

NOTICE OF AND AGENDA FOR:
HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING
HOWARD COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
220 NORTH MAIN STREET, ROOM 338 (3RD FLOOR)
MONDAY, OCTOBER 07th, 2024, AT 4:00 P.M.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer
- II. Special Announcements / Recognitions
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
- IV. Departmental Business & Reports
 - A. *Howard County Sherriff's Department – Major Gary Cook*
 - i. K9 Purchase
 - B. *Highway Department– Amber Tolle*
 - i. Annual Material Bid Advertisement
 - ii. Utility Reimbursement Agreement – Bridge 56 Replacement
- V. New Business
- VI. Claims & Reports
 - A. Salary Claims
 - B. Payroll Expense
 - C. Operating Claims
 - D. Ratify Claims
 - E. Monthly Reports
 - F. Grants
- VII. County Attorney Issues
- VIII. Commissioner Issues
- IX. Public Comments
- X. Adjourn

JACK W. DODD, PRESIDENT
R. BRAD BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT
JEFF S. LIPINSKI, MEMBER

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: SEPTEMBER 16th, 2024

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, September 16th, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included Commissioner President Jack Dodd, Commissioner Vice President Brad Bray, Commissioner Member Jeff Lipinski, and County Auditor Jessica Secrease.

The meeting was called to order by Major Gary Cook and conducted by President Dodd. Commissioner President Dodd led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Lipinski offered a word of prayer.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITIONS:

Employee of the Month.

Commissioner Bray read off the county employee's *Employee of the Month* winner, which was the Howard County IT Department. The entire IT Department demonstrated hard work and diligence when Microsoft experienced a hack that could have affected the entire county. The IT department put their hands on every computer in the county to make sure our systems were up and running and safe to use in the most efficient manner.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the September 3rd, 2024, regular meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski to approve. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:

HOWARD COUNTY TREASURER

Three Plus One Cash Vest Program

Howard County Treasurer Christie Branch introduced Three Plus One Business Development Team member Kevin Teborck and National Director of Financial Partnerships Kyle Cline who have come to the meeting to present their Cash Vest Program. Three Plus One is a company that specializes in public service, higher education, and government banking through liquidity data analysis. They would like to extend their services to us and help our community find any additional revenue opportunities and cost savings. No motions were given at this time, Christie Branch has asked the Commissioners to take this company under advisement as a potential tool to generate revenue.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Drainage Repairs

Building Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presents the drainage repairs at the Jeff Stout Building. A cast iron drain line cracked. Mr. Stonestreet has decided to use the Emergency fund and set an \$8,000 cap on the repairs. Mr. Stonestreet has requested permission for the repairs budget to come out of Cumulative Capital Development Building Repair Fund 1138.47241 and not to exceed \$8,000. A motion to approve the purchase of the drainage repairs was made by Commissioner Lipinski. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Heat Pumps Update

Building Superintendent Bill Stonestreet presents the heat pump repairs, the project will take place in 2025 and Mr. Stonestreet is getting information from vendors and manufacturers, he would also like to add an additional \$30,000

for ceiling repairs. Mr. Stonestreet plans to have everything ready to ask for permission to proceed on this project at the October 21st Commissioners Meeting. No motion was made at this time.

GUARDIAN ADVOCATES

Donation Request

Guardian Advocates-West Executive Co-Director Alachia Sturgess presented her annual update. Last year (2023) Guardian Advocates presented the same letter of intent with some changes made in August 2024. Last year they were award \$7,500 from the Commissioners in donations. There are 14 cases appointed, 85-90 total referrals in Howard County. Howard County is being served at the highest percentage. They are budgeted at \$230,000 a year, this expectation has never been reached, they work from a budget approximately \$120,000 a year. Guardian Advocates is requesting a donation of \$7,500 from the Commissioners for 2024. The Commissioners will take this under advisement.

CASA

Vehicle Purchase

CASA Executive Director Holly Becker presents the permission to complete the purchase of a vehicle through the Opioid Fund. This vehicle would help with the traveling CASA has to do for their guardian advocates. Project Manager Pam Isaac states she has spoken with Auditor Jessica Secrease regarding the best way to move forward with the purchase of this vehicle through Opioid Fund which has been set aside for CASA. Attorney Allen Wilson has approved the plan with Pam Isaac. Commissioner Lipinski made a motion to put the CASA vehicle purchase under advisement, there was no second to the motion. A motion to approve the vehicle purchase was made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on September 6th, 2024, in the amounts of \$1,068,282.98, were submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Bray to approve. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Payroll Expenses:** The Commissioners' Payroll Expenses for payment on September 6th, 2024, in the amounts of \$1,068,282.98, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray to approve. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid on September 16th, 2024, in the amount of \$3,420,741.95 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski to approve. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and the motion carried.
4. **Monthly Reports:** Auditor Jessica Secrease presented the following reports to be received into record.
 - a. Weights and Measures Monthly Report August 16th to September 15th 2024.
 - b. Howard County Treasure monthly report ending 7/31/2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Clint Oliver 5768 West 00 North South Kokomo Indiana

Mr. Oliver had a question about bids on the contract for the heat pumps and if there will be one.

Project Manager Pam Isaac comes up to explain that County Attorney Allen Wilson and herself met with the Wilson Learning Center, they are approved through State Board of Accounts. Pam Isaac has a copy of the RFP and a copy of the State Board of Accounts confirmation letter. This was all done through the procurements process through the Wilson Learning Center.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time
the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski.
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and the motion carried.*

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

JACK W. DODD, PRESIDENT

R. BRAD BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

JEFF S. LIPINSKI, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioners' Meeting: September 16th 2024