

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
July 6, 2021

Commissioners met for a regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioners President John Jessup, Commissioner Vice President Marc Huber, Commissioner Bill Spalding, Financial Administrator Mary Bowmer and County Attorney Scott Benkie. Commissioner Jessup called to order the July 6, 2021 Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:00 AM.

Highway Department

- Gary Pool (Highway Engineer) notified Commissioners 600 W will be closed soon. Commissioner Huber clarified the 600 W closure is due to the airport not selling the county how much ROW. Engineer Pool confirmed 17' was needed; the 600 W closure will take 2-3 months.
- 300 N road work opened early, with only 2.5 week closure.
- Fortville Pike will be closed between 500-600 North.
- Currently looking for two CDL truck drivers.
- Adjuster finishing up storm damage to Highway Building.

Claims & Payroll

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

Accept ROW Davis 600 E Minor Sub

- Steve Cooper (Coor Consulting) requested a replat and dedication of an additional 30' half ROW, for a total ROW 70' for the Peter Shumacker Secondary Plat Minor Subdivision.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the ROW for the Peter Shumacker Minor Subdivision Secondary Plat for an additional 30' of ROW for a total 70' half ROW. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Vacate Public Street & Alley (2415 W US40)

- Tom Billings (Attorney) requested to vacate the public street and alley at 2415 W US40 and requested a Public Hearing July 20th at 9:30 AM.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to set the public hearing to vacate the public street and alley at 2415 W US40 on July 20th at 9:30 AM. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Prosecutor

- Prosecutor Eaton discussed establishing a Regional High Tech Crimes Unit. The proposals are due the end of July. There is funding for equipment, personnel and benefits to set up a unit to look at high tech evidence (i.e. tablets, phones, computers, etc.) to reduce turnaround time. This would be a huge benefit to the county. Prosecutor Eaton said this would need the cooperation of other people within the county.
- Commissioners agreed this was a good grant to participate in.

Johnson Controls

- Russ Patrick (Construction Manager for Johnson Controls) updated Commissioners on work in the county buildings. He confirmed change orders were emailed to the Commissioners for review. One change order is for the dome area in the courthouse building. Commissioner Huber said he was extremely disappointed the courthouse dome lighting was not in the

original estimate; because that's what we asked for; just because it's difficult doesn't mean it's a reason to overlook it. Russ said he agreed, he didn't understand why a main part of the building wasn't included in the scope of work. Commissioner Huber asked what the cost was for LED lights around the dome and for the cove. Commissioner Jessup said \$46,000. Russ said the main cost was for the scaffolding to get to the dome light in the courthouse. Commissioner Jessup said he agreed with Commissioner Huber, we asked for the all the lights to be replaced, not just the easy ones. Commissioners will review the change orders.

- PDF Mechanical will start replacing valves at the courthouse. Russ added the change orders can be discussed.

Facility Management

- Dean Mullins (Facility Manager) updated Commissioners on county buildings.
- Commissioner Spalding asked who handles the potential fire violations. Dean said he has been working on some of the items listed. Commissioner Spalding said the violations will result in fines for the county. Dean said he will continue to work on the list.
- Commissioner Huber asked Dean to get estimates for cutting down trees and grinding stumps near the jail. Dean said he will look into some estimates.

RQAW Update on New Jail

Dustin Frye, Director of Construction Services for RQAW reported the jail continues to progress on schedule.

E-911 Center

- John Jokantas (Director E-911) discussed funding for Motorola Solutions for \$143,000.
- Commissioner Jessup suggested discussing with County Council.

Assessor

- Assessor Molinder requested approval for Legal Services Proposal for an exemption case.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to allow the Assessor to enter into a legal services agreement with the law office of Beth Henkel LLC to represent the county in an IVTR hearing as presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Community Corrections

- Wade Kennedy (Director Community Corrections) requested approval to enter into the copier lease. He could not get on Bernie's budget for the copier this year. Mary Bowmer, Financial Administrator confirmed next year all copiers will be funded through IT's budget in 2022.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to enter into a copier lease with Ricoh USA Inc. for the Ricco IN4500 to be paid for out of Community Corrections Project Income until paid out of the IT Copier Fund in 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

SWIF Grant

- Mike Burrow requested Commissioners signatures for a letter to express commitment to partnering with NineStar Connect for the purpose of expanding water and wastewater infrastructure throughout rural areas of Hancock County. It has become evident to us that these areas are in need of services now and cannot wait for the expansion of for profit or municipal utilities. Partnering with NineStar Connect will address Hancock County's water and wastewater infrastructure needs, and support NineStars application for the SWIF Grant. The deadline for the SWIF Grant is July 15th; notification will be in September and the maximum amount for a non-profit is \$5M. Any expenses incurred after March 1st can be paid with the grant.

- Commissioner Huber made a motion the Hancock County Board of Commissioners support the application for the SWIF Grant by NineStar Connect with the Indiana Finance Authority per the letter presented. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner John Jessup, President

Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice-President

Commissioner Bill Spalding

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor