

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

March 3, 2015

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

Auditor Robin D. Lowder was also present.

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:20 a.m.

Highway Department

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

Highway Operations Report – The 2014 Highway Operations Report was presented to the Commissioners. Commissioner Stevens moved acceptance of the Annual Highway Operations Report for Local Road and Streets for year ending December 31, 2014. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Bridge# 16 Design – Permission requested for the Bridge# 16 located at 1000N and Nashville Road, to begin negotiations with Beam Longest & Neff for design. Commissioner Stevens moved to instruct the Highway Department to begin negotiations with BLN for Bridge# 16. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Road School – Gary Pool will be out of the office to attend Road School on March 10, 2015 thru March 12, 2015. He will remain in touch with the Staff and Randy Moore or Mike Milner will be there.

Tree Removal – at 500 W. and 300 S. there has been a reduction in accidents since removal of trees.

CDL Program – Approval is requested for a program that would reimburse new employees for the CDL test and physical (approximately \$250.00) and would require a 1 year work commitment to the County. If employee already has CDL then will be hired at a higher rate. The Commissioners would like a Memorandum of Record for them and the County Attorney to review.

Trail Connection – The connection with the Pennsy Trail at 600 W. needs to be redesigned for connectivity. This will require an additional \$4,000.00 for the design. There is a total of \$8,600 in the 200 S. extension. \$4,000.00 of those funds could be used on this design. Commissioner Huber moved to allow the Highway Superintendent to negotiate the 600 W. trail connection change. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Public opinion of John Priore - stated he is not happy about the trail project as it is taking asphalt funds from the roads and the groups are passing the CIP process. Commissioners Stevens commented he shared some of Mr. Priore's concerns.

I-70 – There is right-of-way at 700 W. and I-70 where people dump trash. INDOT says the property is not theirs. Gary Pool commented he thought we should determine who the owner is. The Commissioners commented the County would have to clean up the trash even if the State owned it.

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

Minutes – Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the minutes for the February 17, 2015 meeting of the Hancock County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Bond Acceptance – Acceptance of a Performance Bond from Platinum Properties Management in the amount of \$3,188.00 for Emerald Springs Section 4B monuments and markers. Commissioner Stevens moved to accept the bond from Platinum Properties Management in the amount of \$3,188.00 for work in Emerald Springs, Section 4B. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Bond Release – Release of a Performance Bond to R & F Development, Inc. in the amount of \$2,000.00 for Briarwood Trace, Section 5 monuments. Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the release of a Performance Bond to R & F Development, Inc. in the amount of \$2,000.00 for monuments. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Greenfield in Bloom Project

Quotes – The quotes for landscaping were opened at 8:30 a.m. There were four quotes as follows:

- New Life Lawn & Landscape \$7,878.00
- Ground Control Service \$8,443.41
- Green Management Outdoor Solutions \$6,384.25
- Howard Services \$7,731.13

Commissioner Stevens moved the bids be turned over to Marcia Moore and Attorney Ray Richardson to review and provide the recommendation later in the meeting. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Surveyor

Brass Monuments – approval is requested to declare brass monuments that have been pulled up to be declared as surplus so they can be sold as scrape metal. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

City of Greenfield and Westport homes

Notice – Surveyor Susan Bodkin gave the Commissioners notice that the City will be entering into an agreement with Westport Homes for Sawmill and there will be an escrow so the City can design, install and complete the project. The bond will not be released until after the work is complete.

Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance

Renewal – Doug Walker of Walker & Associates, Incorporated appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the renewal of the Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance for the County. Mr. Walker stated the last two years have improved. It was commented the safety meeting has been an added benefit. Higher premiums are due to exposure inflation increase such as new equipment and increases in payroll. Commissioner Stevens moved to renew the coverage through Walker & Associates, Incorporated with Bliss McKnight for an amount not to exceed \$673,033.00. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Landscaping Quotes

Recommendation - There were four quotes for Landscaping. The lowest bidder Green Management Outdoor Solutions' bid was invalid because there was no License included and they didn't sign Warranty or Commitment Documents. The next bid from Howard Services is recommended. Commissioner Stevens moved to accept the bid from Howard Services in the amount of \$7,731.13. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Greenfield Main Street

Use of Courthouse Lawn – Shelly Swift from Greenfield Main Street appeared before the Commissioners to request use of the Courthouse Lawn on the North side for the National Road Yard Sale on May 30, 2015. Approval requested to place a bike in front of the Courthouse Annex for Bikes in Bloom from April 18th to May 16th. Approval is also requested to use the South side of the Courthouse for Chalk Fest September 19th. Commissioner Stevens moved approval of the request from Greenfield Main Street for the National Road Yard Sale on May 30, 2015, Bikes in Bloom from April 18th to May 16th and Chalk Fest on September 19th. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Sheriff

Tasers Contract- The State Board of Accounts felt the program/contract requires you to pay for the second set of Tasers before receiving them. County Government cannot pay for any products before receiving them. Without this program it will cost the County additional funds.

Padded Cell – a quote was presented to the Commissioners for repair of the padded cell from Padded Surfaces by B & E in the amount of \$7,635.00. Commissioner Huber moved to accept the bid from Padded Surfaces by B & E in an amount not to exceed \$7,635.00 to be paid out of Sheriff Department funds. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Domestic Water Heater – The heater supplies hot water for the whole jail. A quote was presented from Fitzgerald & North with two options. First option would be having two boilers and either one can operate individually at a cost of \$9,750.00. Second option is to purchase a water heater and store it to use if the existing one fails with a cost of \$4,680.00. Commissioners feel this should go through the Capital Improvement Plan process.

Court Security – A quote was presented to the Commissioners for a walk through metal detector for the Courthouse. The quote from Protective Technologies Int'l is in the amount of \$3,698.12. This company also gave a quote for an X-Ray Security System for \$27,012.61. The Commissioners think because of Security issues the East door should be the only point of entry for the Courthouse with audible alarms on the other entrances. They would like to have the only one point of entry system completed during the year 2015.

Surplus Car – The Sheriff's Department has an impala that the E.O.C. could use to replace mileage reimbursement. The car would be used for meetings, trainings and other business during on duty hours. The Commissioners requested the director of E.O.C. demonstrate how use of the car would be more beneficial and economical versus mileage reimbursement to the County.

Mass Notification – There were notifications sent out for the winter storm warning early mornings and there were some complaints. For now there will be a black out of notifications from 11:00p.m. to 6:00 a.m. for winter warnings only. The annual cost for the system is \$19,800.00 and was not appropriated into the 2015 Budget. This will be discussed in the Budget meeting and with the Council.

Federal Equitable Share Agreement – The Equitable Share Agreement was presented to the Commissioners for signature. Commissioner Stevens moved approval of execution of the Federal Equitable Share Agreement. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Planning Department

Rezoning - Brett Kelly appeared before the Commissioners to request rezoning for the property located on 400 W. in McCordsville. The family has owned the property since 1854 and would like to have the zoning changed on the 10 ac tract so he can make this his home. It is currently zoned light industrial. They have never requested any rezoning and there is no special exception that would allow for a home on the property. The Commissioners would like to find a solution so he can have his home on the property. The Commissioners will support a rezone and want Mr. Kelly to be sure the adjoining property does not want to be rezoned as well.

Action Items

Ordinance 2015-3A – Richard Garrett appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the findings of the Septic Installation Committee. Commissioner Huber stated he was not happy with the direction taken from the meeting as he felt there should have been more time to process where he stood on the issue. Commissioner Stevens stated he is still concerned as we do not keep a list of electricians or plumbers so why Septic Installers. There was discussion on the pros and cons. Commissioner Stevens moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2015-3A, An Ordinance Amending The Authority Of The Board Of Health And Repealing The Requirement That The Board Of Health Maintain A List Of Sewage Disposal Installers.

Unsafe Buildings – Scott Williams appeared before the Commissioners to discuss unsafe buildings in the County. The Commissioners feel the first step will be to have County Attorney Ray Richardson write a letter to the property owners. Attorney Richardson is also going to do some research on the law concerning Unsafe Buildings. He thinks there have been some changes.

Ordinance 2015-3B – An Ordinance Limiting Part-Time Hours. This Ordinance states no part time person may work over 1500 hours between December 1 and November 30. Commissioner Stevens Introduced Ordinance 2015-3B

Court Appearances: There was a question if the County would allow paid time for personal appearance in Court. County Personnel Policy only provides for serving on Juries not personal Court appearance. Commissioners agree policy should remain unchanged.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President

Commissioner Tom Stevens, Vice President

Commissioner Marc Huber

Attest: _____

Robin D. Lowder
Hancock County Auditor