

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
January 5, 2021

Commissioners met for a regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioner John Jessup, Commissioner Marc Huber, Commissioner Bill Spalding, County Attorney Scott Benkie and Auditor Debra Carnes.

Sheriff Brad Burkhart officially called to order the Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting on January 5, 2021 at 8:00 AM and welcomed the new commissioner, Commissioner Spalding.

Board of Commissioners Election of Officers

- Commissioner Huber made a motion to elect John Jessup as Hancock County's Commissioner President for 2021. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Spalding made a motion to elect Marc Huber as Hancock County's Commissioner Vice President for 2021. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Highway Updates

- The Highway Engineer notified commissioners Hancock County had a fatality at Bridge 60, 200 N west of the Sugar Creek bridge. Currently waiting on the police report to follow.
- Community Crossing Grant (CCMG) for next year; plan to micro surface Fortville Pike, 600 N and 1050 E, otherwise they may be chip sealed.
- Remote cameras have been added to Bridge 105, due to a graffiti problem.
- INDOT manages the bids for Pennsy Trail and the winning bid bond (Hoosier Pride) was incomplete and was moved to the second bidder (E&B Paving) at \$20,000.
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) options will be added. Currently finishing 600 W in Hancock County. This allows commissioners an option to be more competitive on jobs for 300 N, 200 W and 600 E.

Claims & Payroll

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve claims and payroll. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Minutes

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the Commissioners minutes for December 29, 2020 as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Auditor Request Part-time to Full-Time Employee

- Auditor requested a part-time employee move to full-time.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to recommend to Council the need for the Commissioners Secretary to move full-time from part-time and give credit for the two years of service with the appropriate pay increase. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Auditor Request New Full-Time Deputy for Benefits/Payroll Deputy

- Auditor expressed need for additional deputy for benefits/payroll department. Currently one person fills this position for benefits and payroll for almost 300 county employees. Another deputy assisted but transferred to accounts payable. The additional deputy will assist with benefits and policies to work along with the payroll deputy and consult with the county attorney as needed.
- Commissioners discussed a human resource employee for this position. Commissioner Huber suggested a contracted HR person. Commissioner Jessup disagreed he felt this was adding someone additional that payroll/benefits has to work with and not someone alleviating her workload. Commissioner Spalding felt someone strictly in benefits would be beneficial. The Auditor stressed the county has grown exponentially and Payroll/Benefits needs relief now and appreciated them allowing the discussion. Commissioner Huber would like to talk with Walker Hughes Agency. Commissioners would like this settled by the end of the first quarter 2021.
- Commissioner Jessup agreed to discuss at the budget meeting tomorrow.

Maintenance Update

- Maintenance Department asked Commissioners if they had an MOU for maintenance at the Memorial Building to address maintenance issues and responsibilities.
- Commissioner Huber discussed the tree removal at the Purdue Building and leaving stumps versus removing stumps. Keeping the trees off the building and fence is the goal. Commissioners estimated a trim could cost \$6,000-\$8,000; or \$18,000-\$20,000 to remove the trees. Commissioner Huber will get estimates to remove trees at the Purdue Extension Building.

Pennsy Trail Appraisals

- President of Pennsy Trails requested signatures for the Statements of the Basis for Just Compensation for Parcel 1, Parcel 2 and Parcel 3.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the purchase of the three parcels for the Pennsy Trail as presented for a grand total of \$87,000 to be paid out of Economic Development to be reimbursed by DNR Grant. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

RQAW Update on New Jail

The Director of Construction Services for RQAW reported the jail is progressing on schedule and should be complete November/December of 2021.

