

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: JULY 17, 2023

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Brad Bray, Vice President Jack Dodd, Member Jeff Lipinski, County Attorney Alan Wilson, and Chief Deputy Auditor Gabrielle Dupuy.

The meeting was called to order by Lieutenant Todd Prifogle and conducted by President Brad Bray. President Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Lipinski offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the July 3, 2023, regular meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski, Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION:

Pillar of the Community Award

Former Howard County Councilman James Papacek was awarded the Pillar of the Community Award by the Commissioners. Multiple elected officials spoke about Mr. Papacek's impact on the community including Mayor Moore, the Commissioners, and County Council President John Roberts. Mr. Papacek thanked everyone for the award and was thankful for the opportunity to serve his community. Commissioner Dodd also mentioned that James was awarded that Sagamore of the Wabash from the Governor of the State of Indiana.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:

INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

Howard County Website Photo Contest

Information Systems Director Jeremy Stevens presented the Commissioners with six photos to choose from for the new County website. Each Commissioner circled the photo they liked the best, and those three photos won the contest. The citizens whose photo was chosen were Sara Bates, David Lovegrove, and Danielle Saylor.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Employee Flu Shots

Public Health Nurse Kelly Carpenter presented the Commissioners with the amount of flu shots the Health Department will be ordering for County employees. They will be ordering 250 doses for this coming flu season, and each dose will cost \$18.25. Any leftover doses will be donated to those in need. The flu shot purchase was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Water Heater System Replacement for Work Release

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet submitted a quote to replace the water heater system at Work Release from Quality Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$59,035.00. Mr. Stonestreet requested to pay this from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund's Building Repair Account (line item 1138.47241.000.0000). A motion was made by Commissioner Dodd to approve the quote to replace the water heater system at work release by Quality Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$59,035.00 and to be paid out of the LIT – Special Purpose Fund's Building Repair Account (line item 1138.47241.000.0000) as presented. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Hot Water Circulation System Repair at County Jail

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet submitted a quote to repair the hot water circulation system at the jail from Irish Mechanical Services, Inc. in the amount of \$6,018.62. Mr. Stonestreet requested to pay this from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund's Building Upgrade Account (line item 1138.47243.000.0000). A motion was made by Commissioner Dodd to approve the quote to repair the hot water circulation system at the jail from Irish Mechanical Services, Inc. in the amount of \$6,018.62 and to be paid out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund's Building Upgrade Account (line item 1138.47243.000.0000) as presented. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Request for Proposals for Bridge 46

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle presented the Commissioners with the request for proposals for Bridge 46 that needed to be read into the record as receipt. Lockmueller Group and USI submitted proposals to be reviewed.

Local Public Agency Consultant Contract for Bridge 56

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle presented the Commissioners with the Local Public Agency (LPA) Consultant Contract for Bridge 56 that is currently being worked on. This contract is for the right of way purchase agreement. The total cost of the contact that is not to be exceeded is \$23,300.00. The LPA Contract was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lipinski, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Chief Deputy Auditor Gabrielle Dupuy submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on July 14, 2023, in the amount of \$962,493.22 was submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Payroll Expenses:** The Commissioners' Payroll Expenses for payment on July 14, 2023, in the amount of \$962,493.22 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid July 17, 2023, in the amount of \$907,695.63 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lipinski, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

County Attorney Alan Wilson presented the Equal Employee Opportunity Plan. The is needed for various grants throughout the County. The Equal Employee Opportunity Plan was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and the motion carried. Attorney Wilson also presented the certification form that went with the Equal Employee Opportunity Plan that President Bray signed.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Lipinski stated that the Stevens property has made some progress. There are some individuals who are interested in cleaning up the property.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Resident Brad Semon of 10954 E. 100 S., Greentown, Indiana: Mr. Semon stated since the last meeting, he had his water tested at Criterion Water Labs. He received an email from Ann Ihms at Criterion Labs that he read to the Commissioners. That email stated that perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) is very complicated and that they do offer two test one for 20 panels and one for 40 panels. The water test for 40 panels will cost \$432 dollars plus a \$75 handling fee, \$50 lead test, and a \$20 E. coli test. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends testing well water twice a year. Mr. Semon stated that this would cost citizens over a \$1,000.00 a year to test their water. Mr. Semon asked the Commissioners again to amend the current Ordinance to include water testing for contaminated wells. Mr. Semon stated that it is not fair for the east side of the County to have to spend the money to get their wells tested. He stated that they are concerned about their livelihood and welfare.

Councilman Frank Faulkner: Councilman Faulkner stated that there will be a hearing at Maconaquah High School on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, on the environmental impact statement related to the KC46. Grissom Air Force Base was considered as an alternate location for this aircraft. The KC46 is the replacement tanker for the KC45. Councilman Faulkner believes that it is important for people to be aware of what the environmental impact statement says with regards to KC46. The report is at the Kokomo Public Library.

***There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time
the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd.
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lipinski, and the motion carried.***

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

R. BRAD BRAY, PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, VICE PRESIDENT

JEFF S. LIPINSKI, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

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