate structure and provide specific services. They rent to Fixed Base Operator (FBO); this is a private profit seeking business. FBO's are for small terminals and they want to provide a customs portal. We would be the fourth terminal in Indiana to provide international border protection. People could fly from Canada or the islands to Indianapolis, so they wouldn't have to go to the big airport. This is on their wish list.

Rezone from A to RR / Ordinance 2020-2D

Mike Dale (Planning Department) presented a rezone request for 3.261 acres from A to RR at 7901 N 250 E. Commissioner Armstrong introduced Ordinance 2020-2D, an Ordinance to amend the zoning code from A to RR. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-2D. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

New Hancock County Economic Development Commission (EDC)

- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) requested the Economic Development Commission be recreated for the Hancock Health Project (\$20M), Nine Star Project (\$3M) and the Amazon project for road improvements. The RDC and the County Council have agreed to support this. There will be an interplay of private funds and public funds; the lawyers said running this through the EDC will be the cleanest way to do this. The County Council had a special meeting and did their Resolution to create the EDC; they nominated Councilmember Noe to be their representative. By statute the County Council nominates one member, the Commissioners nominate one member and a city within the county nominates one member. Then the Commissioners appoint each nominee. Commissioner Huber asked if there was a sunset on this Resolution. Randy replied no. Commissioner Armstrong stated it would have been nice to have a formal presentation from each involved in this project. The Commissioners agreed. Commissioner Armstrong asked if Randy could explain what the intentions for this are. Randy said the hospital is putting in infrastructure (water/sewer lines, utilities and roadwork), Nine Star is building a water tower and Amazon will do roadwork. The EDC will be established to manage two bonds and reimbursement. Commissioner Armstrong said so basically this group is going to have authority over Economic Development income taxes spent by the County Council and also TIF money that's being collected in the TIF district for the designated projects; am I stating that correctly. Randy replied I think so. Commissioner Armstrong said road project is a \$4M we were going to do in 4 years, but there is a state grant to pay \$500,000. Commissioner Jessup said basically we are flipping, instead of 80/20, its 25/75; we paying 75% instead of 20% to get this in 4 years. Commissioner Huber questioned why isn't the three projects laid out in the Resolution, with no sunset, no definitive numbers; he would like to see this laid out cleaner. Commissioner Armstrong said you are asking us to sign off on \$24.5M with second hand information on these projects. Randy said that is an overbroad statement. I am asking today to appoint three people to work that up and it comes back to Commissioners. Commissioner Huber said in essence that's the reason to spend \$24M in a TIF district. Commissioner Armstrong agreed. Randy clarified the separation of powers are that you appoint the three Commissioners to it. Randy said the actual creation of EDC and scope of work is within the confines of the County Council.
- Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to appoint Marc Huber to a three year term ending 1/31/23. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Armstrong questioned what if we do not agree with a nominee? Randy said Commissioners can appoint or reject nominees. Commissioner Huber said I have a problem with this document and the commission governing a \$24M taxpayer commitment. Commissioner Armstrong said to feel safe in the fact if this goes in a direction we don't like as a board, we wouldn't have a majority of votes to stop something. In light of that, he would like to see attached to the Resolution specifics for the three projects. Because it is open ended and it could get away from us and this board would not have any control. If the County Council and the City of Greenfield chose to massively get into a big project and the Board of Commissioners didn't agree with it, we would not have a way to prevent that excess spending. Randy said I can talk to Council about some amendments to the Resolution to include a sunset and a scope of projects. Commissioner Jessup would like to table this until limits of projects are in Resolution. This will be continued to the March 3rd meeting.

Out of State Travel Request

- Ashley Hamilton (E-911) requested approval for two out of state travel events.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve travel for John Jokantas and Jason Haddix for the Motorola Equipment Inspection from 3/11-3/12 and for Bryce Viehweb, Keri Brady and Kay Wallace for the PATC Hostage Negotiators I & II class from 9/20-9/25. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Ashley requested a credit card for travel in E-911. Commissioners respectfully declined issuing a credit card. They did not feel this was a good policy.

Claims / Payroll

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

Commissioner Minutes

Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to approve the Commissioner Minutes for 2/4/2020 as presented. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Accept Bonds

Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the performance bond for Clayton Properties Group Inc. in the amount of \$56,837.53 for Sagebrook Sec 4 Erosion Control. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Johnson Controls

Jennifer Payne discussed with Commissioners the Phase I Preliminary audit for cost savings. Commissioner Armstrong would like the utility bills reviewed, the Courthouse Building, the Annex Building, Memorial Building, the jail administration, Prosecutors Office, Community Corrections, Highway Department, Purdue Extension and EOC. Jennifer said it will take a couple weeks to review information and she will report back.

Sheriff's Department

- Commissioner Huber made a motion to declare surplus three MSA SCBA's and six bottle brackets. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the quote from Seiler for the total station for the Sheriff's Department for a total of \$64,177.70 to be paid out of bond proceeds. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 10:43 AM.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner John Jessup, President

Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice-President

Commissioner Marc Huber

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor