

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING JUNE 19, 2017**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, June 19, 2017, 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 were County attorney Larry Murrell, Assistant County Attorney Alan Wilson, and Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Wyman. Commissioner Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Wyman offered a word of prayer.

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

The minutes of the June 5, 2017, Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried.

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

#### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

1) On behalf of Highway Engineer / Superintendent Ted Cain, Auditor Martha Lake submitted two letters to the Indiana Department of Transportation in support of spending \$1,000,000.00 of a combination of Local Road and Street and Motor Vehicle Highway funds in order to obtain matching funds from the Community Crossings Matching Grant. The money will be used to pave roads throughout Howard County and will be overseen by Mr. Cain. One letter needs the approval of the Executive of the County, only, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter needs approval and signatures by the Board of Commissioners and the County Council. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve both letters to the Indiana Department of Transportation as submitted by Mr. Cain. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

2) Ms. Lake submitted the Supplemental Agreement #2, Right of Way Appraising Services, DES #0710021, shifting \$31,000.00 of the costs of the project to Judson Road from 530 East Dixon Road to the intersection of Morgan Street and Phillips St. A motion was made by Mr. Bray to approve the Supplemental Agreement #2, Right-of-way Services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

#### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:**

Building Superintendent Bill Stonestreet has assessed the County building parking lots and has asked to do the following improvements:

Criminal Justice Center: This is the first seal since the lot was repaved (3 yrs. ago). Two quotes were received; (1) Preferred Seal Coating at \$6,230.00 and; (2) Jansen's Asphalt Sealing at \$7,985.00. Mr. Stonestreet recommends the lowest quote by Preferred which will be a two-stage seal and include re-striping.

Howard County Government Center: This lot was sealed two years ago, but it took a beating during the Ramp Replacement Project. One quote was received, and that was Jansen's in the amount of \$1,375.00.

Seiberling Mansion / Elliott House: Three parking lots are involved in this project. Jansen's has the lowest quote at \$2,825.00.

Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay for all three parking lot projects from the Cumulative Capital Fund, Building Upgrades (1138.47241.000.0000). The total cost is \$14,044.00. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the three parking lot projects as presented; Howard County Jail by Preferred Seal Coating for \$6,230.00; Government Center by Jansen's at \$1,375.00 and; Seiberling / Elliott project by Jansen's, at \$2,825.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

#### **HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Health Department Director Kent Weaver informed the Board that when Vaccine billing claims come in to the office, the County receives a discount if paid right away. Mr. Weaver is asking the all Vaccine billing claims be declared Emergency Claims so that they can be paid early, bypassing the usual processing period and obtaining the President's signatures. They will still be included on the bi-monthly claim dockets for the Commissioners' approval. A motion

was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried to declare all Vaccine billing claims as “Emergency” claims so that they can be paid early, bypassing the usual claim processing procedure.

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

Auditor Martha Lake submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners’ information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners’ Salary, Hourly, and Overtime claims, payable June 23 and 30, 2017, in the amount of \$377,419.97 each, were submitted and 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 \$518,868.27, were submitted, and approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.
3. **Ratify Signature:** Ms. Lake submitted the following early paid claims and asked that Mr. Wyman’s signatures be ratified: Midwest Presort Service, \$15,975.00; Thunder Fastpitch, \$1,000.00; Terry Tribby, \$400.00. A motion was made by Mr. Bray to ratify the President’s signature on the early paid claims as listed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.
4. **Monthly Reports:** The following monthly reports were submitted and received into record: Treasurer’s Report for the month ending May 31, 2017; the Weights & Measures Report for May 16, 2017 to June 15, 2017.

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

This being the last public Commissioner meeting before Mr. Murrell’s June 30<sup>th</sup> retirement date, Mr. Murrell stated that he had no issues to come before the Board of Commissioners but, he did have several comments he wanted to make.

“First of all I, want to thank you all, the Commissioners and your predecessors, for the opportunity to represent Howard County for 24 ½ years. It’s been a marvelous experience, and I very much appreciate the opportunity you’ve given me. And, I’ve appreciated working with you. I wish Alan all the best, and I think you’re in good hands.”

And, lastly, I would like it on the record, I asked my wife to come tonight at the risk of embarrassing her. First of all I think this is the first Commissioners’ meeting she’s ever attended. I wanted her to know that I really do attend all these meetings, they really do occur and so I wanted her to know that. But more than that I wanted to, on the record and publicly, thank her for these past 24 years, for her support, her guidance, her help, and, from time to time, her patience as I work through the issues we have. And, whatever I may have accomplished in my service to Howard County, I absolutely could not have done it without her at my side. So, thank you, Sue.”

All three of the Commissioners responded with words of appreciation to Mr. Murrell and his wife, Sue.

Mr. Wyman: “You’re a champ, you’re a superstar, and we’re gonna miss you, a lot.”

Mr. Moore: He thanked Sue, also, saying, “...as we all know, maybe not publicly, but privately, you often pray not only for yourself, but for us and for the county, and I know that many times when you do you’re not alone. So I thank you, Sue, for the many prayers you’ve lifted up to our LORD on behalf of the county, as well as for Larry...”

Mr. Bray: “I’ve served with him as Coroner and now, as Commissioner. He’s a wealth of knowledge and kept me out of trouble a few times, as Coroner.” “He’s a County Attorney Extraordinaire. But I heard a one, today, that I’m going to use; Larry the Legend.”

The Commissioners also expressed appreciation to Assistant County Attorney Alan D. Wilson, as he will assume the position of County Attorney.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT:**

President Wyman opened the floor for public comment as follows:

**Stella Kling, 1114 South Home Ave, Kokomo, Indiana:** Ms. Kling has patrons who do smoke, that will be affected by the Smoking Ordinance. She feels they shouldn't be pushed outside into the elements to smoke. She asked that some establishments be grandfathered from into the smoking ordinance over a period of about five years. She believes the ban will affect her small business.

**Jeanine Welker, 3620 West County Road 50 South:** Ms. Welker asked about the transition campaign for the smoking ban. She also reported on a rumor she has heard, that the next ban will include smoking in beer gardens and outside areas. Her final comment had to do with tax abatements for establishments outside the downtown area.

Mr. Wyman responded and outlined the campaign plan as follows:

- 1) The plan will have a kick-off date of the last week of June, 2017, and will proceed through the month of July.
- 2) It is a comprehensive campaign that will include print media, radio commercials on multiple radio stations, social media campaign.
- 3) A video will be made highlighting all affected establishments that will be going smoke-free as of July 1, 2017.
- 4) The social media portion of the campaign will be very similar to the Vote Center campaign in 2016.

Mr. Wyman also confirmed that there are no plans by the Board of Commissioners to ban smoking from beer gardens and other outside areas. Any change in this ordinance, in the future, would have to be done by due process that would include Public Hearings.

The Commissioners confirmed that any tax abatements would have to go through the City of Kokomo. The Board of Commissioners have been involved in Rent Abatement grants for new businesses that locate in the Downtown Kokomo area, as a way of encouraging new business in the downtown area. There is no plan for offering tax abatements to drinking establishments in the unincorporated areas of Howard County.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.*

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF 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 Board of Commissioners Meeting June 19, 2017