

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
September 7, 2021

Commissioners met for a regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioners President John Jessup, Commissioner Vice President Marc Huber, Commissioner Bill Spalding and Auditor Debra Carnes. County Attorney Scott Benkie arrived at 8:18 AM. Commissioner Jessup called to order the September 7, 2021 Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:00 AM.

Highway Department

- Gary Pool (Highway Engineer) requested approval and signatures for Bridge 18 documents.
- Commissioner Huber made the motion to approve documents for the Hancock County Highway Engineer to submit for bids for Bridge 18. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- The Consultant will be paid from the part-time salary line; she will assist with 8 hours a week for Segment B, Environmental and ROW; there is also rural and NPO grants open for submittal. Once a solid capital plan is in place, we can explore 300 North in the Spring.
- Johnson County needs assistance because they do not have an engineer; Engineer Pool will be a good neighbor and assist so they don't lose millions in funding.
- September 11th 600 West closure 8-11 AM for New Palestine Dragon Run.
- The last micro seal on 600 W will start September 13th. Crack seal will start September 20th.
- New pay rate starts today; have not lost any additional employees and a new hire starts today.
- Auditor's office and Highway worked together last week to solve a strange ROW purchase.
- AT&T trouble; doesn't have an SVA crew and their bids failed. Currently, Hamilton and Hancock County are not issuing permits to them.
- Segment B on 600 W will soon force 45 mph speed limit and should increase the safety in that location. Construction speed will be 35 mph. Some ditch slope in transition will be >4:1.
- Commissioner Huber asked Engineer Pool to look into the speed limit 200 North between 700 and 800 West. Engineer Pool said he will run it through the Federal program and monitor speeds.
- Commissioner Spalding asked about Bridge 71. Engineer Pool said some of the lumber parts will be changed out.

Claims & Payroll

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

Commissioner Minutes

Commissioner Spalding made a motion to approve the Commissioner minutes for August 31, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

READI Grant Information

- Tom Miller with Thomas P. Miller & Associates updated Commissioners on the READI Grant process. A check should be issued by the end of the month for \$40M.
- Charlottesville wastewater treatment has been discussed; Cumberland has request. A meeting is scheduled at Buck Creek Fire Station, 10AM-12 Noon on Thursday, September 9th.

RQAW Update on New Jail

Dustin Frye, Director of Construction Services for RQAW reported the jail continues to progress on schedule. Commissioners will interview companies for renovation of Jail and Community Corrections at the next Commissioner meeting September 21st at 9:30 AM.

Economic Development Update

- Randy Sorrell (Director of Hancock County Economic Development Council) provided Colliers reports and updated Commissioners on Economic Development.
- As of August 31st, EDC has received 121 requests for information (RFI) from the State and have responded to 41. In 2020, 88 RFI's were received. In 2019, 82 RFI's were received.

Purdue Extension

Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the proposal from ASAP Seal Coating Specialist to clean the lot, fill cracks, seal and paint lines at the Purdue Extension Office parking lot in an amount not to exceed \$4,830 to be paid out of Building Maintenance. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Memorial Building

Commissioner Huber made a motion to accept the proposal from Grounds Control Services to mow/trim \$65 per time and to trim hedges \$30 per time at the Memorial Building; to be paid out of Building Mowing/Snow Removal. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Clerk's Department

- Clerk Lofgreen requested sole use of the Commissioners Courtroom for early voting in 2022.
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to move the Hancock County Commissioner meetings to the Magistrates Court Room for meetings in April and October of 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
- Commissioners requested the Auditor verify details of switching Board of Commissioners meetings to Magistrates Courtroom and to let other boards find accommodations. Commissioners requested the Clerk notify boards of the change.

Sheriff's Department

- Sheriff Burkhardt discussed with Commissioners vehicle needs. For 2022 the Sheriff's Department needs 20 vehicles and Enterprise cannot provide the vehicles for 2022. Kelly Chevrolet was able to put in an order for 20 vehicles. Estimated cost is \$800,000
- Commissioner Huber made a motion to recommend to County Council to fund 20 vehicles (estimated at \$800,000) for the Sheriff's Department in 2022. Commissioner Spalding seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

ARP Update

- Commissioner Jessup updated Commissioners on the ARP Commission meeting.
- Discussed projects of interests; 40% for infrastructure, 25% for nonprofits, 25% mental health/addiction and reserve 10% for revenue loss.
- Committee recommended Board of Commissioners request from Council funds from Food and Beverage immediately for schematic design for water and sewer project for Charlottesville. The committee would like to add Charlottesville into a project or as a standalone project.

- Committee discussed 2021 premium pay for employees and requested Commissioners thoughts. Commissioners agreed they were not interested.
- Commissioners discussed an RFP for a consultant for schematic design for water and sewer project for Charlottesville.
- Commissioner Spalding made a motion to advertise an RFP for consultation on water and sewer infrastructure for the Eastern half of Hancock. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Animal Control

Discussed RFP for Animal Control Services.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner John Jessup, President

Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice-President

Commissioner Bill Spalding

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor