

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING JULY 20, 2009

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, July 20, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. at the Administration Center, Room 338. Those in attendance included President Dave Trine, Vice President William Thompson and Member Tyler Moore. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Major Steve Rogers and conducted by President Trine. Commissioner Moore led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the July 6th Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were tabled until the August 3rd meeting, for further review, on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Highway Department Engineer/Superintendent Ted Cain submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **EMA Paving Project:** The first phase of the EMA Paving Project will begin next week (*please refer to page one, item one, "In The Matter Of Highway Department Issues" of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 6, 2009*). This week Mr. Cain is working on drainage preparation. He will coordinate scheduling with Mohrs for the paving materials and contact EMA when it is time to move equipment.
2. **Meeting Absence:** Mr. Cain will not be able to attend the August 3rd and September 8th meetings.
3. **Clarification From Minutes Of July 6th Meeting:** In the minutes of the July 6th meeting there was an issue concerning the repair of County Roads during a State project, brought up by Mr. Tim Heaton (*please refer to page three, Public Comment concerning the Proposed Zoning Ordinance of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 6, 2009*). Mr. Cain wanted to clarify that if the State closes a road, Mr. Cain declares specific county roads as Unofficial Detours, and those roads are the ones the State reimburses the county for repair costs. The US 31 Freeway project is different. The roads being closed are county roads that sustain county traffic. Damages to those roads will not be reimbursed. That's why Mr. Cain is being a "stickler" on the routes taken by construction vehicles.
4. **Salt Supply For Winter 2009/2010:** In response to a question asked by Mr. Trine, Mr. Cain assured the Board that his department has enough salt supplies for the winter of 2009-2010. He was able to purchase salt at the State Bid price of \$61.50 per ton, and will not have to supplement the supply from Cincinnati or Michigan. This does not mean the County has an unlimited supply, and with the current budget constraints, he will not be able to salt like the State does, but must carefully plan usage of the supply. Howard County has approximately 650 miles of county road.

IN THE MATTER OF PLAN COMMISSION ISSUES:

Plan Commission Director Glen Boise submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Flood Mitigation:** The document process is moving forward and Mr. Moore will check to ascertain whether the paperwork has been received back from the owner, Mr. Garrett, and submit them to Mr. Murrell for his review. They will then be signed by Mr. Trine.
2. **Unsafe Building Public Hearing:** A Public Hearing is scheduled at 9:00 a.m., today, for the Collins Property located at 1757 North County Road 1050 West. Mr. Boise has received several calls on possible unsafe buildings and he will review those this week.
3. **US Freeway 31 Corridors Plans:** The Steering Committee has had a successful first meeting and the process is moving forward. The next meeting is scheduled for August 26th, and a public hearing will be scheduled in August.

IN THE MATTER OF MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Scott Reed submitted the following issues for the Board’s information and approval:

- 1. **Freezer At Howard Haven:** The Maintenance Department has installed the new freezer for Howard Haven, just in time for County Fair donations. Mr. Reed believes it may be necessary to install extra supports.
- 2. **Probation Department Sump Pump:** The Maintenance Department is finishing the sump pump installation, today, in the Adult Probation Office in the basement of the Courthouse. Backhoe work was completed by the Highway Department last week.
- 3. **Sprinkler Pipe Repair:** The sprinkler system pipe will be replaced the first Saturday of August. The water will have to be shut off to the building, and the Fire Department will be notified. Also at that time the department will conduct a fire watch.

IN THE MATTER OF PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted the following issues for the Board’s information and approval:

- 1. **Employee Data Report:** Ms. McKillip submitted and distributed copies of the Howard County Employee Data Report. This report covers the following topics for the report period of January 1, 2009 to July 15, 2009:

Employee Summary Report, alphabetical	Departmental Employee Summary Report
Salary Ranking Report	Departmental Salary Report
Seniority Ranking Report	Departmental Seniority Report
EEO Summary Report	Departmental EEO Detail
Chronological New Hire Report	Departmental New Hire Report
Chronological Separation Report	Departmental Separation Report

Ms. McKillip called attention to the decrease in new hires from 102 in 2008 (1-1-08 to 08-12-08) to 41 new hires in the first seven months of 2009. Ms. McKillip will distribute the Council books at the July Council meeting.

