

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISS1SIONERS' MEETING: JANUARY 17, 2023

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 17, 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 Major Gary Cook and conducted by President Bray. President Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Lipinski offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 28, 2022, January 3, 2023 regular meetings, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Vice President Dodd; Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS / RECONGINTION:

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The Howard County Commissioners congratulated Howard County Community Corrections employee Kimberlee Atwell. Kimberlee was very helpful in training another Community Corrections employee in learning how to prepare claims in the financial role. Kimberlee maintains a positive attitude is always available for questions. It is with great honor that the Commissioners extended congratulations and the memento from Kokomo Opalescent Glass to her. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

The Commissioners congratulated the following county employees, and Vice President Dodd read their Employee Service Awards into the record:

Employee	Years of Service	Employee	Years of Service
Rita Berry	40	Barbara Kiser	10
Janet Lloyd	30	James Jewell Jr.	5
Bryan Fitzgerald	30	Loretta McNally	5
Steven Arnold	30	Jenifer Workman	5
Michael McGraw	15	Amie Campbell	5
Michelle Livingston	10	Sharon Hoover- Hogan	5

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:

HOWARD COUNTY TREASURER

Board of Finance Meeting

In the absence of Treasurer Christie Branch, the Board of Finance Meeting was tabled.

HOWARD COUNTY BEHAVIORAL SERVICES

2022 Annual Report

Vice President George Hurd introduced Danielle to present the annual report for Community Fairbanks Behavioral Health. Danielle stated for the fiscal year of 2022, the number of patients served that reside in Howard County was 2,316 adults and 1,099 youth. Danielle stated that these patients are 50% Medicaid, 25% Medicare, 14% self-pay, and 10% commercial. The contractual write-off and/or charity care provided to the county was in the amount of \$6,228,872.00. The amount of contractual adjustments/write-offs was \$1,207,727.00. The amount of County funding for 2018 was \$769,629.00, for 2019 was \$830,350.00, for 2021 was \$844,001.00, and for 2022 was \$815,371.00. The

number of crisis assessments was 1,027 and the number of acute care admissions was 516. They provided several community outreach activities such as Recovery Works, FSA, Howard County Mental Health Coalition, Sheriff's Department, Probation, Problem Solving Courts, DCS, Robert J. Kinsey Youth Center, Howard County Systems of Care Team, and Turning Point.

Danielle introduced Sara Graber, the Kokomo Clinic Program Manager. Sara spoke about the new partnerships in the County such as Kinsey Juvenile Detention Center, Howard County Jail, and expanded services Western, Eastern, and Taylor Schools. Some of the clinical services provided are inpatient detox and stabilization, intensive substance use recovery, relapse prevention. The total pregnant woman that were seen in 2022 was 25. A total of 337 women with dependent children were seen, and the number of patients receiving medication-assisted treatment was 155. The top five diagnoses were as follows: stimulant at 41.7%, opioid at 27.37%, alcohol at 22.41%, cannabis at 5.46%, and cocaine at 3.02%. Some of the mental health services available are crisis services, counseling/therapy, psychiatry, family education, and in-home services. The top five mental health diagnoses were depressive disorder, trauma-stress-related disorders, anxiety disorder, disruptive impulse-control disorders, schizophrenia spectrum, and other psychotic disorders.

Vice President George Hurd addressed the seven million dollar grant received in late 2019. Community Health Network acquired Fairbanks Hospital with the help of this grant. Six months ago, they received three different grants from CCBCHC; one was for the Howard region, and one was for the Indianapolis region. Mr. Hurd stated that Senate Bill 1 is addressing mental health issues, and this will allow them to have a mobile crisis center. Mr. Hurd is hopeful that by 2026 they will receive federal funding.

HOWARD COUNTY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Water Heater for Howard County Jail

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet submitted a quote to replace the water heater at the Howard County jail not to exceed \$18,000.00. Maintenance will do the removal, and Irish Plumbing will do all hook up. Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay this from the Cumulative Capital Building Upgrades Account (line item 1138.47243.000.0000). A motion was made by Commissioner Lipinski to replace the water heater at the jail not exceed \$18,000.00 and pay for it out of the Cumulative Capital Upgrades Account (line item 1138.47243.000.0000). Vice President Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Roof Repair at Work Release

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet submitted a quote to repair the roof at work release from Global Building Solutions in the amount of \$12,618.00. Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay this from the Cumulative Capital Building Upgrades Account (line item 1138.47243.000.0000). A motion was made by Vice President Dodd to repair the roof at work release by Global Building Solutions not to exceed \$12,618.00 and pay for it out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund, Building Repair Account (line item 1138.4723.000.0000). President Brad Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

2022 100R

Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the 2022 100R into record. Auditor Secrease stated that the report has been posted in all the government buildings. Vice President Dodd approved the 2022 100R as being received into record.

Hartman and Williams, LLC Annual Engagement

Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the annual engagement with Hartman and Williams, LLC. Donna Vincent assists with the County's Annual Financial Report. A motion was made by Vice President Dodd to approve the engagement letter with Hartman and Williams, LLC. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Community Crossings Grant

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle presented the Community Crossings Grant Financial Commitment Letter, which required signatures for the County Commissioners to match the million-dollar grant. Vice President Dodd made a motion to sign the Community Crossings Grant Financial Commitment Letter. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

COUNTY INSURANCE UPDATES

Doug Heath from McGriff Insurance presented that, after looking at 26 different reinsurance carriers, Symetra offered the best policy. Symetra has built in no new laser in the policy, so they wouldn't be able to add anything at renewal, which is also at a 50% rate cap. This move would be seamless as far as the employee goes; ID cards stay the same. The only change is the deductible went from \$2,500.00 to \$2,000.00. If this gets worked out, the cost of the plan will only go up 2%. Vice President Dodd made a motion to lower the deductible from \$2,500.00 to \$2,000.00. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Heath also presented that the use of the TrueScripts program has declined. Mr. Heath's proposal is to roll the this back into Anthem and have them do all tier one medication at zero copay for the employees. Vice President Dodd made a motion to drop TrueScripts and instead go with the tier one plan at Anthem. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Finally, Mr. Heath presented the contract for Truveris Watch Dog Pharmacy, a product paid by Anthem, requiring a Commissioner's signature. Truveris Watch Dog Pharmacy will make sure that the County gets the full rebates that come from name brand drugs. The County received a credit of \$106,000.00 for the true up from last quarter. Vice President Dodd made a motion to authorize any of the Commissioners to sign for the Truveris Watch Dog Pharmacy Agreement. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

KOKOMO DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET ANNUAL UPDATE

Susan Alexander, a volunteer with the Kokomo Downtown Farmer's Market, presented several updates. She stated that the annual summer events had partnerships with five governmental entities and four local nonprofits and growing. There were also paid opportunities for local musicians, volunteer development, and inter development. She explained that nutrition education and small business development promote sustainability in local food systems as well as direct financial support for local farmers and consumers.

There are 40 small business that participate in the market, and some of these small businesses have started their own brick and mortar businesses. The market provides people that use snap to purchase food using the double bucks program. The total for 2022 was \$4,160.00 under this program. There were 750 Little Sprouts that came to do the tasting and meet the farmers. The total sales for 2022 was \$131,000.00 with over 5,000 market attendees.

For 2023, the market would like to increase the double bucks program for snap users, up the marketing by ten times, double the sales, and expand non-profits partnerships. Duke Energy will be the 2023 presenting sponsorship. They will be covering the nonprofit community events. Ms. Alexander thanked the County Commissioner for all their support through the years as the Kokomo Downtown Farmer's Market has been up and running for 21 years.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Agreement Addendum

Community Supervision Director Dustin DeLong presented the addendum for Howard County Community Corrections Agreement to be signed. This addendum is modifying the original contract to a one-year contract beginning March 25, 2023. The contract was submitted and approved on a motion made by Vice President Dodd. Commissioner Lipinski seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Renewal Software License Agreement

Howard County Clerk Debbie Stewart presented the renewal of the software license agreement with Computer Systems, Inc. (CSI). The software license agreement was submitted and approved by Commissioner Lipinski. Vice President Dodd 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 January 13, 2023, in the amount of \$ 944,256.10 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 January 13, 2023, in the amount of \$944,256.10 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 17, 2023, in the amount of \$1,471,455.89 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 for November 2022
 - i. Weights & Measures Monthly Report: 12/16/2022 - 01/15/2023

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Resident Clee Oliver of 5768 W. 00 NS., Kokomo, Indiana: Mr. Oliver asked if any decision had been made on live streaming of the public meetings. President Bray stated that they would like to delay the meetings, but they just don't have the schedule at this time. Vice President Dodd stated that he agrees with President Bray. Vice President Dodd stated that he would like to leave this up to the IT department and let them make a schedule to have the meetings broadcasted. Mr. Oliver was concerned with how the opioid settlement funds were being distributed, stating that Turning Point was getting 63% of the funds whereas only 13% was going to Howard County Drug Free, 8% to Valley of Grace, 8% to Gilead House, and 8% to Family Service Association. Vice President Dodd addressed this issue by saying that the Commissioners decided that this is where the money would be most used and make the most impact in the community.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

Ordinance No. 2023-BCCO-3 – New Grant Fund: Marion Monroe Drain Reconstruction Fund

Attorney Alan Wilson presented Ordinance No. 2023-BCCO-3: An Ordinance of the Howard County Board of Commissioners to Create a New Grant Fund: Marion Monroe Drain Reconstruction Fund. Ordinance No. 2023-BCCO-3 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski. The motion was seconded by Vice President Dodd, and the motion carried.

***There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time,
the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Lipinski.
The motion was seconded by Vice President Dodd, and the motion carried.***

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

R. BRAD BRAY, PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, VICE PRESIDENT

JEFF S. LIPINSKI, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioners' Meeting: January 17, 2023