

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING AUGUST 16, 2010

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, August 16, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President David Trine, Vice President William Thompson and Member Tyler Moore. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Marshall Talbert and conducted by President Trine. Commissioner Moore led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the August 2, 2010 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

The minutes of the August 3, 2010 Administration Meeting were submitted for review. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.

The minutes of the August 9, 2010 Executive Meeting were submitted for review and were approved on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

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

1. **Boulevard Project:** Bids on this project were opened on August 4th and the amount of the awarded bid is \$1,855,763.00; Howard County is responsible for \$371,152.60. Our portion of Inspection costs will be \$55,672.89, paid up front, then we will be reimbursed in 2011. Mr. Cain has until October 4th to send the money to the State. Since E&B Paving will not be able to close the road until May, 2011, Mr. Cain would like to contact the State and agree with E & B Paving to honor the bid until May, not sending the funds until the beginning of 2011. That way our funds can be used for local projects. If the State or contractor says no, then Mr. Cain will have to have the funds ready to send in October. He is asking for an Additional Appropriation in Bituminous at the August Council Meeting.
2. **Highway And EMA Mechanics:** President Trine and Mr. Cain have discussed the possibility of the Highway mechanics and the EMA mechanic being able to perform minor maintenance repairs for all County office vehicles. Mr. Cain has agreed to coordinate the repair schedule with EMA mechanic Brad Kendall, and repairs will be done by appointment in the EMA building.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

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

1. **Jail Population:** The current inmate count is three hundred and twenty-three (323) with fifty-seven being females. This puts them slightly under capacity, being thirty inmates less than this time last year.
2. **Preventative Maintenance Checks:** All patrol cars' radios and portable radios are going through preventative maintenance checks. Integrity Communications have sent additional technicians from Fort Wayne to aid in the maintenance checks, and they are finding that some radios do not have the latest software, and some that do not have enough wattage. Issues that have been identified are being addressed, and Sheriff Talbert commended Captain Jerry Asher for suggesting and spearheading the project.
3. **Chaplains' Meeting:** Howard County Criminal Justice Center hosted the Regional Jail Chaplains' Meeting. Thirteen visiting chaplains were in attendance for the meeting and were able to take a tour through the facility. The conference room was used and lunch provided by the jail.

4. **Gilead House Chicken Bash:** The Gilead House is hosting their annual Chicken Bash Fundraiser at the Criminal Justice Center. The Gilead House does a great service to the inmates with their drug and alcohol classes for the female inmates, at no charge. Sheriff Talbert invited all to attend.
5. **Resolution No. 2010-BCCR-10 – Transfers:** E911 Coordinator Nick Capozzoli submitted Resolution No. 2010-BCCR-10 – Transfers, requesting to transfer \$30,000.00 from line item 03216.00, Communications Support to line item 01125.00, Dispatch Overtime. This transfer of funds into the Dispatch Overtime account should last through the end of this year. Because of budget cuts Mr. Capozzoli has lost two part-time dispatchers. Because the Citizens Committee for Consolidation is looking at the possibility of combining the City of Kokomo and Howard County Dispatchers, he did not want to replace them at this time. He will continue to use overtime to fill the dispatch needs. The Resolution was read one time by Auditor Ann Wells and at its conclusion Resolution No. 2010-BCCR-10 – Transfers was approved on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

IN THE MATTER OF PLAN COMMISSION ISSUES:

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

1. **Flood Mitigation Grant:** The State has e-mailed Mr. Boise and informed him that they have received the Flood Mitigation Grant Application and Assurances that were signed at the last Commissioner Meeting, and forwarded them on to the FEMA office (*please refer to page two, item two, "In The Matter Of Plan Commission Issues" of the Regular Meeting minutes dated August 2, 2010*). Concerning the newly required Flood Elevation Certificates, Mr. Boise has spoken with Surveyor Dan Minor. After reviewing the certification paperwork, Mr. Minor may be able help with the certificates and save the expense of outsourcing. Mr. Boise does not have a date when the Certificates are due to the State, but he does know that if the Grant is approved, he will need to submit the Certificates along with the Benefit Cost Analysis. Mr. Boise is waiting for the Board's direction.
2. **U.S. 31 Corridors Plans:** The Conference Committee met last week, and with some minor revisions, has accepted the document. After the revisions have been completed the document will be distributed to the stakeholders for comment. A public presentation of the document has been scheduled for September 16, 2010 at IU / Kokomo.
3. **U.S. 31 Project:** The Indiana Department of Transportation has scheduled a meeting this Wednesday (August 18, 2010) concerning the next phase of the US 31 project. The meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Kokomo High School. The concentration will be on the interchange of US 35 / Markland Ave. and the new freeway, and improvements to US 35/22 and County Road 00 NS. People who live in that area may want to attend.
4. **Unsafe Building:** The 1001 Alto Road Project has ended by a release sent to the owner and recorded at the Recorder's Office. They are several other buildings that could be addressed through this process if the Board so desires.
5. **Overgrown Vegetation On Corners:** Mr. Boise has received complaints of several interchanges where overgrown vegetation interferes with seeing approaching traffic. His office has sent several letters to property owners. Mr. Boise will verify if the problems have been attended to.

IN THE MATTER OF MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Scott Reed submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Air Conditioning Issues At The Courthouse:** Maintenance employees have been busy addressing several air conditioning issues at the Courthouse, last week. The system will need to be flushed but he will not attend to that until the end of the summer.
2. **Masonry Repair:** The masonry repairs at the Administration Center have been completed (*please refer to page three, item four, "In The Matter Of Maintenance Department Issues", of the Regular Meeting*

minutes dated August 2, 2010). Dwight Shaff Repair will pour concrete to cap the two planters located in the employee parking lot on the corner of Mulberry and Buckeye Streets.

3. **Leaks At Howard Haven:** The leaks at Howard Haven have been repaired by Trimco.

IN THE MATTER OF PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Anthem Dental Blue Program:** At the July 6th meeting the Board of Commissioners approved the implementation of the Passive PPO Dental Network Plan (*please refer to page two, "In The Matter Of Personnel Issues", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 6, 2010*). This program will be effective September 1, 2010 and is voluntary. Ms. McKillip now submits an employee memo for review by the Board, and distribution to the employees.
2. **Poster Purchase:** Ms. McKillip has purchased new State and Federal policy posters to post on bulletin boards in the County's buildings.
3. **Howard Regional Appointment:** A medical professional is needed for this Board appointment. Mr. Moore made a motion to appoint Dr. Benjamin Chiu to the Howard Regional Health Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried. This appointment replaces Mr. David Shearer, and President Trine congratulated and thanked Mr. Shearer for his seventeen years of service to Howard County as a member of the Howard Regional Board. Ms. McKillip will prepare a certificate of thanks to send to Mr. Shearer.

IN THE MATTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Information Systems Director Terry Tribby submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **Thank You To Maintenance Department:** Mr. Tribby expressed thanks to the Maintenance Department for putting fans in the server room in the Courthouse, in order to cool it down until the air-conditioning problem could be repaired. High temperatures in the server room could cause problems to the equipment.
2. **Voter Registration Funding:** Mr. Tribby has received word that the State will no longer fully fund the mandated State Voter Registration system. They will partially fund the program but we do not know how much, at this time. The State did ask each county to budget \$29,000 for maintenance of this program. Several years ago, before the State mandated program, we were paying about \$2,500 in maintenance fees for our own system. When the State grants became available to fund the mandated system, Mr. Tribby expected that the County would have to take over the funding when the grant had expired, but not to this great extent. Mr. Tribby asked and encouraged the Board members to contact their State contacts to change the law. He doesn't believe the County should have to pay for the State's system and its employees. He believes Howard County could do its own program. He will also talk with the Association of Indiana Counties and the Clerks Association, and keep updated on the progress.
3. **County's E-Mail System:** Many years ago the County did not have funding for an e-mail system so they put together a very inexpensive system called Merrick Mail. That system has served us pretty well but we have had several problems. Mr. Tribby would like to move to Micro-Soft Exchange because it is a more stable product and is better supported. Mr. Tribby is waiting to see if the cost can be supported by this year's budget or if funding needs to come from this year and 2011. Mr. Tribby is willing and will speak with the City of Kokomo's IT Department concerning sharing the cost and administration of the e-mail program. The City currently uses Micro-Soft Exchange, and a consolidation may reduce costs.
4. **Virtual Server:** The IT Department did an upgrade to their virtual server this weekend, giving us additional features. This was needed to prepare for installation of a large storage device.