- 2. **P.A.C. Committee Recommendation:** The Prosecutors Office requested to change a Deputy Prosecutor position from part-time to full-time status for the grant period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. The Prosecutor received additional grant monies from the Federal government for Domestic Violence and Victims Assistance. With the extra funds comes additional responsibilities and the hours needed will exceed the current part-time status. The Deputy Prosecutor is currently receiving benefits. This position was created in 1994 and will be reviewed every year, with the status being based on the grant monies received. The PAC Committee approves the request and passes the recommendation to the Board of Commissions. A motion was made by Mr. Thompson to accept the PAC Committee’s recommendation to change the part-time Deputy Prosecutor position to full-time, and forward it to the County Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Information Systems Director Terry Tribby submitted the following issues for the Commissioners’ information and approval:

- 1. **Phase II Certification:** Mr. Tribby reported that all equipment has been purchased, and installation of new work stations in the Administration Center is almost complete. At the conclusion of finish work from the Assessor’s office to the State, the new server will be ready to receive information from the old server. The server will accept new software about the first week of August. By State standards he has until November to complete the Certification Project. He believes they will be finished in September. Mr. Tribby had equipment financial concerns at the beginning of the project but now believes his budget can handle the expense. He commended Dell for being willing to work with the County and help them

save \$16,000.00 on new equipment. In addition to the Certification Project, the Treasurer was able to replace printers and receptors needed for the tax season in June. Those were purchased from the Information Systems budget, as well.

2. **CISCO Law Enforcement Conference:** Technology for the Sheriff's Department and Dispatch, changes every year. The Interoperability Project was very big. In 2010 there will be a major upgrade and Mr. Tribby feels it is very important to have someone from his office attend the conference to learn the new software. The meeting time does conflict with an AIG meeting and Mr. Tribby will attend that meeting. He invited the Board members to contact Mr. Tribby about this situation.
3. **Recording System At Russiaville Town Hall:** Mr. Tribby reported that the makeshift recording system he put together for the July 6th Commissioner Meeting, held at the Russiaville Town Hall, worked very well. He will work with the Town Hall to put together a recording system for them, similar to what was used during the meeting, for a fraction of the cost. This is just another example of how the County's IT Department can work with all the Public Service Agencies, not just County Government. He also commented that the County and City IT Departments are working together and sharing services and financial burdens of maintenance issues. Mr. Tribby directed appreciation to Mr. Randy Morris and the City of Kokomo for their recent partnering in the payment of maintenance costs for the dispatch systems.
4. **Video Arraignment System:** Representatives from Floyd County visited Howard County to look at our Video Arraignment System from the Courthouse to the Criminal Justice Center. Mr. Tribby gave a tour and demonstration and Floyd County was very impressed. Judge Hopkins from Superior Court IV also gave a quick overview of the process and his support of the program. Floyd County also looked at other technology at the Criminal Justice Center and was very impressed with all of it, especially the Kiosk system. They thanked everyone they spoke with, and asked Mr. Tribby to give special thanks to the Board of Commissioners.

*At this time the Regular Meeting was recessed to hold a previously scheduled
Public Hearing, on a motion made by Mr. Moore
and seconded by Mr. Thompson.*

President Trine opened the floor for public comment. There being no comment, Mr. Boise distributed pictures of the Collins' property for the Board of Commissioners and explained that the property has been abandoned for some time. Attorney Murrell explained that this is the final hearing, and the last step before condemnation of the property. The owner and all interested parties (including Mortgage Company) have been duly notified, and notices of hearings have been sent to the Kokomo Tribune and Kokomo Herald. Proposed Commissioner action is contained in a resolution prepared by Mr. Murrell, as Resolution No. 2009-BCCR-10. This resolution grants final approval to the Enforcement Authority (Mr. Boise) to demolish structures on property owned by John P. Collins, located at 1757 North County Road 1050 West, in Ervin Township. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson to approve Resolution No. 2009-BCCR-10. Mr. Boise made a Point of Order to question if the motion was appropriate during the actual hearing. Mr. Murrell commented that it was appropriate. The motion was carried.

The Collins Public Hearing was closed on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened.

Having approved the Condemnation Action, Mr. Murrell submitted an Invitation to Bid for demolition services, and requested approval to submit the invitation, to be returned to the Plan Commission Office by 8:00 a.m., August 17, 2009, and to be opened at 9:00 a.m. This final notice is to be published two times. A motion was made by Mr. Thompson to allow Mr. Boise to submit the Invitation to Bid for demolition services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried. Mr. Trine thanked Mr. Boise for the work done on this project.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

In the absence of Sheriff Talbert, Major Steve Rogers submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **New Sheriff Vehicles:** The six new Sheriff vehicles are in and will be fitted with extra equipment from the vehicles they replace.
2. **Jail Population:** The current inmate population is three hundred seventy eight (378) with sixty (60) being females. Last night there was a total of three hundred eighty inmates and Captain Vincent had to make special arrangements for eight (8) of the inmates.
3. **Acoustics In Video Conference Room:** The Maintenance Department is working on improving the acoustics in the Video Conferencing room at the Criminal Justice Center, addressing several other issues besides that of carpeting the walls (*please refer to page six, item three, "In The Matter Of Sheriff Department Issues" of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 6, 2009*).
4. **Howard County Fair:** The Fair has now concluded and there were no major incidents. The Sheriff Work Crew is cleaning the grounds, this morning.
5. **Nixle Notification:** Major Rogers reports that Dispatch Coordinator Nick Capozzoli has spoken to the towns of Greentown and Russiaville concerning this public notification system and they have given their approval of the system (*please refer to pages six and seven, item six, "In The Matter Of Sheriff Department Issues" of the Regular Meeting dated July 6, 2009*). Mr. Capozzoli is still waiting to hear from other parties contacted.

IN THE MATTER OF HOWARD HAVEN ISSUES:

Howard Haven Superintendent Jennifer Vary submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Inventory And Disposal Sheets:** Donation Inventory and Disposal Sheets for April 25th through May 4th, 2009 were submitted.
2. **Discharge Of Residents:** Ms. Vary submitted for confirmation, discharge papers for Deborah Carter and Walter Bagwell. Reasons for discharge are included on the responsibility listing for each resident. A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Moore and carried to confirm the action of discharge for Walter Bagwell and Deborah Carter.
3. **New Freezer:** Ms. Vary thanked the Board of Commissioners and especially Mr. Trine for the new walk-in freezer for the County Home. It is working well and was very timely for the donated meat from the County Fair.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Auditor Ann Wells submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** Salary, hourly and overtime claims payable July 24 and 31, 2009, in the amount of \$349,982.56 each were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims payable today, in the amount of \$1,054,622.67 were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending June 30, 2009, was accepted on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore. Ms. Wells commented that as of June 18th the settlement is finished and approved by the State. Settlement checks to the local government entities have been prepared and distributed.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

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

1. **Oaks Invoice:** This invoice from Assistant County Attorney Brian Oaks is for services rendered in relation to Bousum vs. Howard Superior Court II and Clerk. This representation is outside his contracted

service. Invoice #10147, in the amount of \$632.50, was approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

2. **Pandemic Planning Meeting:** For the Board's information, the All Hazards Governing Council will be finalizing pandemic planning in their meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday. The current plan will be refined as embodied by the EMA Interlocal Agreement. This establishes the core governing group in the event of a county-wide disaster.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

1. **Commissioner Moore:** Commissioner Moore thanked the Board and the Council, as well as the City of Kokomo and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, for the opportunity to represent Howard County to officials of Fiat in Italy. He believes it was beneficial. Fiat and all the other companies that the delegation met with were sincerely appreciative of the effort made by Howard County and the State of Indiana to tell their story, and share ideas of potential expansion in the United States. Courtesy calls were made to companies that already have sites in Indiana. They also met with the U.S. Consulate in Milan. Mr. Moore commended Mayor Goodnight in his representation and promotion of Kokomo and Howard County.

Concerning the Plan Commission Interlocal Agreement, Mr. Moore met with Mayor Goodnight, Mr. Murrell, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Sublette to revisit the cost / split between the City of Kokomo and Howard County. They hope to have the issue completed by the August budget hearings.

2. **Commissioner Thompson:** Mr. Thompson believes that the Russiaville meeting was productive and well received. He believes the Board should do it again.

The U.S. 31 Corridors Plan Steering Committee had its first meeting last week. The next meeting will be August 26th. The Steering Committee believes there are issues the public needs to be aware of, including what businesses will be allowed in the new corridor, and are planning to have an Open Meeting at IUK in the future. Mr. Jim Alender was appointed as chairman

3. **Commissioner Trine:** Mr. Trine thanked the town and Board of Russiaville for their cooperation during the July 6th meeting.

On Friday, July 17th, Mr. Trine heard a Township Appeal on behalf of Candace Reed in Center Township. After hearing the arguments submitted by both parties, Mr. Trine would recommend upholding the trustee's denial. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to uphold the denial by the township trustee for the appeal of Candace H. Reed.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m. on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

DAVID A. TRINE, PRESIDENT

WILLIAM THOMPSON, VICE PRESIDENT

TYLER O. MOORE, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR
Howard County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting
July 20, 2009