

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
June 15, 2021

Commissioners met for a regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioners President John Jessup, Commissioner Vice President Marc Huber, Commissioner Bill Spalding, Auditor Debra Carnes and County Attorney Scott Benkie. Commissioner Jessup called to order the June 15, 2021 Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:00 AM.

Highway Department

- Gary Pool (Highway Engineer) requested signatures for Bridge 18 construction contract.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to enter into the construction contract with CHA Consulting Inc. for construction inspection of Hancock County Bridge 18 DES #1600949 in an amount not to exceed \$193,147,72 as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Discussed House Bill 1190 for local truck permitting for weight limits. Commissioner Spalding asked if Hancock County roads are weight rated? Engineer Pool said our roads are good for regular trucks of 80,000 lbs, but unfortunately some trucks push 120,000 lbs.
- Discussed RFP's for Bridge 146, 85 and Seg F.
- Noted utilities are experiencing supply issues and are unpredictable at this time.
- 50 W requested to be converted to a gravel road to reduce vehicle speed. They may attend a meeting and request a gravel road. All on the county road would have to agree for this to happen.
- Commissioner Huber read into minutes micro-surfacing and traffic painting bids for 2021:
 - Pavement Solutions Inc. \$1,113,296.20
 - Pavement Maintenance Systems LLC \$911,700.80
 - Micro Surfacing Contractors LLC \$1,278,877.16
 - American Pavement Inc. \$1,058,650
- The engineer and county attorney will review bids and go with the lowest responsible qualified bid.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the micro surface quotes and allow time for the County Attorney and Highway Engineer to review and come back with a recommendation. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Highway Engineer reviewed the bids and made recommendations to the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the bid from Pavement Maintenance Systems LLC for the micro surface and striping as designated on the quote in the amount of \$911,700.80. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Penny Trails Update

- Penny Trails President Mary Ann Wietbrock updated Commissioners on Penny Trails progress and requested signatures on a contract.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to enter into the contract with WSP USA Inc. for the design for the Penny Trails from 500 W to 600 W with the changes made today with the presented contract in an amount not to exceed \$153,878. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Ms. Wietbrock discussed with Commissioners signing a DNR Conservation document, similar to one they signed before that will be presented in July.

Facility Management

- Commissioners discussed Facility Manager's job description. Auditor Carnes offered to upload the job description on the website. Commissioners requested the County Attorney and Auditor review the job description, send to them and then advertise. Commissioner Huber said if applicants can turn resumes into Auditor's office, Commissioners can then review resumes and select 3-4 applicants. Interviews can be set up in the afternoon for every half hour or so.
- Dean Mullins (Facility Manager) updated Commissioners on county buildings.
- Fire Marshal said it is ok to remove the old metal fire escape at the Memorial Building.
- Facility Manager Mullins informed Commissioners offices are requesting to remove plexiglass from workstations. Commissioners agreed departments could remove plexiglass, it is up to each individual department.
- Commissioner Huber said he would contact the lawn care for E-911 to cut additional lawn area.

IT Department

Bernie Harris (Director) discussed concerns with social media and needing a county policy. He noted several departments have social media accounts. Commissioners requested Director Harris meet with the Safety Committee to discuss with Department heads.

RQAW Update on New Jail

Dustin Frye, Director of Construction Services for RQAW reported the jail continues to progress on schedule. He discussed with Commissioners information on a company to research admin furniture for the new jail. This would help alleviate work from the Sheriff's Department and the cost is \$15,000.

Public Hearing: Hospital Petition to Vacate

- Commissioner Jessup recessed regular business and opened a public hearing at 9:13 AM. Ron Pritzke (Attorney for Hancock Regional Hospital) and Philip Going (Accura Express Land Surveying) notified Commissioners they were here with a petition to vacate a public way. He provided appropriate paperwork to Commissioners and the Auditor. Commissioner Jessup asked if anyone present wanted to speak in opposition. Seeing none, Commissioner Jessup closed the public hearing at 9:13 AM.
- Commissioner Huber introduced Ordinance 2021-6B an ordinance vacating a public way for Huger Phelps Drive.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-6B. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Probation Department

- Josh Sipes (Chief Probation Officer) discussed funds not being directed appropriately according to statute.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the creation of a County Offender Transportation Fund. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to allow transfer of the Informal Adjustment Program fees into correct county fund per the statute. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

E-911

- John Jokantas (Director E-911) requested Commissioners signatures on the DC Group Contract with the requested change that was approved at the 6-1-21 Commissioner meeting. Commissioners signed the DC Group Contract.

- Director Jokantas requested approval for the repair work order from TK Elevator for the E-911 elevator. The County Attorney approved the work order for TK Elevator.

Proposed Court & Probation Handbook

Judge Marshall presented Commissioners and County Attorney with a revised Proposed Court & Probation Handbook which they intend to adopt July 1, 2021. The Judges feel they need a more tailored fit with the courts, probation requirements and outlines more uniquely to the courts.

