

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the Administration Center, Room 338. Those in attendance included President Dave Trine 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 absence of Vice President William Thompson, President Trine vacated the chair in order to second any motion made, in order to carry out the business of the County.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the August 17, 2009 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

The minutes of the Administrative Meeting dated August 31, 2009, were submitted, reviewed and approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

The minutes of the Administrative Meeting dated September 3, 2009, were submitted, reviewed and approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

IN THE MATTER OF PLAN COMMISSION DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

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

1. **2700 Dellwood Drive Progress:** The excavation contractor was on site at the property purchased with Flood Mitigation funds. He reported that the foundation of the home was much thicker than usual. The house is now down and the project is nearing completion. Mr. Boise reported that, as the trash collection lift station is at the end of the road, people are already illegally dumping refuse at the Dellwood site, now owned by the County. He believes a barrier will need to be put in place but questions the legal aspect of that action. Mr. Murrell informed the Board that the property now belongs to Howard County and they can secure the property any way they see fit, as long as it does not impede those who need to have access, such as utility companies. Mr. Boise clarified that the only entity that needs access is the Wastewater Utility, and they already have a gate. It is possible to move the gate to a better location and Mr. Boise will present a firm recommendation at the next Commissioner Meeting.
2. **Collins Property Excavation Project:** This project is still in progress. Mr. Boise is also following up on Abandoned home reports
3. **U.S. 31 Corridors Plans:** The Steering Committee will be meeting next Wednesday, September 16th. Mr. Boise and the consultant are planning a special meeting to gather public opinion on both corridors' plans. He will bring more information to the Board as the meeting plans evolve.
4. **Proposed Zoning Ordinance Committee:** Mr. Moore reported that the committee has met, and they recommend that the Committee meet with Mr. Boise and Attorney Brian Oaks to discuss motives behind changes made to the current Ordinance, and the legality of some of the rules and fines. Also of concern is the possible existence of a complaint log that led to several additions to the current Ordinance and map. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to direct Mr. Moore to represent the Board of Commissioners at a meeting with the Committee, Mr. Boise and Mr. Oaks. The meeting date will be determined.
5. **Corn Complaints:** Mr. Boise has inspected locations of corn complaints (corn growing too close to an intersection and impeding vision). In most of the locations the corn has already been cut back.

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. **Howard Haven Project:** The countertop and sinks have been installed in the kitchen at Howard Haven.
2. **Key Bank Remodeling Project:** Mr. Reed has been appointed to oversee all HVAC issues concerning the Key Bank remodeling project on the first floor of the Administration Center. He is concerned with the present architectural plan to vent heat from their Computer room into an inside wall. He believes it would be better to vent it to an outside wall so that it will not interfere with the building's heating and cooling system. Mr. Murrell suggests that approval of any plans be given, subject to the following:
 - a) Keeping Mr. Reed aware of all plans and changes, possibly making suggestions
 - b) Making any HVAC decisions and work subject to Mr. Reed's final inspection and approval

Discussion ensued concerning the HVAC system and Mr. Thompson being able to review the plans. At its conclusion, a motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to table approval of the Key Bank architectural plans for further review by Mr. Reed and Commissioner Thompson. Mr. Murrell will send a letter to Key Bank informing them of the Board's decision. IT Director Terry Tribby did inform the Board of a similar problem at the Courthouse, and that Mr. Reed's concern is legitimate.

IN THE MATTER OF PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Golf Outing:** The Annual Golf outing to benefit the employee's Holiday Party will be Wednesday, September 16th. Her office is in the process of organizing all aspects of the day.
2. **Government Employee Wellness Fair:** Plans are being finalized for the Wellness Fair scheduled on October 29, 2009 at the Kokomo Event Center. The hours will be determined. There are close to fifty booths, and Ms. McKillip is still hoping to have the employee flu shots available. She submitted the contract with the Kokomo Event Center and informed the Board that we will be sharing the rental costs with the City, at about \$125.00 each, for staff and utilities. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the rental agreement with the Kokomo Event Center for the Government Employee Wellness Fair on October 29th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.
3. **Insurance Committee Meeting:** There will be an Insurance Committee meeting on September 30 and they will be discussing a possible joint venture employee health clinic. Representatives from the City of Kokomo will be meeting with representatives of NOVIA, concerning an employee clinic, and Ms. McKillip invited the Board members to attend the meeting, if possible.

