

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING JULY 18, 2011

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, July 18, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Tyler Moore, Vice President Paul Wyman, and Member Bill Thompson. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Moore. Commissioner Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Wyman offered prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the July 5th Regular meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

The minutes of the July 12, 2011, Administrative meeting were submitted. This meeting was with the Howard County Drainage Board to receive follow-up information from Surveyor Dan Minor, Acting Surveyor Greg Lake, and Attorney Larry Murrell regarding the proposed formation of a joint drainage board with Cass County to address problems with the E. Moss/Conwell regulated drain. The minutes were approved on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

The minutes of the July 13, 2011, Administrative meeting were submitted for approval. At 9:00 a.m. the Commissioners received information and recommendations regarding the 2012 County budget from Chief Deputy Auditor Laurie Martin and County Attorney Larry Murrell. At 10:00 a.m. the Board received information and recommendations regarding the County's health insurance plan from Personnel Director Wanda McKillip and insurance representative, Doug Heath. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to approve the minutes as submitted.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Tyler Moore opened the floor for Public Comment as follows:

Brenda Pullen, 4958 South County Road 650 West, Russiaville: Ms. Pullen considers the document referred to by Lance Rice (Dog Ordinance, section K) to be irrelevant in the current rezoning request, as it pertains to the issue of dog control and not to the zoning of property (*please refer to page three of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 5, 2011*). She was also concerned that Mr. Rice was allowed to use personal information to (in her words) slander the name of dog handler Carla Norton, and that it was reported in the Kokomo Tribune. Ms. Pullen also took the opportunity to clarify several issues concerning Ms. Norton.

President Moore apologized for the situation referred to and confirmed that the Board of Commissioners does not censure what is said by citizens at a public meeting. If Ms. Pullen believes that there was slander, she may want to contact Mr. Rice and the Kokomo Tribune.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT:

- 1) Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted a renewal recommendation from the Insurance Committee to continue coverage with Standard Life Insurance at the existing premium rates, guaranteed until November 1, 2013. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to approve the Committee's recommendation to continue employee life insurance coverage with Standard Life Insurance.
- 2) Ms. McKillip and Mr. Doug Heath, of Regions Insurance, submitted the Insurance Committee's recommendation for the Anthem Health Insurance Coverage. The Insurance Fund has been reduced to a dangerously low level because of the increase in catastrophic illness claims over the last year and a half. In the past, a typical year would include five or six people with claims in amount of \$50,000 to \$100,000. Last year there were thirteen to fourteen. In a typical year there might be one or two claims over the \$100,000 amount. Last year there were two, and this year there have been two, already. The Insurance Committee voted unanimously to offer the following proposal changes to the County's self-funded medical plan:

1. Change the Deductible from \$750 to **\$1,500**
2. Change out-of-pocket maximum from \$2,500 to **\$4,000 (per person capped at 2 per family)**
3. Change prescriptions from 10-20-30 (retail), 20-40-60 (mail) to **10-30-60 (retail), 10-75-180 (mail)**

The changes will be effective September 1, 2011.

The Committee also voted unanimously to hold off implementation of “spousal carve out” in order to give the Committee a chance to:

Review the proposed document – suggest changes or modifications

Complete a survey of employees with spouses that would provide information about:

- ❖ How many would be affected
- ❖ Cost of other coverage
- ❖ Type coverage available/plan of benefits
- ❖ Better estimate potential savings to County

Decide if grandfathered group would benefit by paying more premium vs. implementing carve out.

- ❖ Introduced some information concerning a wellness program that could be effective 2-1-12; additional information and discussion to follow.

Mr. Heath reviewed the proposed changes with the Board of Commissioners and answered questions. Ms. McKillip also reminded the Board that the last insurance plan change happened in 2002, because of the high amount of claims activity. At that time the plan was changed to create a two-tiered plan and to increase the co-pay amounts. The deductible was increased from \$250 to \$750, and out-of-pocket was increased to \$2,500. There was also mention and discussion concerning a Wellness program that will be discussed in February, 2012.

At this time the floor was opened by Mr. Moore, for comment and questions, and comments were received from the following Howard County Employees: William Ebert, Martha Lake, Rhonda Burket, Richard Cotterell, Jeff Lipinski, Teresa Hudson, Jamie Shepherd, Konny Zurcher, Larry Murrell, Jeremy Stevens, and Councilman Les Ellison.

Several asserted there had been a lack of communication of these proposed changes to the employees. Because thirty days are needed to implement the new plan by the September 1st deadline, a motion was made by Mr. Wyman to table the recommended Insurance Plan change, for today, to hold an Insurance Committee meeting open to employees for the purpose of gathering information and suggestions, on Thursday, July 21st at 4:15 p.m. Then the Board will call for a Special Session of the Board of Commissioners for Tuesday, July 26 at 6:00 p.m. in the basement of the Administration Center, in order to meet and take action on the recommendation given by the Insurance Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.

- 3) Ms. McKillip introduced Mr. George Foster, Education Counselor for the Great-West Retirement Services, record keeper for the State of Indiana Public Employees Deferred Comp Plan. Mr. Foster reviewed the Employee Plan with the Board of Commissioners and highlighted information regarding the services of Great-West, provision of support services on line, and plan statistics. He continued to inform the Board that the State of Indiana has adopted the Roth 457(b) contribution feature, effective July 1, 2011. Participants can choose either a pre-tax (current plan) or a Roth 457(b) contribution, but not both concurrently. An amendment to the State of Indiana Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan Adoption Agreement was submitted to the Board for their consideration and approval. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the Amendment to the State of Indiana Public Employee Deferred

Compensation Plan Adoption Agreement, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Thompson noted that there will be no significant cost to the County. Therefore the motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT:

At the July 5th meeting the Board of Commissioners approved the Sheriff’s request to distribute Invitations to Quote for two new transport vans that fit specifications for Mavron detention inserts (*please refer to page one, Sheriff Department” of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 5, 2011*). Sheriff Rogers invited Captain Jerry Asher to continue the presentation. Quotes were received from Kokomo Ford and Erik’s Chevrolet. It was requested that two sizes of vans be quoted. Kokomo Ford could only quote the larger van and the quotes are listed as follows:

	Kokomo Ford	Eriks Chevrolet	
	<u>E350 Van</u>	<u>3500 Van</u>	<u>2500 Van</u>
Price per vehicle	\$34,335.25	\$35,390.00	\$30,860.00
Minus discount and trades	<u>\$10,900</u>	<u>\$10,200</u>	<u>\$11,719</u>
TOTAL:	\$23,435.25	\$25,190.00	\$19,141.00

The Kokomo Ford’s quote for the larger van is the lower price, but they do not meet the required specs, that include a rear AC unit. The unit could be put in the van after market for \$2,500. The AC unit is already included in the van from Eriks Chevrolet. Captain Asher is recommending both purchases from Eriks Chevrolet. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the purchase of the 3500 Van (\$25,190) and the 2500 Van (\$19,141) from Eriks Chevrolet, to be paid from Misdemeanant funds. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.

HOWARD HAVEN:

Howard Haven Superintendent Jennifer Vary submitted a new resident Application for Mr. Robert Vickery of South Bend Indiana; Mr. Vickery’s mother is a resident of Howard County. Mr. Vickery receives full ARCH support. After review of the application a motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the application for residency for Mr. Robert Vickery, with the usual 90 day probationary period. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried. Mr. Moore congratulated Ms. Vary on the pork and beef donations received from the Howard County Fair. The donations were so large that Ms. Vary was able to donate a portion to the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

STORMWATER DEPT:

Greg Lake informed the Board that President Moore signed a document on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the signature needs to be ratified. The document was a Four Factor Analysis Form for the Grant Certification of the Darrough Chapel project, insuring that Howard County provides an interpreter for any non English speaking resident. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to ratify the signature of President Moore on the Four Factor Analysis Form of the Darrough Chapel Project, submitted by Ms. Tina Henderson at Mendenhall and Associates.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

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

1. **Salary Claims:** Commissioners’ Salary, Hourly and Overtime claims payable July 22 and 29, 2011, in the amount of \$352,254.24 each, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.
2. **Operating Claims:** Commissioners’ Operating Claims payable today, in the total amount of \$484,244.16, were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.
3. **Monthly Reports:** Ms. Wells submitted the Treasurer’s Monthly report for the month ending June 30, 2011, and the Clerk’s Monthly Report for the month ending June 30, 2011. Both reports were accepted on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

At this time the Regular Commissioner Meeting was recessed to hold previously schedule Drainage Board and Stormwater meetings, at 10:46 a.m. on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson, and was reconvened at 12:06 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

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

1. **State's Offer To Purchase Property:** At the July 5th meeting Mr. Murrell informed the Board of a request from the State of Indiana to purchase .5 acres from Howard County in the amount of \$2,900.00 (*please refer to page seven, issue five, "In The Matter Of County Attorney Issues", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 5, 2011*). Mr. Murrell submitted the request to County Highway Engineer Ted Cain for his review. Mr. Cain has given his approval of this request, stating that the proposed property is alongside a county road, and will be condemned by the State as a part of the new US31 Project. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman that Howard County accept the offer of the State of Indiana to purchase .522 acres known as Parcel #710 in Project 06 00343 (US 31 ByPass), for the sum of \$2,290; and authorize the President of the Board to execute the following documents on behalf of the Board to complete this transaction: [1] The Confirmation of Receipt of the Booklet; [2] Page 4 of the Uniform Property or Easement Acquisition Offer letter; [3] The Warranty Deed with Limitation of Access; [4] the Sales Disclosure Form; [5] The Indiana Department of Transportation Land Acquisition Claim-Voucher; and [6] The Vendor Information Form (W-9). The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.
2. **Ordinance No. 2011-BCCO-18:** This Ordinance prohibits parking from 214 feet west of the centerline of Lewis Street to 410 feet west of the centerline of Lewis Street on the south side of Baxter Street. Mr. Moore informed the Board that this area of Baxter Street has a problem with water run-off, and is also an area where a homicide was committed several years ago. The area is still a site of questionable activity, and the Traffic Commission was asked to consider making the area a No Parking zone. The Traffic Commission now passes their recommendation on to the Board of Commissioners as Ordinance No. 2011-BCCO-18. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve Ordinance No. 2011-BCCO-18, and to post No Parking signs on the south side of Baxter Street. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.
3. **Wilson Invoice:** Mr. Murrell submitted the final invoice from Attorney Alan Wilson in the Nicholas Maggart v. Marty Talbert, Sheriff of Howard County Case, in the amount of \$512.50. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to approve the invoice from Attorney Alan Wilson, in the amount of \$512.50. This will be paid from the Insurance Deductible line item.
4. **Recommendation For Zoning And Animal Control Ordinance Precedence:** Mr. Murrell informed the Commissioners that he will be meeting with Assistant County Attorney Alan Wilson to review the Zoning Ordinance and the Animal Control Ordinance as they pertain to rezoning request for Troy and Brenda Pullen (*please refer to discussion on pages 1 – 3, Plan Commission, of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 5, 2011*). Mr. Murrell will submit a recommendation at the next Regular meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON:

Mr. Thompson expressed appreciation for the CPR / AED class that was held for County employees. The Certificates have been received.

There have been articles in the media, lately, concerning potential savings in the use of Voting Centers in lieu of Polling Sites, and if they are a benefit to voters. Mr. Thompson does not have financial statistics at this time. In his opinion he believes that the current voting situation reflects a low voter turn-out. He believes Howard County should try the Voting Center to see if it increases voter turn-out. Information Systems Director Terry Tribby commented that he has heard favorable comments on Voting Centers. He did say that a Central Base is necessary.

COMMISSIONER MOORE:

An IDEM notice was received in reference to approval of an air quality permit to Delphi Kokomo Technical Center / 067-30310-000077. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to accept the IDEM notice as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.

The County was notified by PPG Industries, Inc. that it is conducting environmental investigations and remediation activities related to PPG's former glass manufacturing operations in Kokomo. The activities focus on arsenic, which may have been used by the company before it closed in 1929. They will contact nineteen home and business owners in the area surrounding 1500 East Murden Street.

Mr. Moore had meetings, last week, with several gas suppliers concerning the July 1st deregulation of NIPSCO Gas Company. Howard County residents can now choose from several different supplies. Mr. Moore will forward information for the Board's consideration of choosing a gas company for the County's buildings.

Mr. Moore forwarded appreciation to Attorney Murrell, from County Assessor Jamie Shepherd and Center Township Assessor Sheila Pullen, for his efforts during negotiations and final resolution with General Motors concerning taxing issues. Mr. Murrell, in turn, thanked the whole team for their efforts, commenting that many people were involved. Ms. Shepherd and Ms. Pullen were always prepared and, in his opinion, are the best assessors in the State of Indiana.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

TYLER O. MOORE, PRESIDENT

PAUL G. WYMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

WILLIAM THOMPSON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR
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