

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING JANUARY 4, 2016

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, January 4, 2016, at 4:00 p.m., in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice President Tyler Moore, and Member Brad Bray. Also in attendance were Assistant County Attorney Alan D. Wilson, and Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Brad Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Vice President Tyler Moore offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Sheriff Steve Rogers stepped to the podium in order to announce the retirement of K-9 Officer "Mac". Mac is an explosive detection K-9 and has been on active duty for eight (8) years with the Howard County Sheriff Department. Mac's handler is Corporal Steve Kline and he is willing to care for Mac in his retirement as a family dog. The services of "Mac" have been loaned to many other locations and entities for his explosive detection capabilities. Mac has also been an effective Public Relations tool between law enforcement and the community, as he has visited schools and made public appearances in other venues throughout the community. Corporal Kline and Mac stepped to the podium and Corporal Kline spoke about the job Mac has done. One of their most important duties was when President Obama toured the Chrysler Plant located just north of Kokomo. Corporal Kline and Mac worked hand in hand and side by side the Secret Service and other explosive detection K-9s to assure safety for the President and his aides. Corporal Kline will be training with a new K-9 to continue the services of an explosive detection K-9 and he expressed appreciation to the County for the opportunity to serve in this manner.

Commissioner Moore commented on the popularity of Mac with the community, and his effective work for Howard County.

Sheriff Rogers submitted a Personal Contract between the Howard County Sheriff's Department and Corporal Steve Kline establishing a binding agreement that Corporal Steve Kline will now assume total responsibility and liability for Mac. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Personal Contract between the Howard County Sheriff's Department and Corporal Steve Kline as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried. Mac received a round of applause in gratitude for his years of service.

IN THE MATTER OF BOARD RE-ORGANIZATION ACTIVITY:

A motion was made by Mr. Moore to re-appoint Mr. Wyman as Board President for the 2016 Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Bray to re-appoint Mr. Moore as Board Vice President for the 2016 Board of Commissioners. President Wyman vacated the chair in order to second the motion and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 30, 2015 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Bray.

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISTRICT 6 PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

In order to give Attorney Larry Murrell opportunity for further review of this agreement it was the consensus of the Board to table this issue until the January 19, 2016 meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY CLAIMS:

Auditor Martha Lake submitted the Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime claims payable January 8 and 15, 2016, in the amount of \$394,407.04 each. The Salary claims were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

County Attorney Larry Murrell reminded the Commissioners that the contracts for Mr. Murrell and Assistant County Attorney Alan Wilson are two-year contracts and were signed in 2015, effective until December 31, 2016. He believes it would be appropriate to confirm the contracts for the year 2016. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to ratify the contracts with County Attorney Larry Murrell and Assistant County Attorney Alan D. Wilson to continue until December 31, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

COMMISSIONER BRAY:

Mr. Bray is looking forward to a new year to serve as Commissioner with Mr. Wyman and Mr. Moore.

COMMISSIONER MOORE:

Mr. Moore, along with Mr. Bray and Mr. Wyman, attended the Mayor's Prayer in Action Breakfast in order to pray for the Community, and was thankful for the opportunity that the Mayor provided.

COMMISSIONER WYMAN:

1) Commissioner Wyman submitted Resolution No. 2016-BCCR-1, a resolution of the Howard County Board of Commissioners honoring Western High School Marching Panthers for earning their seventh (7th) championship at the Indiana State Scholastic Music Association State competition. This resolution also designates January 7, 2016 as "Marching Panthers' Day" in Howard County, Indiana. A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried to approve Resolution No. 2016-BCCR-1, declaring January 7, 2016 as "Marching Panthers' Day". The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

2) In the "Charters of Freedom" monument, at the Courthouse, a time capsule was installed. Mr. Wyman now submits the Instructions for the opening of the time capsule on September 1, 2087, and that they will be put in safekeeping on file in Howard County Government and kept by future Commissioners.

At this time the meeting was recessed at 4:20 p.m. for 10 minutes, on a motion made by Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

At 4:35 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Moore to reconvene the Regular Commissioner Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore to recess the Regular Meeting in order to hold a previously scheduled Public Hearing for the Rockey Petition to Vacate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

County Attorney Larry Murrell informed the Board of Commissioners that Attorney Eric Grzegorski filed a Joint Petition to Vacate request on behalf of Clinton Rockey, James Rockey, Kay Yager, and Konrad L. Meinzer. The property is located in Howard Township, Howard County, Indiana. Mr. Murrell confirmed that the County has received the required Notice of Publication, and a Utility Consent from A T & T. NIPSCO and Duke Energy have not confirmed that they have or do not have equipment in the proposed location at this time.

Attorney Grzegorski spoke to this request and has submitted an amended proposed Ordinance Vacating a Public Way in Kokomo, Indiana. This amended Ordinance states, "...This vacation is subject to an easement in favor of NIPSCO, Duke Energy, and AT & T pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-3-16." The utility companies would not be deprived of their ability to access the location for any reason.

Mr. Murrell remarked on the fine job that Mr. Grzegorski has done on this issue.

Auditor Lake thanked Mr. Rockey for his patience in this matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve Ordinance No. 2016-BCCO-01, an Ordinance vacating a Public Way in Kokomo, Indiana, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

At this time a motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried to close the Public Hearing and reconvene the Regular Meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF THE WORKER’S COMPENSATION RENEWAL PLAN:

Mr. Wyman submitted a Worker’s Compensation Plan with Indiana Public Employers Plan in lieu of the present Self Worker’s Compensation Plan. This has a guaranteed premium of \$302,872.00. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to approve the Indiana Public Employers Plan Membership Agreement for one year, in the amount of \$302,872.00, and authorize the President to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS:

There are several Department Heads who are appointed specifically by the Board of Commissioners. Two of the appointments are by State Statute and Attorney Murrell and Projects Manager Pam Isaac are in the process of researching and confirming the proper procedure. The appointments of the Building Superintendent and the Highway Department Engineer / Superintendent are not based on statute requirements but are historically appointed by the Board of Commissioners. A motion was made by Mr. Moore to appoint Mr. Ted Cain as the Highway Department Engineer / Superintendent; and to appoint Mr. Bill Stonestreet as the Buildings & Grounds Superintendent, to expire 12/31/2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore to appoint Project Manager Pam Isaac to the Region 4 Workforce Board for a two-year appointment to expire December 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time,
the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. on a motion made by
Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.*

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

TYLER O. MOORE, VICE PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR
Howard County Commissioner Meeting January 4, 2016