

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: JANUARY 3, 2023**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Brad Bray, Vice President Jack Dodd, Member Jeff Lipinski, County Auditor Jessica Secrease, and County Attorney Alan Wilson.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Asher and conducted by President Bray. Commissioner Dodd led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Pastor Charlie Riley offered a word of prayer.

### **REORGANIZATION OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Lipinski made a motion to nominate Commissioner Bray as President and Commissioner Dodd as Vice President. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:**

#### **HOWARD COUNTY HIGHWAY**

##### ***Signing Authority for CCMG Project***

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle asked for a signing authority for the CCMG Project. Vice President Dodd nominated President Bray to be the signing authority for the CCMG Project. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### **HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

##### ***Committee Assignments***

Vice President Dodd stated the Committee Assignments are on file in the Project Manager's office to view.

##### ***Assignment to North Center Indiana Regional Committee***

Commissioner Lipinski nominated Vice President Dodd to serve on the North Center Indiana Regional Committee. President Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

##### ***Commissioners Appointee to North Center Indiana Regional Committee***

Vice President Dodd nominated Paul Wyman to the Commissioners Appointee for the North Center Indiana Regional Committee. 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 December 30, 2022, in the amount of \$945,885.41 were submitted and approved on a motion made by Vice President Dodd. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Payroll Expenses:** The Commissioners' Payroll Expenses for payment on December 30, 2022, in the amount of \$945,885.41 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Vice President Dodd. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid January 3, 2023, in the amount of \$491,325.13 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Vice President Dodd. 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 the record:
  - i. Treasurer's Monthly Report Ending 10/31/2022

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*Resident Brad Semon of 10954 E. 100 S., Greentown, Indiana:* Mr. Semon stated that he is concerned about the fact that the Sheriff nor anyone from the Sheriff’s department attended the last Commissioners’ Meeting. Mr. Semon stated that he would like for the County to reconsider live streaming the Commissioners’ Meetings due to the fact that when a person stands up and states their name and address, there is a potential safety risk.

*Resident Clee Oliver of 5768 W. 00 NS., Kokomo, Indiana:* Mr. Oliver asked if all the ARP money that the County received has been spent. Vice President Dodd stated that the ARP money has been appropriated at this time, but it has not all been spent. Vice President Dodd explained that federal guidelines state that the County has until 2024 to have the ARP money appropriated and until 2026 to have it all spent. Vice President Dodd stated the money has been put to good use on projects that the County otherwise would not have gotten done, such as the remodel of the Administration Center and the Courthouse. The County has helped out a lot of agencies. Mr. Oliver stated that he felt like the remodel of this building was not COVID-19 related, and he brought up that some of the townships got more money than other townships. Vice President Dodd stated that he would get with County Attorney Alan Wilson to get some documentation to Mr. Oliver.

***There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time,  
the meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m. on a motion made by Vice President Dodd.  
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lipinski, and the motion carried.***

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

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R. BRAD BRAY, PRESIDENT

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JACK W. DODD, VICE PRESIDENT

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JEFF S. LIPINSKI, MEMBER

**ATTEST:**

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JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

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