5. **Imaging Options:** This year the Clerk's Department moved from IOS to CSI's Imaging System. This system scans images up front so people can use them at their desktop, in lieu of scanning archived images first. The project is close to completion.

IN THE MATTER OF VEHICLE PURCHASE REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS:

Director Steve Maus reminded the Board of the vehicle purchase request made at the August 2nd meeting (*please refer to page three, "In The Matter Of Vehicle Purchase Request From Community Corrections", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated August 2, 2010*). Mr. Trine informed Mr. Maus that the Board of Commissioners held an Administrative Meeting to discuss the specifics of the purchase and to gather information concerning all of the County's departmental vehicles. Included in the discussion is the fact that the Sheriff's Department has set a standard of trading their cars in after 100,000 miles and that it could be a good policy for all departments' vehicles. Mr. Maus offered a different opinion that the Sheriff's Department purchase is different from other vehicles and that there is very little trade-in value left in those vehicles. The vehicles that Community Corrections use are traded while there is still some trade-in value left so they can continue to purchase used vehicles. Discussion ensued and at its conclusion it was the consensus of the Board of Commissioners to request Mr. Maus to submit a listing of recent repair costs for his department's vehicles and then the Board will revisit the purchase request after reviewing the listing.

IN THE MATTER OF THE MOBILE RADIO PURCHASING GRANT:

Mr. Randy Morris, from the City of Kokomo, commented on the findings submitted by Commissioner Trine at the last meeting (*please refer to page six of the issues submitted by Commissioner Trine, "In The Matter Of Commissioner Issues", of the Regular meeting minutes dated August 2, 2010*). Mr. Trine had reported on face to face conversations with the Harrison Twp., Taylor Twp., Greentown and Russiaville Volunteer Fire Department Chiefs, concerning how many radios were needed and how that information was submitted to Kokomo Deputy Chief Fireman Brad Bray. Mr. Morris now refutes that information as misinformation and compelled the Board to decide on the number of radios needed so the purchase can move forward. After brief discussion, Mr. Brad Bray was invited to submit signed copies from several taxing entities stating exactly how many radios are needed for their departments. Mr. Bray also spoke to the incorrect amounts on reports given to the Board of Commissioners of the County's share of costs, and was able to correct that report. The highest amount of radios that can be purchased with this grant is 188 portables and 79 mobiles. Discussion ensued and at its conclusion it was the consensus of the Board to call a Special Session of the Board of Commissioners with all the Township fire chiefs to discuss and determine a correct radio count. The meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, August 24th at 4:00 p.m. in the Hearing Room. Mr. Murrell reminded the Board that they were given the responsibility to determine the number of radios needed and, "...to implement the transfer of the radios to the towns or townships on such terms as the Commissioners deem appropriate, including possible repayment...". Mr. Bray will contact the Fire Chiefs concerning the meeting on the 24th.

IN THE MATTER OF AN ADDITIONAL INMATE WORK CREW:

At the August 2nd meeting President Trine and Sheriff Talbert had discussed the possibility of forming a second Inmate Work Crew. The Sheriff's Department would purchase a van for the work crew's use if the City of Kokomo would consider underwriting the Supervisor's salary. The City would be able to use the Work Crew at their discretion for projects within City limits or outside the incorporated areas, as needed. Because Randy Morris, Director of Operations for the City of Kokomo, was in attendance, he was able to hear the proposal and submit it to the Mayor's office (*please refer to page four, "In The Matter Of Creation Of A second Inmate Work Crew", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated August 2, 2010*). When Mr. Morris was asked if the Mayor's office was considering the proposal of an additional work crew, he responded that they were looking into it, but wasn't sure there would be enough work to keep them busy. When Sheriff Talbert was asked if there were enough projects in the County to keep an additional crew busy, if the City were not interested, he responded positively.

IN THE MATTER OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

President Trine proposed a letter of support from the Board of Commissioners to any new business wanting to locate in the Downtown Kokomo area, concerning office space in the Government Center and Administration Center. There is space available in both buildings but they are not big enough to accommodate all the remaining county departments housed in the Government Center. Any new business wanting to use the space would share utility costs and property tax costs. Mr. Trine has contacted the Greater Kokomo Economic Development Alliance to let them know of this proposal. GKEDA advised Mr. Trine to contact prospective businesses directly. Attorney Murrell suggested that it would suffice to confirm the space

as a temporary space until they are able to move to a permanent location, and keep the agreement simple. At the conclusion of discussion a motion was made by Mr. Thompson to authorize President Trine to prepare a letter of intent subject to Mr. Murrell's review, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Trine opened the floor for public comment as follows:

Clee Oliver: Mr. Oliver expressed concern that Baja Burrito, a business that had received new business incentive money from the Board of Commissioners in 2009, had not paid their State sales taxes. That issue is currently not on the new business (or re-opening of a former business) incentive fund application, but the Board will consider adding it to the checklist on the application.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Auditor Ann Wells submitted the following Claims and Reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, hourly and overtime claims to be paid August 20 and 27 and September 3, 2010, in the amount of \$346,484.04 each, is approved on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims payable August 16, 2010, in the amount of \$188,893.88 were approved on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending July 31, 2010, was submitted, reviewed and accepted on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

County Attorney Larry Murrell submitted the following issues for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Barnes & Thornburg Invoice:** This invoice, in the amount of \$27,054.00, is for legal services for the period ending June 30, 2010, for Project Bing and the General Motors Corp. assessment matters. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to approve the payment of the Barnes & Thornburg invoice in the amount of \$27,054.00.
2. **Tax Collection Contract:** This is the renewal of the contract with attorney Jeremy Peelle and the Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Treasurer of Howard County. The contract is for the collection of personal property taxes that are delinquent and have been certified to the Clerk of Howard Circuit Court, as well as unpaid innkeeper's taxes. There is no cost to the County. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried to approve the contract between Howard County and Attorney Jeremy Peelle, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.
3. **Amnesty Agreement:** The Auditor's office has received confirmation that the 2007 Homestead Credit Rebate Checks issued in August, 2008, that have not been claimed, will be considered Unclaimed Property, and the money must be sent back to the Attorney General's office no later than November 1, 2010. Because the Auditor's Office is still trying to get these checks to the property owners they were issued to, the November 1st deadline is a hardship at this time. The Office of the Indiana Attorney General has offered an Amnesty Agreement for offices that voluntarily notify the Unclaimed Property Division of potential liability, without penalty or fees, for not complying with the November 1st deadline. That will give the Auditor's office more time to comply with the statute. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion a motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Amnesty Agreement with the State Attorney General's Office as submitted, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.
4. **Pager Service Contract For E911:** E911 Coordinator Nick Capozzoli has negotiated a new contract with Indiana Paging Network for E911 pagers at \$5.00 per pager. We had previously been paying \$8.00

per pager but when Mr. Capozzoli received a quote from USA Mobility for \$5.00 per pager, IPN said they would match the quote. IPN is a good company to work with and it covers more area than USA Mobility. Pagers are still needed in the Dispatch department and these pagers only have the minimum technology needed. IPN has agreed to two of the changes proposed by Mr. Murrell, but they will not approve changing the provision for indemnity. Mr. Murrell confirmed that it was probably not an issue and reluctantly agreed to recommend this contract with the two amendments. A motion was made by Mr. Thompson to approve the contract with Indiana Paging Network with the two amendments, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Moore:

Mr. Moore thanked Windmill Grill for the treats contributed to the participants of the Stuff-The-Bus activity, and also thanked Brad Howell Ford for the sponsorship of the Stuff-The-Bus for Eastern High School. Eastern, Northwestern, and Western school buses were stuffed. Pictures can be seen on High Schools' Facebook page.

Commissioner Thompson:

Mr. Thompson was the Hearing Officer for a Township Assistance Appeal for Ms. Angela Spencer of Taylor Township, which took place on Friday, August 13, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. At the end of the Appeal, Mr. Thompson spoke with the applicant and encouraged her to reapply for assistance and to comply with all the guidelines. Mr. Thompson made a motion to uphold the Trustee's denial in the case. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

Commissioner Trine:

Mr. Trine submitted the Veterans Service Office monthly reports for the months of June and July, 2010. The reports were reviewed and accepted on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

Mr. Trine submitted the EMA July / August Calendar of Events and it was accepted on a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Moore.

There will be a Fundraiser for Howard Haven at Martino's on Saturday, August 28, 2010. Registration is from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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. Moore and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

DAVID A. TRINE, PRESIDENT

WILLIAM THOMPSON, VICE PRESIDENT

TYLER O. MOORE, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Regular Meeting dated August 16, 2010