IN THE MATTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Information Systems Director Terry Tribby submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **A T & T Invoices:** At the August 17th meeting, Mr. Tribby had informed the Board of Commissioners of errors found in the monthly billing from A T & T for our Centrex lines (*please refer to page five, item two, "In The Matter Of Information Systems Department Issues", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated August 17, 2009*). In further review he has found that there are six data circuits at the Criminal Justice Center that have been disconnected but we are still being invoiced for on a monthly basis, in the estimated amount of \$15,000.00 annually. Mr. Tribby asked the Board for permission to cancel these numbers from our invoice and to negotiate a reimbursement. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to approve the disconnection and to authorize Mr. Tribby to negotiate for a reimbursement for the six lines. Mr. Tribby believes it would be beneficial to meet with an A T & T representative to be trained to read the enhanced billing reports.
2. **Wind Towers for Howard County Government:** Mr. Tribby made a trip to Benton County and noticed the wind towers. These towers were from the same company that wants to build a wind farm in Howard County. He was able to talk to the Project Manager from the company, and learned that Indiana is a prime zone for wind coverage. Mr. Tribby is interested in the possibility of using wind technology for Howard County government and has been made aware of an available grant of up to \$100,000.00 that would reimburse 50% of the project. He has spoken with a vendor that installs wind towers, and assured Mr. Tribby that it is feasible to install a wind tower on the top of one of our government buildings. This would be very beneficial as a part of Disaster

Preparedness. A model of this wind tower is on display at City Hall. Mr. Tribby has downloaded the grant application that is due September 25, 2009, and now asks for the Board's authorization to pursue this competitive grant. It is believed that three to five years would see the return on our investment. President Trine questions if the Administration Center would be the best location. He would rather see the towers installed at the Criminal Justice Center or Kinsey Youth Center, and would like Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Scott Reed to give approval of the location. At the conclusion of discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Moore to authorize Mr. Tribby to pursue the available grant, with the location to be determined at a later date. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONCERNS:

Health Department Director Kent Weaver submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Contract for Independent Vaccine Coordinator:** Mr. Weaver submitted a Contract with Karen A. Lopke for the services of H1N1 Coordinator to deliver the H1N1 Vaccine effective August 31, 2009 through July 30, 2010. This contract has been reviewed and approved by Attorney Murrell. There is a possibility of future contracts that would be similar in nature but with a different Exhibit A (Job Description). A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the contract with Karen A. Lopke for the services of delivering the H1N1 Vaccine, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to approve future contracts for service, and authorize the President or Vice President to sign on behalf of the Board, subject to the review and approval of Attorney Murrell and Attorney Oaks.

2. **Early Payment of Claim:** Mr. Weaver submitted a claim for lodging from the Radisson Hotel, in the amount of \$373.80, in reference to the IEHA 2009 Fall Educational Conference for Kent Weaver and James Vest. The Conference dates are September 27 – 30, 2009, and early payment of the rooms would exempt them from paying sales tax. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to declare the claim an Emergency Claim and approve early payment of the Radisson Invoice in the amount of \$373.80. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Sheriff Marshall Talbert submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Jail Population:** The current inmate population is three hundred forty-one (341) with fifty-nine being females. The Department of Correction holds are very low.
2. **State Jail Inspection:** The State's inspection of the Criminal Justice Center went very well and a copy of the report was sent to Phil Thatcher of Miles & Finch. He hopes this good report will help reduce insurance costs for next year. Sheriff Talbert expressed appreciation to Captain Vincent for his preparations, and the fact that minor issues from last year's inspection, were noted as corrected.
3. **Cumulative Capital Equipment Request:** Sheriff Talbert requested to purchase investigative equipment from the Commissioners' Cumulative Capital Fund, in the amount of \$848.00. The Video key fobs and Micro DV's from Law Enforcement Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$848.00, were approved for payment from 150-000-04000.00 on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.
4. **Pursue Grant for Completion of LED Light Bar Project:** Sheriff Talbert is in the process of completing Grant application paperwork for a 10% County match Grant, in the amount of \$9,995.00, in order to complete the LED Vehicle Light Bar Transition Project. The County Match amount will be taken from the Sheriff's Commissary Fund, which is a proper use of that fund. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to approve the grant application in the amount of \$9,995.00 for the completion of the LED Light Bar Transition Project, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. Sheriff Talbert will keep the Board posted.

IN THE MATTER OF A PROPOSAL FROM THE COURTHOUSE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

On behalf of the Greater Kokomo Economic Development Alliance and the Kokomo Downtown Association Council, Mr. Paul Wyman submitted a proposal from the Courthouse Beautification Committee. This Courthouse Beautification Project includes the

combined efforts of the Greater Kokomo Economic Development Committee, the Kokomo Downtown Association, City of Kokomo, Howard County, Urban Economic Association, Community Foundation, private citizens, Veterans groups and Kokomo Realtors. The proposal submitted today is a \$45,000.00 project funded (1) 1/3 by the private sector (cash dollars, volunteer hours and in kind donations), (2) 1/3 by the UEA and (3) 1/3 by the Community Foundation. **NO TAXPAYER FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR THIS PROJECT.** Mr. Wyman submitted copies of Letters of Commitment from the UEA and the Community Foundation, as well as the detailed breakdown of costs. Also included is a copy of an article from the Kokomo Tribune, concerning the importance of making a good impression with beautification efforts. Mr. Wyman continued to talk in support of beautification efforts as it pertains to a downtown area. This project has been a long time coming and Mr. Wyman believes progress has been made because of the partnership of many people and organizations. This project contains landscaping around the entire courthouse and has been adjusted from the original plans submitted to Commissioner Thompson in June. Landscaping artist, Mr. Cossell, has talked to Courthouse Security and the Maintenance Department about their concerns, and planned accordingly. Questions were then asked of Mr. Wyman and the landscaper, and concerns with maintenance of the planned flowers were also addressed. Mr. Cossell did respond that many of the shrubs are flowering shrubs and after blooms disappear, color is created with the leaves. All plants included are low maintenance. The Committee has asked for a letter of intent from the City of Kokomo to water the flowers with their watering truck, but the City declined. Discussion continued concerning the cemented over well on the Courthouse grounds, a sprinkler system, and the absence of Commissioner Thompson. At the conclusion of discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Beautification Project proposal as submitted, subject to the review and approval of Commissioner Thompson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.

Mr. John Wiles of the Kokomo Downtown Association invited the Board of Commissioners to attend a meeting, this Friday, at the Chamber of Commerce, at 8:00 a.m. for the submission of the City's proposal for the streets around the Courthouse.

IN THE MATTER OF KINSEY YOUTH CENTER ISSUES:

Kinsey Director Brent Kelley submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Replace Washing Machines:** Two of the household washing machines at the Youth Center are in disrepair and need to be replaced. Mr. Kelley is requesting funds from the Cumulative Capital Equipment fund to replace the two washers, in the amount of \$718.00, \$359.00 each. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to approve the purchase of two household washing machines from the Cumulative Capital Fund, in the amount of \$718.00.
2. **Surveillance Camera Replacement:** They have a surveillance camera that is damaged. It would cost \$150.00 to be repaired and \$170.00 to be replaced with a one-year warranty. Mr. Kelley recommends replacement of the camera. The camera purchase from the Cumulative Capital Fund, in the amount of \$170.00, was approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

IN THE MATTER OF POP TOPS FOR RILEY AWARD:

Mr. Jerry Paul from Veterans for a Better Community introduced Ms. Hannah Harrell. Ms. Harrell has been collecting pop can tabs for Riley Children's Hospital, on behalf of Washington Elementary School. With the help of Mr. Paul they were able to present 1,208,000 tabs in Indianapolis, receiving a special plaque. They are at the meeting today so that Ms. Harrell could present the plaque to the Board of Commissioners for the Riley Kids of Howard County. Mr. Paul asked that the plaque be hung in a public place. The presentation was made and pictures of Ms. Harrell with Mr. Trine and Mr. Moore were taken, in front of the County Seal. Congratulations were given to Ms. Harrell and all who had a part in the pop tab project.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

The following Claims and Reports were submitted by Auditor Ann Wells, for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** Salary, hourly, and overtime claims payable September 11 and 18, 2009, in the amount of \$335,386.35 each, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.
2. **Operating Claims:** Commissioners' Operating Claims payable today, in the amount of \$760,615.21, were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending August 31, 2009 was submitted and accepted on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

IN THE MATTER OF A BARNES & THORNBURG INVOICE:

County Attorney Larry Murrell submitted an invoice from Barnes and Thornburg in the amount of \$73,234.74 for services rendered for the period ending July 31, 2009. \$54,657.24 was for the Delphi Bankruptcy Matters and \$18,577.50 for Chrysler Corporation. Mr. Murrell informed the Board that if Delphi emerges from bankruptcy as planned, our legal expenses should abate. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Barnes & Thornburg invoice for payment in the amount of \$73,234.74. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

1. **Commissioner Moore:** The Proposed Zoning Ordinance Committee is continuing to have meetings, in preparation for the Public Hearing on October 5th.

He is attending on-going meetings as a member of the Private Sector sub-committee, as it pertains to Downtown Development. They have been discussing incentives for property and business owners as well as assistance for on-going business for the downtown area.

Mr. Moore has been approached by Mr. Kyle Rayl, owner of the Soupley's Packaged Liquor stores, here in Kokomo. He is in the process of lobbying against the proposed legislation concerning Sunday liquor sales. Mr. Rayl is collecting information to submit to Mr. Moore, and requests that the Board of Commissioners consider issuing a statement in support of the lobbying activities against Sunday liquor sales and its effects. Mr. Moore personally supports this effort, and will submit the information after it is received.

Thursday, Mr. Moore will be attending a portion of the Association Of Indiana Solid Waste Management Districts' Annual Conference. At their luncheon the Howard County Recycling District will be receiving a Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. Mr. Moore congratulated Director Mikki Jeffers and the staff of the Recycling District.

Appreciation was expressed to Terry Tribby and the Information Systems Department for the donation of a used computer to the United Way 211 program. Mr. Tribby had received previous approval from the Board of Commissioners.

2. **Commissioner Trine:** Mr. Trine read the following note from Commissioner Thompson:

"Many of you may already know I am out-of-state at a conference this week. With this meeting being changed from morning to afternoon, I was unable to attend and still make my flight out this evening. I hope all went well. I would like everyone to pray for our Councilmen and the tough budget recommendations they will have to consider this week."

A thank-you card was received from the Paul Raver Family and President Trine read the following response.

" Just over two and a half years ago I met Paul Raver, the Commissioner. After winning the election I received a call from Paul. He had asked me to meet with him and I did so with some anxiety. I didn't know how I'd be received: politics can be mean and ugly. But after I met with him, that's when I met Paul Raver, the man, and what a man he was. He took time and explained to me the basics of county government, how to be patient, how to be calm in the middle of a storm. My next two years I spent sitting beside Paul Raver, the teacher. It was a sad day when he retired. I often referred to Paul as the "Iron Man". You could always count on Paul Raver. If he told you something, you could take it to the bank. Paul was a no nonsense person, he was the historian for Howard County. I had recently talked with Paul just a couple of weeks before he passed away. I'd had a question and I knew he would be the person to ask. And he was quick with the answer. He could tell you just about anything you wanted to know about the buildings, the people, policies, and procedures. That was Paul because of his dedication, his dedication to the people of the community and county. Paul was not a politician; he was an Elected Official. He cared about his family, his wife, his children, his grandchildren; he was very proud of them. He cared about doing the right thing. That was Paul Raver, the person. Everyone that I know could have learned from Paul Raver. I know I'll miss him and we will all as a county miss Paul Raver."

The Veterans Service Officer's Monthly report for the month of June, 2009, was submitted and accepted on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

The Weights and Measures Monthly Report for the month of July 15, 2009 to August 15, 2009, was submitted and accepted on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

Congratulations were extended to Sheriff Talbert and the Department for the perfect Jail Inspection Report. It shows the commitment of the officers and employees.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the motion was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Trine.

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 Commissioner Meeting September 8, 2009