

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING DECEMBER 30, 2009

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Wednesday, December 30, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President David 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 Sheriff Marshall Talbert and conducted by President Trine. Commissioner Moore led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 21, 2009 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Sheriff Talbert submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Jail Population:** The current inmate population is two hundred ninety-six (296), with forty-four (44) of them being females. Sheriff Talbert remarked that this is the first time the count has gone below three hundred (300) inmates in a very long time.
2. **Live Scan Machine:** According to the Indiana State Police, Howard County is number fourteen on the list to receive the Live Scan capability, as they begin this project in January, 2010. Information Systems Director Terry Tribby has already pledged to help the ISP with the upgrades. This software will enable the Sheriff's Department to take major case prints, including palm prints and other data images, and take digital photographs, to include in a State-wide central database.
3. **Thank You:** Sheriff Talbert took this opportunity to thank the Board of Commissioners for their help in equipping the Sheriff's Department with what is needed to fulfill their responsibilities. This includes the 4-wheel drive vehicles that are invaluable for pursuits.

IN THE MATTER OF 2010 COUNTY BUSINESS INSURANCE PROPOSAL:

Mr. Phil Thatcher of Miles & Finch Insurance distributed copies of the 2010 Business Property and Casualty Insurance Proposal for Howard County. He proceeded to review the proposal with the Board as follows:

- A) Property Blanket Coverage on Buildings & Contents: \$74,731,910 with a \$2,500 Deductible, and listed Property Enhancements - ELITEPAC
- B) Inland Marine – contractors' equipment owned by the Highway Department, \$1,115,311 with a deductible of \$500
- C) Crime - Employee Dishonesty Blanket of \$100,000 with a \$1,000 deductible
- D) General Liability – for injuries on County premises, or injury caused by a County employee, limit of \$4,000,000
- E) Law Enforcement Professional Liability – limit of \$2,000,000, \$1,000,000 per occurrence with a \$25,000 Deductible. Mr. Thatcher informed the Commissioners that thanks to Sheriff Talbert and the jail staff, liability has been reduced in the last four to five years.
- F) Public Official's Errors & Omissions Liability – Limit of \$2,000,000, \$1,000,000 each occurrence, and a \$10,000 Deductible
- G) Public Entity Employment Practices Liability – covers such issues as wrongful employment practices, discrimination and sexual harassment issues. General limit of \$2,000,000 with a \$25,000 deductible

- H) Commercial Automobile – Limit of liability is \$1,000,000 for all county vehicles (list of approved drivers and licenses on file)
- I) Workers Compensation – figures based on annual audits of previous years’ payroll. If actual claims are higher than estimated, the experience modification increases. Loss control representatives are available to review safety issues with Department Heads.

Mr. Thatcher continued to review a Premium Summary Comparison between the 2008/2009 and 2009/2010 premiums. At the conclusion of this review, Mr. Thatcher commented that he enjoyed working with Howard County Officials and thanked the Board of Commissioners. Sheriff Talbert commented that he enjoyed working with Miles and Finch. A motion was made by Mr. Thompson to approve the 2010 Business Insurance Proposal with Miles & Finch Insurance, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

Commissioner Moore congratulated Mr. Thatcher on being the father of the Sportsman of the Year (son Joey Thatcher, San Diego Padres). Mr. Thatcher informed the Board of the \$42,000 that was raised for an endowment and Community Foundation.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Trine opened the floor for public comment as follows:

Howard County Council President Richard Miller: Mr. Miller thanked the Board of Commissioners for their efforts and time applied to county issues, as well as stresses endured. 2009 has been a unique year filled with unique issues. He wished the Board a happy and successful New Year.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS IN REPORTS:

Auditor Ann Wells submitted the Commissioners’ Operating Claims payable December 30, 2009, in the amount of \$380,273.76. The claims were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

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

1. **Alan Wilson Invoices:** Mr. Murrell submitted two invoices from Attorney Alan Wilson, for services rendered in the Myron Larry vs. Howard County case (\$1,400.00) and the Orza Salone vs. William Menges case (\$372.00). The invoices will be paid from the Insurance Deductible line item in the Commissioners’ Account, and were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.
2. **Confirm Signature:** Because of a time sensitive issue, Commissioner Thompson prepared and signed the Project Information Letter regarding lighting retrofits at the jail, for the Section 106 review request. This is required for the Lighting Grant Application, and his signature needs to be confirmed by the Board of Commissioners. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to confirm the signature of Mr. Thompson on the Project Information letter.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Moore: Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2010.

Commissioner Thompson: This has been a very interesting year, and in many ways a very good year. He, too, wished everyone a Happy New Year, and gave special thanks to the Personnel Office, and other offices that lend a helping hand to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Trine: Mr. Trine wished all a Happy New Year. The year 2009 was very interesting with a Board consisting of “new” Commissioners. He thanked Mr. Miller for his guidance and knowledge, many times during the year. Mr. Murrell, a/k/a The Rock, was thanked for his assistance this year.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

DAVID A. TRINE

WILLIAM THOMPSON

TYLER O. MOORE

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Board of Commissioner Meeting December 30, 2009