Rezone: Ronald Schwier (CR 400 S % 100 W) 114 Acres

- Mike Dale (Executive Director Planning Department) discussed details of Ronald Schwier's request to rezone 114 acres from A to RR. He notified Commissioners this request received a favorable recommendation of 6-1 from the Planning Department. This is a rezoning of 114 acres from A to RR. There was a substantial amount of remonstrance on this project, but despite the remonstrance the request received a favorable recommendation.
- Philip Going (Accura Express Land Surveying) represented Ronald Schwier and discussed details of the acreage. Mr. Going discussed drainage issues and assisting with run-off.
- Commissioner Jessup asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition of the rezone request. Several surrounding landowners spoke against the rezone. Commissioner Huber clarified with the existing zoning currently they could build 1200 square foot manufactured houses and what they are proposing are 2200 square feet homes on 10 acre lots. If this goes through, there would be no manufactured homes. If this doesn't go through it could be worse than what is being proposed.
- Commissioner Spalding said he was one of the people on the Planning Commission Board that voted yes; based strictly on Mike Dale, Director of Planning Department who said this was consistent with the Comprehensive Plan issue. He clarified when you sit on the Planning Commission Board you are not allowed to talk to petitioners or remonstrators. Since that time, I have had the opportunity to speak with remonstrators and my current feeling on the project has changed too; I struggle with the drainage issues. It is not ideal for farming, but it is not desirable for building either. My inclination is to be in opposition to this request for rezone.
- Surveyor Going offered to meet with remonstrators. Commissioner Huber expressed he would like for remonstrators to meet to discuss concerns and hopefully concessions can be made. He expressed that he would like both sides to negotiate and meet in the middle.
- Commissioner Jessup said he can see both sides and has to take both sides into consideration. He said each landowner has rights on their property and what Mr. Schwier proposes to do does not violate anything he can already do. It seems they are raising the standard of what can be developed on the acreage. He feels discussions should be had.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to continue the Ronald Schwier rezone of 114 acres to a Public Hearing on July 20, 2021 at 9 AM. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Enterprise Fleet Management

- Derek Williard (Sr Client Strategy Manager) updated Commissioners on the county vehicle leases. New vehicles are being delayed with a 20 week minimum, due to microchip shortages.
- Commissioner Huber asked what the difference in cost is? Mr. Willard said \$2,000-\$3,000 more in cost. Commissioner Jessup asked for Mr. Willard to find cars for the Prosecutor, Court and Sheriff as soon possible. Commissioner Jessup asked for the Sheriff's Department to be listed separately from all other departments. Auditor Carnes offered to help set up with Enterprise.

Community Corrections

- Wade Kennedy (Executive Director) requested Commissioners signatures on a grant letter of support.
- Director Kennedy requested a replacement employee.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to allow the hiring of a Field Officer due to the retirement of an existing officer. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to sign the letter of support to Judicial Reinvestment Advisory Council for the Community Corrections and Probation Department grant funding from the state. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Walker Hughes Insurance

- Kevin Mandrell (Director of Employee Benefits) updated Commissioners on mitigating future healthcare costs. He noted 43% of patients do not comply with their doctor's direction and non-compliant patients drive the cost of insurance up.
- Director Mandrell offered to help offset the cost on ADA and FLMA, by hiring an FLMA resource if needed.
- Brian Brees (Sales Executive) discussed attending Safety Meetings and the IPEP Grant Program (80/20 split). The grant would pay 80% and county would be responsible for 20% of any safety related items to reduce workers comp injuries.

Hancock County Recorder

- Recorder Moore requested Commissioners to approve credit cards for the department.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the Hancock County Recorder to maintain a county credit card with a maximum limit of \$3,000 with Recorder Marcia Moore having the authorized signor amount of \$2,000 and the Chief Deputy to have the amount of \$1,000. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Hancock County Auditor

Auditor Carnes discussed IPEP training videos for Hancock County employees. Commissioner Huber said he is not opposed, but he wants to be sure the best training video is chosen. Brian Brees (Sales Executive with Walker Hughes) will work with Auditor Carnes to find the best training videos. Auditor Carnes clarified Commissioners will be advised prior to any training for Hancock County employees.

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 Commissioner minutes for May 18, 2021 and June 1, 2021, Executive Minutes for May 18, 2021 and June 1, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Gibson Teldata Agreement

Commissioner Spalding asked the County Attorney the status on the Gibson Teldata Agreement. The County Attorney informed Commissioners he is still working on it.

Accept Bonds

- Commissioner Spalding made a motion to accept the maintenance bond for Indiana Excavating Services LLC for \$83,491.91 for Centennial North storm drainage. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Spalding made a motion to accept the performance bond for DC Real Estate Holding, Inc. for \$4,500 for Centennial North monuments. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Spalding made a motion to accept the performance bond for Forestar Real Estate Group for \$1,562.50 for Mt. Vernon North Sec 2 monuments. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Ordinance Establishing the Medical Claims Reserve Fund

- Commissioners would like to know what the target balance would be for this fund. Commissioner Jessup said he believes Council should review the target balance resolution for this fund because it is running at 200% of the target balance. Commissioner Huber said he would like the target balance before a fund is approved. Auditor Carnes said Commissioners can discuss with Council and the Ordinance can be rescheduled for the next Commissioners meeting.
- Commissioner Jessup will discuss the Ordinance with Council and the target balance of Medical Claims change to \$2M rather than creating another rainy day fund for Medical Claims.

Ordinance Establishing The Hancock County Community Foundation Grant Fund

- Commissioner Huber asked what the Hancock County Community Foundation Grant Fund was for. Auditor Carnes said the money is a donation to the county and donations cannot be co-mingled with county funds; Grants determine how the funds are set-up.
- Commissioner Huber said if the money is for the Hancock County Comprehensive Plan, he would like it named Comprehensive Plan Study Grant Fund. Auditor Carnes said she would check into this further.

Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library Board

Commissioner Huber made a motion to appoint Rebecca Hiday to the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library Board with a term ending May 31, 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Resolution of Need for Emergency Management Center

- Commissioner Huber introduced Resolution 2021-6-8 a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Hancock County, Indiana, a resolution of need for Emergency Management Center equipment, building and maintenance requirements.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-6-8. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner John Jessup, President

Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice-President

Commissioner Bill Spalding

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor