

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2008

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, December 15, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in Hearing Room No. 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Bradley Bagwell, Vice President David Trine, and Member Paul Raver. Also in attendance were Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Marshall Talbert and conducted by President Bagwell.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 1, 2008 meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Trine and seconded by Mr. Raver.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Highway Engineer / Superintendent Ted Cain submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Change Order Number Two:** Change Order #2 is in reference to the Ohio Street Bridge and is submitted by the Indiana Department of Transportation. The change description is to "...delete epoxy paint and thermo and add waterborne paint". Change Order #2 was approved on a motion made by Mr. Raver and seconded by Mr. Trine.
2. **Quotes For A New Vehicle:** The Highway Department is in need of a new pick-up truck and now submits two quotes as follows:

Kokomo Auto World	\$27,658.25 with \$500.00 trade-in
Brad Howell Ford	\$27,998.40 with \$500.00 trade-in

Mr. Cain recommends the purchase from Kokomo Auto World. A motion was made by Mr. Raver, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to approve the purchase of a new pick-up truck from Kokomo Auto World, in the amount of \$27,658.25.

3. **EMA Reconstruction Project:** The siding is not yet finished, but will be soon. Roof work is progressing. The office framework is finished and some of the dry wall has been completed. All the dry wall can be completed after the electrical inspection is finished, today. They have determined how to brace the big doors and this will begin shortly. Mr. Cain has an issue with the amount of sidewalk to be installed. He will be contacting the engineer who prepared the original site plans. The workers will take a break for Christmas. An additional request for money to purchase the asphalt will be brought before the Council in the spring. The Highway Department will haul the asphalt, once it has been purchased, and do the grading work.

Mr. Cain took this opportunity to thank Commissioner Bagwell and Commissioner Raver for their service to the County. They were both great bosses and worked to remove politics from the Highway Department. They took a lot of flack for it in the beginning, but the County's roads are in good shape because the Commissioners' did what needed to be done whether it was popular or not. They did not micromanage the department and encouraged Mr. Cain to work with other political entities. "Words cannot say how much I appreciate your support". He will miss them both.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

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

1. **Commend Mr. Cain:** Sheriff Talbert commended Mr. Cain and the Highway Department for their attention to the County's roads. There were multiple accident reports from other Counties, but Howard County did not experience many accidents.
2. **Jail Population:** There are currently three hundred fifteen (315) inmates at the Criminal Justice Center, with fifty-seven of them being females.

3. **Mail Service:** Now that D.L. & T. Pro-Sort is going out of business Sheriff Talbert would like to hear from other departments as to how they will handle the mail. The Sheriff's Department is considering purchasing a mailing machine. Commissioner Bagwell reminded the Sheriff of H & H Express who offers a similar service as D.L. & T. Pro-Sort. Commissioner Trine and Auditor Wells offered information concerning a state-sponsored Bona Vista-type program. Sheriff Talbert is interested in sitting down in a meeting to talk about options.

Sheriff Talbert thanked Mr. Bagwell and Mr. Raver for their assistance to him. He did not come from County government and had many things to learn. Brad taught him many things. Paul was always ready to help no matter the time of day. He continued to comment, "...you're not just an official, you're my friend". The County has been blessed with your leadership.

IN THE MATTER OF PLAN COMMISSION ISSUES:

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

1. **Flood Mitigation Grant:** Mr. Boise's office is still waiting for the signed copy of the contract for the Flood Mitigation Grant. The Attorney General's office has forty-five days to review and they will probably take the full forty-five days. He hopes to receive it by the first of the year. In the meantime he has asked the State to verify benefits received by the owners when the property was first flooded. Any funds left would be applied toward the cost of the property at 2700 Dellwood Drive.
2. **US 31 Corridor Plan:** The Corridor Plan is still with the consultants and Mr. Boise is waiting for their input. No contract has been prepared.
3. **Resolution No. 2008-BCCR-23:** In the December 1st meeting, the Board of Commissioners voted to take the resolution under advisement and include it on today's agenda (*please refer to page two, item six, "In The Matter Of Plan Commission Issues" of the Regular Meeting dated December 1, 2008*). This resolution amending Resolutions 2005-BCCR-1 and 2007-BCCR-17 would extend the moratorium date until January 10, 2010 or until the Board of Commissioners adopts plans and ordinances resulting from the planning studies, and the Indiana Department of Transportation competes purchase of all right of way for the Freeway as indicated by the Howard County Auditor's and Recorder's records; whichever comes first. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion a motion was made by Mr. Trine, seconded by Mr. Raver and carried to approve Resolution No. 2008-BCCR-23. Mr. Boise will take this back to the Plan Commission for their endorsement of the addition by the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Boise thanked Mr. Raver and Mr. Bagwell for the years of good relationship with he and the Plan Commission. He briefly mentioned the support he received from the Commissioners the previous four years when his contract was under dispute. He began working with Mr. Raver in 1973 when he was the County's Extension Agent and President of the Plan Commission. "There'll be a big gap in our household of the County that you're not around in some role." Mr. Boise appreciates all the help and advice and wishes both Mr. Raver and Mr. Bagwell the best in the future.

IN THE MATTER OF MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Art Fross submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Mailboxes For Government Center:** At the October 6th meeting Mr. Fross informed the Board of Commissioners of a need for new mailboxes at the Government Center (*please refer to page two, item four, "In The Matter Of Maintenance Department Issues" of the Regular Meeting minutes dated October 6, 2008*). Mr. Fross reports that the Postmaster has portable mail boxes that he is willing to donate to the County for use in the Government Center. Locks for those boxes have been ordered and the boxes will be assembled and installed by our Maintenance Department. Commissioner Trine reported that the three downtown government buildings have one address, then room numbers for the various departments that coincide with the floor number that contains them. The Courthouse address will be 117 North Main Street; the Administration Center will be 220 North Main Street and the Government Center will remain 120 E. Mulberry Street. We will have six months to implement the new postal plan and the Maintenance Department will make sure that there is proper signage to identify the various departmental offices.

2. **Integrator Service Agreement:** Mr. Fross submitted a service agreement with Integrator for the electronic security systems at the Criminal Justice Center, the control board for the doors to the pods. The cost is \$709.00 per month and Mr. Murrell reports that all the requested changes have been made by Integrator. A motion was made by Mr. Trine, seconded by Mr. Raver and carried to approve the Service Agreement with Integrator and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Fross reiterated previous comments concerning Mr. Bagwell and Mr. Raver, thanking them and declaring his appreciation to them.

IN THE MATTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Information Systems Director Terry Tribby did not submit any issues at this time. He took this opportunity to speak regarding the retirements of Mr. Raver and Mr. Bagwell from the Board of Commissioners. In all the different types of jobs that Mr. Tribby has had the opportunity to work in, he has never seen people, from the lowest level to the job of Commissioner, that had greater dedication to their job than here at Howard County Government. Howard County Surveyor Jake Grimme is also leaving this year and he is the one who first contacted Mr. Tribby about working in Howard County, as the President of Farm Bureau Inc., in the 1980's. He believes there is close to 100 years of service between Mr. Grimme, Mr. Raver and Mr. Bagwell. Mr. Tribby sited several memories over the years. He still remembers the day when he got a call from Commissioner Bagwell asking him to work in the new IT Department for Howard County. He gives credit to the Board of Commissioners for the level of accomplishment the IT Department now has. Mr. Tribby receives calls from all over the Country, asking how Howard County does it. He appreciates that Mr. Bagwell did not micro-manage, but gave direction and then took his hands off. Mr. Tribby appreciates the opportunity given by this Board and wishes them success. Mr. Bagwell responded with appreciation.

IN THE MATTER OF SUBMITTED TRANSFERS FROM PROSECUTOR FUNDS:

Prosecutor James Fleming informed the Board of Commissioners of two transfers he submitted to the Auditor's Office from funds 198 and 125 to be receipted into County General funds. These are funds he has from the 2008 budget and would like them applied to the 5% 2009 Budget cuts suggested by the County Council in their November and December meetings. Mr. Fleming expressed appreciation to Mr. Raver and Mr. Bagwell for their service to the County. He enjoyed working with them.

IN THE MATTER OF HOWARD HAVEN REPORTS:

Howard Haven Superintendent Jennifer Vary submitted Howard Haven inventory sheets from September 12 through November 16, 2008, a Gift Card Inventory List, and a Howard Haven Disposal Sheet for September / October, 2008. Those reports were accepted as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Trine and seconded by Mr. Raver.

IN THE MATTER OF CITY OF FIRSTS AUTOMOTIVE HERITAGE MUSEUM, INC. REPORTS:

Mr. Jim Parsons, from the City of Firsts Automotive Heritage Museum, Inc., submitted and distributed copies of their Income Statement and Balance Sheet. He gave a report concerning the performance of the Kokomo Event Center and reviewed the reports with the Board of Commissioners. He listed the following needed improvements to the Event Center that they hope to address in the year 2009:

- 1) Change the signage to reflect the new name (Kokomo Events Center)
- 2) Stripe the Parking Lot
- 3) Upgrade the Kitchen
- 4) Replace the floor in the Pioneer Room

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2008-BCCR-26:

County Assessor Jamie Shepherd addressed the Board of Commissioners concerning Resolution No. 2008-BCCR-26. This resolution approves the engagement of R. E. Research Associates to assist the County in the reassessment appeal filed by Chrysler on transmission plants 1 & 2 at the Chrysler North plant. The work would be done in three phases as follows:

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| 1) | Consulting Assignment | \$10,000.00 |
| 2) | Minimum Scope of Work and Preliminary Appraisal | \$10,000.00 (if necessary) |

R. E. Research Associates were recommended to Ms. Shepherd by Ad Valorem. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion a motion was made by Mr. Raver, seconded by Mr. Trine and carried to approve Resolution No. 2008-BCCR-26, authorizing the engagement of R. E. Research Associates for the first phase of consultation work, then delegating authority to Assessor Shepherd to continue with phases 2 & 3, if necessary.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2009 BUDGET FOR E911 DISPATCH:

E911 Dispatch Coordinator Tony Ramsey informed the Board of Commissioners that he has prepared the Proposed 2009 E911 Budget, in the amount of \$561,000.00, and submitted it to the Auditor for consideration at the January 5, 2009 Commissioner Meeting. He has reduced the 2009 Proposed Budget close to 15% from the 2008 approved budget amount of \$686,000.00. New equipment was purchased in 2008 and they are in very good shape, being able to reduce their equipment budget for 2009.

Mr. Ramsey thanked Paul Raver for his service, being instrumental in the work of overseeing the Dispatch Center renovation and expansion. Mr. Ramsey thanked Brad Bagwell for being the "Dispatch Commissioner". Over the years we've made a lot of strides such as the renovation of the Dispatch Center and the upgraded radio system. It's one of the reasons Howard County has the "best Dispatch Center in the state". Mr. Ramsey then presented a plaque to Commissioner Bagwell, on behalf of the Dispatch Center, as follows:

"With appreciation and best wishes to Brad Bagwell. Thanks for your sixteen years of dedicated service."

Mr. Bagwell informed those present that Mr. Ramsey's last day with Howard County would be January 9, 2009. We has accepted a position in Fort Myers, Florida. Commissioner Bagwell expressed appreciation to Mr. Ramsey for a job well done.

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION FOR A STATE GRANT BY THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT:

Information Systems Director Terry Tribby informed the Commissioners of a problem with the GIS Server in the Administration Center, and that he would like to replace it. Earlier in the year the Board of Commissioners agreed to cooperate with the Homeland Security Office for the Seamless State Map project. As a result, Homeland Security is making available a Grant that will help pay for the costs of the seamless map project, in the amount of \$15 – 17,000.00. The Schneider Corporation costs will be about \$5,000.00, leaving \$10 – 12,000.00 to purchase a new server. MS4 Coordinator Greg Lake and County Assessor Jamie Shepherd approve of this project and Mr. Tribby is asking for authority to pursue this grant that **does not** require County match money. A motion was made by Mr. Raver to authorize Mr. Tribby to proceed with the application for a Homeland Security Grant in order to purchase a new GIS server. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trine and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT APPLICATION:

Community Corrections Director Steve Maus submitted the Howard County Community Corrections Grant Application for fiscal years 2009-2011. This grant application was approved by the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Sections A & B are for the two-year period, and sections C & D is the financial portion that covers just one year. This application also includes the Juvenile Probation Corrections application. The Community Corrections Grant Application with the Indiana Department of Corrections for the fiscal years 2009-2010 was approved on a motion made by Mr. Raver and seconded by Mr. Trine.

Mr. Maus expressed appreciation to Mr. Bagwell and Mr. Raver for their years of service.

IN THE MATTER OF THE KOKOMO EVENT CENTER:

Mr. Dwight Singer, President of the City of Firsts Automotive Heritage Museum Board, confirmed the report of Mr. Jim Parsons, earlier in the meeting, and informed the Commissioners that the Museum Board is pleased with the progress of the Kokomo Event Center. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Singer would like to recommend the reappointments of Peggy Hobson and Michelle Martin to the City of Firsts Automotive Heritage Museum Board for 3-year terms. Mr. Singer also invited the Commissioners to come and visit the Center at their leisure, and they will be given a tour of the facility. He extended

thanks to the Board of Commissioners for their continued support of the Kokomo Event Center and the City Of Firsts Museum.

To Paul and Brad, Mr. Singer extended his thanks. It was a pleasure working with both of them during Mr. Singer's tenure as County Councilman. He wishes them the best because they've both done a lot for Howard County and are leaving it in better shape than it was when they took over as Commissioners. Mr. Raver thanked Mr. Singer for the great work he is doing with the City of Firsts Automotive Heritage Museum and the Kokomo Event Center.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Auditor Ann Wells presented the following claims and reports for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** Salary, hourly and overtime claims payable December 19 and 24, 2008, in the amount of \$341,476.30 each are approved on a motion made by Mr. Trine and seconded by Mr. Raver.
2. **Operating Claims:** Commissioners' Operating claims payable today, in the amount of \$555,751.41 are approved on a motion made by Mr. Raver and seconded by Mr. Trine.
3. **Treasurer's Monthly Report:** The Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending November 30, 2008 is accepted on a motion made by Mr. Trine and seconded by Mr. Raver.
4. **Clerk's Monthly Report:** The Clerk of Circuit Court monthly report for the month ending October 31, 2008 was accepted on a motion made by Mr. Trine and seconded by Mr. Raver.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

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

1. **Barnes & Thornburg Invoice:** Mr. Murrell submitted a claim from Barnes & Thornburg in the amount of \$3,337.00 for services rendered in connection with Delphi Bankruptcy Matters. He reminded the Board that this effort is on behalf of all the taxing units for Howard County, in trying to recoup 8 million dollars in taxes. The invoice was approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Trine and seconded by Mr. Raver.
2. **Plan Commission Inter-Local Agreement Extension:** Mr. Murrell's office received a letter from the City of Kokomo in September, concerning several issues pertaining to the Inter-Local Agreement for the Plan Commission Office. There have been communications between Howard County and the City Of Kokomo in the months that followed the receipt of the letter, and Mr. Murrell now submits an Agreement he prepared extending the Inter-Local Agreement until March 31, 2009. In this agreement the Board of Commissioners reserves the right, if needed, to file a motion for Declaratory Judgement to determine that the letter received in September was not a Letter of Intent to Terminate the Inter-Local Agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Trine to approve the Extension of the Inter-Local Agreement for the Plan Commission Office to March 31, 2009, reserving the right to file a Motion for Declaratory Judgement, if needed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Raver and carried. Board members continued discussion concerning this issue and the fact that there is some erroneous information concerning the Inter-Local Agreement. Adjusting the agreement will not decrease or increase any taxes.

Mr. Murrell took this opportunity to say he has appreciated the opportunity to work with Mr. Bagwell for sixteen years and Mr. Raver for eight years on the Board of Commissioners and before that, the County Council. Sixteen years ago Mr. Murrell was approached about being the County's Attorney. He has enjoyed working with Mr. Bagwell and appreciates all Brad has done to lead the County into the 20th, then the 21st century. Mr. Bagwell championed the Personnel Department, E911 Dispatch Center and the Technology Department. He is leaving Howard County in much better shape than when he found it sixteen years ago. Mr. Raver has been a "full-time" Commissioner – always available. He navigated the renovation of the Administration Center and the Courthouse, serving as the "Defacto Construction Manager". There've been many other projects; those were just a few. What comes to mind when he thinks of Mr. Bagwell and Mr. Raver, his friends, is the slogan, "Good people – good government." It's more than a slogan, it's the truth. "People may, and they have, disagreed with you over the years, about policy decisions, a few times, positions you've taken, things that the

Commissioners have done or haven't done, but never, never once, has there been any question about your integrity, honesty or dedication to Howard County, and I salute you for that."

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

There being no Commissioner issues to address at this time, Commissioner Bagwell, Commissioner Raver and Commissioner Trine gave closing comments as follows:

Commissioner Brad Bagwell began by informing those in attendance that he was inspired to political office by President Ronald Reagan. He should have taken Mr. Reagan's advice, "to practice a speech so many times that by the time you've gone over it six or seven times, the emotion gets out of it". Mr. Bagwell declared that it's been a great sixteen years, working with great people. The addition of a full time attorney in Larry Murrell has been a very valuable asset to Howard County. He's here everyday and handles everything from every office holder and every department head, every employee and even those who do not work for Howard County. Mr. Murrell, "...all of you have become good friends, so I wish you all the best".

Commissioner Paul Raver came to this county in 1963 as the Extension Agent and was accepted quickly into Howard County, serving as president of the Plan Commission within a year of joining the Extension Office. After he retired as County Agent, he started into politics, being asked to run for the County Council. When Commissioner Dave Griffey left the Board, Mr. Raver was asked to run for the Board of Commissioners, where he's been the last eight years. He has appreciated everyone's cooperation over the years. He knows that when the new Commissioners take office they will "scratch their head once in awhile, but they'll also have a lot of ideas that will be productive".

Commissioner Dave Trine echoed what was previously said, that Howard County is a better place because of Brad Bagwell and Paul Raver. "Longevity brings a lot of things to the table; it brings consistency, it brings experience, it brings stability." Both men are bigger than political parties. Mr. Raver has been a great teacher, "You're the Ironman". Brad's knowledge and vision brought Howard County into the future when other counties are still "talking about the future". He wished them luck in their future, and presented plaques to Mr. Raver and Mr. Bagwell, thanking them for their hard work. **They will be missed.**

Auditor Ann Wells began working for the County in 1983, part time in the Treasurer's Office. She thanked Mr. Bagwell for getting the County into computers some twenty-three years ago. We are doing things now that she never imagined we'd be doing. She informed Mr. Raver he would be missed everyday but Thursday (the day he spends with his wife). "We can stand tall because we are Howard County."

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m. on a motion made by Mr. Raver and seconded by Mr. Trine.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

BRADLEY J. BAGWELL, PRESIDENT

DAVID A. TRINE, VICE PRESIDENT

PAUL J. RAVEN, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Board of Commissioner Mtg. Dec. 15, 2008