Board Appointments

- *Advisory Board of Citizens Energy Group.* Commissioner Huber is checking into appointments for this group.
- *Airport Authority Land Use Advisory Committee.* Commissioner Huber made a motion to re-appoint George Langston to the Airport Authority Land Use Advisory Committee with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- *Alcoholic Beverage Commission.* Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Brad Armstrong to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

- **Area Planning Commission.** Commissioner Jessup made a motion to re-appoint Michael Long to the Area Planning Commission with a term ending January 31, 2024. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Area Planning Commission.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Bill Spalding to the Area Planning Commission with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Bill Spalding to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Board of Finance.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to reappoint John Jessup to the Board of Finance with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Board of Health.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to recertify Christopher Kimmey, MD and Ray Schreiber to the Board of Health with a term ending December 31, 2024. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Jessup requested the Auditor verify with the Board of Health they needed these board members re-certified.
- **Central Indiana Workforce Board.** Commissioner Jessup made a motion to re-appoint Marc Huber to the Central Indiana Workforce Board with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Community Correction Advisory Board** discussed if a Commissioner could sit on the board. County Attorney agreed to look into the statute for the board. Commissioner Spalding volunteered to sit on this board.
- **Drainage Board.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint John Jessup and Bill Spalding to the Drainage Board with a term ending December 31, 2024. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Drainage Board.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Marc Huber to the Drainage Board with a term ending December 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Economic Development Council.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint John Jessup to the Economic Development Council. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee.** Commissioner Jessup made a motion to appoint Marc Huber to the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee with a term ending December 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Gary Pool to the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee with a term ending December 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Technical Committee.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Gary Pool and Mike Dale as the alternate to the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Technical Committee with a term ending December 31, 2024. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Pioneer Cemetery Commission.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to re-appoint John Henderson and Nancy Leach to the Pioneer Cemetery Commission for a term ending January 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

- **Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA).** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Jeff Hill and Cathy Hall to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals with a term ending December 31, 2021. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Redevelopment Commission (RDC).** Commissioner Huber will inquire.
- **Regional Water & Sewer District Board.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint John Jessup, Marc Huber, Bill Spalding and Auditor Debra Carnes as Secretary to the Regional Water & Sewer District Board with a term expiring December 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Solid Waste Management District Board.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint John Jessup and Bill Spalding to the Solid Waste Management District Board with a term expiring December 31, 2024. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Tourism Commission.** Commissioner Huber made a motion to re-appoint John Goss, Bob Mattsy and Janet Jarson to the Tourism Commission with a term expiring December 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber requested an update from Tourism.
- **Work Force Development Board.** Auditor will check into this board.

Sheriff's Update

Sheriff presented information to Commissioners on a new sheriff's app. The app should be covered through the COVID Cares Act. County Council has given approval to advertise for additional appropriation for the app. The app shows incarcerated inmates, call to service, sheriff's department calls (2 hour delay), COVID information, submit a tip, vacation request, extra patrol request, sex offender information, accident reports, gun permit information, jail information. Commissioner Jessup verified total cost is \$29,980 and \$69.95 after four years. Sheriff confirmed.

NineStar Live Feed for Meetings

- IT Director introduced Chief Technologist for NineStar to present information on live feed for meetings in the Commissioners Court. The Chief Technologist discussed a proposal from NineStar for live feeds for meetings. NineStar proposed broadcasting the commissioners meeting on NineStar's Channel 9 (a local access public station), then 24 hours after posted on their website along with archived meetings which would be available to the public for 3-4 years. NineStar would like the first 24 hours be available exclusively on their Channel 9. NineStar would like to broadcast the County Council meeting, the BZA and the Planning Commission; and for this NineStar would provide a \$6,000 stipend for upgrades to the cameras, microphones or anything needed to make the meetings accessible.
- Commissioners agreed they would like to see a proposal.

Resolution 2021-1-1 Emergency COVID Sick Leave Discussed

- Commissioner Huber introduced Resolution 2021-1-1 for COVID-19 Sick Policy 2021 and read into minutes.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-1-1. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Payroll/Benefits Administrator will email to all departments.

Treasurer's Replacement Employee

- Treasurer requested a replacement employee.

- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve a replacement employee for the treasurer's office. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner John Jessup, President

Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice-President

Commissioner Bill Spalding

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor