

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
June 29, 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 29, 2021 Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:00 AM.

Highway Department

- Ryan Hartley (Highway Engineer Assistant) requested signatures for INDOT Traffic Plans.
- Mr. Tuggle received a signed petition from all property owners on 50 W from 400 S to 500 S stating they would like the county to forgo paving and solely chip seal 50 W during 2021. Mr. Pool verified all drives were included. If highway department chip seals, the current PASER rating of 6 (fair) will probably raise to 8 and give 8 years service life. This will save the county \$65 in material.
- Currently looking for two CDL truck drivers.
- Working on roof from the storm damage.
- Paving will begin tomorrow on 300 North and should be opened by the end of the week.
- Fortville Pike will be shut down from 600-700 North on July 6th, this will be advertised in the newspaper. Fortville Pike should reopen by August 1st with hopes it doesn't interfere with school.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the INDOT Traffic Plans Project #1702757 as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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 June 15, 2021 minutes as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Public Defender Board

- Jon Albright, Attorney with the Public Defender Board presented Commissioners with Budget Proposals 1 & 2 for review. He strongly encouraged Commissioners to approve Budget Proposal 1.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion the Board of Commissioners recommends Proposal 1 Budget for the Public Defender Board to set up a Public Defender Office and recommends he meet with County Council. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Facility Management

- Dean Mullins (Facility Manager) updated Commissioners on county buildings.
- Commissioner Huber updated Commissioners on the 911 Center where there was grading, now needs dirt and rock added for around \$1,200. Dean said they offered to bring additional dirt free of charge.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion approve not to exceed \$1,500 for the finishing of yard, flower beds and reconnect 2 downspouts drains at E-911 to be paid out of Building Maintenance. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

- Discussed courthouse lights and the dark areas not repaired by Johnson Controls. Commissioner Jessup said he will discuss with Johnson Controls. Dean asked for the for Johnson Control check to be held until the lights are figured out. Commissioners agreed to hold Johnson Controls check.
- Commissioners discussed the Facility Manager job description.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the job description for Facility Managers job and request it be put in the newspaper and on the county website; with the removal of “must be 21 years of age”. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Auditor Carnes inquired when Commissioners would like to advertise? Commissioners agreed to advertise as soon as possible; they would like resumes received by July 19th for review at the July 20th Commissioners meeting; then schedule an Executive Session for interviews.

Superior Court 1

- Judge Davis requested employee leave of absence for 4-8 weeks; she does not have sick time available for leave and requires unpaid time off. He was instructed by the Payroll Administrator to get Commissioner approval.
- Auditor Carnes suggested this be discussed outside of a public meeting since it regarded someone’s health information.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the employee leave of absence due to necessary surgery pending review of the FMLA. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

E-911 Center

- John Jokantas (Director E-911) discussed additional door access controls and cameras for blind spots.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the Nelson Alarm quote for cameras and doors at the Annex Building in an amount not to exceed \$19,935. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Director Jokantas discussed retiring salaries for E-911 and requested a favorable recommendation to proceed to County Council. Commissioner Jessup asked if this solves pay disparity and retention. Director Jokantas said yes.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to recommend to County Council Statement of Salaries and Wages for Calendar year 2022 for E-911 Center as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Director Jokantas discussed \$143,000 for over the air programming and software for 5 years. Commissioner Jessup asked Director Jokantas to return to the next meeting to further discuss and they will look into a Miscellaneous Line in CCD.

Purdue Extension

- Lais McCartney (Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator) requested Commissioners approval to utilize a puddle area at the Purdue Extension location to create a Rain Garden with Master Gardeners maintaining the garden.
- Commissioners approved the Rain Garden project at the Purdue Extension.

Gibson Teldata Agreement

The County Attorney informed Commissioners he is still working on a final agreement.

Ordinance Establishing The Comprehensive Plan Study Grant Fund

- Commissioner Huber introduced Ordinance 2021-6C establishing the Community Foundation Grant for the Hancock County Comprehensive Plan Study 2021 Fund 9118.

- Commissioner Huber made a motion to suspend the rules and allow for adoption on day of introduction Ordinance 2021-6C. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-6C. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Ordinance Establishing the Medical Claims Reserve Fund

- Commissioner Huber introduced Ordinance 2021-6D establishing the Medical Claims Reserve Fund. Basically uses money for medical claims to pay insurance cost in years where insurance cost exceeds the budgeted insurance cost. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to suspend the rules and allow for adoption on day of introduction Ordinance 2021-6D. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-6D. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioner Jessup made a motion to recommend to Council that Resolution 2019-4-4 the statement of target balances be updated and Fund 5902 be added to the list of funds that are tracked. Commissioner Huber seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Main Street Mural Update

- Joan Fitzwater with City of Greenfield (Planning Director) updated Commissioners on the Main Street mural. She requested a partnership with the Board of Commissioners to remove the pear trees and have the stumps ground. Then with the help of Greenfield in Bloom, a Ronald Marlin Memorial Garden will be built. The Memorial Garden will be maintained by the Greenfield in Bloom. Commissioner Huber added in full disclosure he is one of the owners of the building. Commissioners requested Major Campbell notify and address concerns with the Sheriff and coordinate with Director Fitzwater. Director Fitzwater added grass will need to be cut in this area. Commissioner Jessup said the Facility Manager could get estimates for tree and stump removal.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the removal of 4 Bradford Pear Trees at the Sheriff's department to allow for the mural at 1001 E Main Street to be seen. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Director Fitzwater thanked the Commissioners. Commissioner Huber requested an abstract when it was completed.

Juneteenth Holiday Discussed

- Commissioner Jessup said President Biden named the Juneteenth Holiday as a National Holiday. The question is how or what we will do with that in 2022.
- A community member requested to speak and expressed concern with this Holiday.
- Commissioner Jessup said he will not take action on this item. If we take action in the future this will be listed as an agenda item and not an action item,

Greenfield Historic Landmarks

- Cathleen Huffman, President of Greenfield Historic Landmarks expressed interest in the Prosecutors Building.
- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) notified Commissioners, Council approved a needs assessment of the building. He discussed grants that might be available to assist with historic preservation.

Accept ROW Davis 600 E Minor Sub

- Harold Gibson (H.Gibson Land Surveying, LLC) requested to dedicate 40' half ROW for David and Joella Hedge for D3 West Minor Sub (on 100 South).
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the 40' half ROW for D3 West Minor Sub. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Surveyor Gibson presented Hancock County Gateway Park Phase I, Section 2 dedicated ROW.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the additional half ROW for the Mac's Convenience Store at the Hancock County Gateway Park, Phase 1, Section 2 at 13.23' and range up to 19.64'. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

READI Grant

- Tom Miller with Thomas P Miller & Associates (i.e. consulting, economic development, community development) discussed with Commissioners the READI Grant for \$500M with up to \$50M per region. A region would consist of Hancock County and another County.
- Commissioners discussed work force training at schools in the county. Commissioners would like Tom Miller to move forward with submitting the initial application for the READI Grant for the July 1st deadline.
- Auditor Carnes asked for clarification where this would be deposited. Commissioner Huber said the money will be funded to the County and the County will be a pass through.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to allow Thomas P. Miller & Associates to do the initial application for the Regional Economic Acceleration Development Initiative (READI) on behalf of Hancock County. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Surveyor

- Commissioner Huber discussed weeds and growth at the new jail by the railroad, he received a call from NineStar. Surveyor Bodkin will request a quote for spraying growth at the new jail. Commissioner Huber will update next week with information.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:29 AM.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner John Jessup, President

Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice-President

Commissioner Bill Spalding

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor