

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OCTOBER 19, 2015**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, October 19, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice President Tyler Moore, and Member Brad Bray. Also in attendance County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was opened by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Wyman. Commissioner Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Vice President Moore offered a word of prayer.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the October 5, 2015 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

1) President Wyman called Mr. Charles Skoog to the podium in order to present him with the "Pillar of the Community Award". Mr. Skoog has been a member of the Howard County community for twenty years and worked in many areas to improve the quality of life for its citizens. He has been instrumental in the implementation of the "trails" systems in Kokomo, and has worked to bring the Coyote Kids event to Howard County. The Wildcat Guardians has been a means to maintain the Wildcat Creek and keep the community interested in all the benefits associated with the creek. Mr. Skoog and his family will be leaving Howard County and will be missed by many. Each Commissioner spoke highly of Mr. Skoog and all he has done for the community. Mr. Skoog spoke, also, thanking Kokomo and Howard County for all they've given to Mr. Skoog and his family.

2) Vice President Moore introduced Ms. Debbie Lorenz, the new Personnel Director, filling the vacancy left by Ms. Wanda McKillip at the end of October.

### **IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

#### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Highway Engineer / Superintendent Ted Cain submitted the Notice to Bid for 2016 Materials and Supplies. The Auditor's Office will be receiving sealed bids until 3:00 p.m. on November 16, 2015. Specifications for materials and needed services will be made available from the Auditor's Office. The bids will be opened at 4:15 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Notice to Bid for Materials and Supplies for the Highway Department for the year 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

#### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:**

Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Bill Stonestreet submitted the Asphalt Paving project at the north side of the Government Center. He was going to postpone the project until 2016, but because of the extreme difference between the new concrete and the parking lot, he decided the project needs to be done now. The lowest quote received is from Jansen's Asphalt for \$1,850.00. Mr. Stonestreet will be able to pay for the project from the Building Repair line item in the Cumulative Capital Fund (1138-000-04724.00). A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried to approve the Government Center Parking lot repair, to be paid from 1138-000-04724.00.

### **IN THE MATTER OF HOWARD COUNTY'S DRUG MISUSE ISSUES:**

President Paul Wyman opened a discussion concerning the drug abuse and overdose problem in Howard County. Several months ago Coroner Jay Price put a spotlight on the increasing number of deaths caused by drug overdose in Howard County. This is also occurring state-wide and nation-wide. The Board of Commissioners is taking this problem very seriously and Judge Bill Menges has created the Howard County OPIOID Overdose Taskforce to gather ideas to combat this issue. Mr. Wyman opened the floor as follows:

**Superior Court I Judge Bill Menges:** The medical community has realized that synthetically engineered OPIOIDS have the same addictive capacity as naturally occurring OPIOIDS, therefore, creating a major prescription drug problem. This has changed the prescription practices of the medical and dental community. Mexican drug cartels discovered that opium poppies

can be grown in Mexico just as well as Afghanistan and other areas. This increases supply and profits from heroin sales in the United States, making it a popular drug. He also talked about a synthetic OPIOID called fentanyl that when mixed with heroin, will make the high last longer, but is also deadly. This changes the face of law enforcement, also, as they deal with this deadly drug mixture. Long-term solutions are needed. One of the recommendations from the OPIOID Overdose Taskforce is the distribution and use of Narcan in all the patrol cars, the Probation Field Officers, Court Security Officers, and Community Corrections Field Officers. Judge Menges believes Howard County is "...blessed to have leaders throughout who are good at getting things done".

**Sheriff Steve Rogers:** Since the passage of "Aaron's Law" a lot of Law Enforcement people have been looking at Naloxone (Narcan) as an opiate antidote. Research has shown it to be safe for usage and Sheriff Rogers and his department are in the process of drafting a policy for the training and usage of Narcan. The medical provider for the Criminal Justice Center, Advanced Correctional Health, has agreed to supply the Naloxone as a medical treatment and assist with the protocol needed. Sheriff Rogers is asking for money to begin the program.

**Chief Probation Officer Dustin Delong:** Since 2007 Mr. Delong has seen an increase in the number of substance dependent clients that are monitored by the Probation Department. If used correctly Narcan can save lives. Probation Officers develop relationships with their clients and care about their lives. He believes that Naloxone can offer a second chance to some people, giving them extra time for their probation officers to work with them. Along with the Community Corrections Department the Probation Department will begin an Addiction Impact Panel in December, requiring probation clients to attend who show addiction markers.

**Beth Garrison, Corporate Counsel for the City of Kokomo:** The City of Kokomo has been in conversations with the Kokomo HELP Group, as well as Community Howard Hospital. On behalf of the City of Kokomo, she invited County representatives to attend meetings, next week, with the hospital and with the Kokomo Help Group, working together.

At this time Mr. Wyman vacated the chair in order to make a motion to approve \$5,000.00 from the Special Projects line item in the EDIT Fund, to the Sheriff's Department to begin the Narcan training and usage program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:**

Auditor Martha Lake submitted the following issues for the Commissioners information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for October 23 & 30, 2015, in the amount of \$373,987.32 each, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims payable today, in the amount of \$811,194.79, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.
3. **Monthly Reports:** Ms. Lake submitted the Weights & Measures Monthly report for the month of September 16 – Oct. 15, 2015; and the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending September 30, 2015. A motion was made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore and carried to approve both monthly reports as submitted.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:**

County Attorney Larry Murrell submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Enhanced 911 Service Agreement:** Mr. Murrell submitted the Enhanced 911 Service Agreement for the new leased Backbone equipment for 911. The Backbone Lease was approved at the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting (*please refer to page two, issue two, "In The Matter Of County Attorney Issues", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated September 21, 2015*). A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Enhanced 911 Service Agreement between Howard County and A T & T. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.
2. **Contract With The Indiana Family And Social Services:** Mr. Murrell submitted an agreement with the Indiana Family and Social Services that designates the Sheriff of Howard County to act as a Medicaid

representative to register certain qualified inmates for Medicaid. This will benefit the County, relieving them of medical costs of qualified recipients if injured while at the Criminal Justice Center. Sheriff Rogers has designated Lieutenant Robin Byers and Nurse Andrea Stonestreet as the contacts for this program. We do not currently have the signature copy of the contract so Mr. Murrell is suggesting the Commissioners approve the form of contract previously distributed and authorize President Wyman to sign the final contract, when it is received, subject to the final review of Attorney Murrell. The motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the contract with the Indiana Family & Social Service Medicaid contract and authorize President Wyman to sign the final contract after it is received, subject to the final review by Attorney Murrell. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:**

**COMMISSIONER BRAY:**

Commissioner Bray commented on the drug overdose problem in Howard County and the positive use of Narcan to give drug dependent inmates another chance.

**COMMISSIONER MOORE:**

Commissioner Moore appreciates the combined efforts of the OPIOID Overdose Task Force, Probation Department, Sheriff Department, and Community Corrections Department, as they address this problem.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time,  
the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m. on a motion made by  
Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.*

**HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

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PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

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TYLER O. MOORE, VICE PRESIDENT

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ROBERT B. BRAY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Meeting October 19, 2015