

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, 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, Member Brad Bray, County Auditor Martha Lake, and County Attorney Alan D. Wilson.

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

### **IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

1. Mr. Wyman wished Mr. Moore a happy birthday.
2. Sheriff Steve Rogers introduced Mr. Mark Brackett as the candidate for a Merit Deputy in the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Brackett has served in the county for 16 years. His past duties have included nine years as a Corrections Officer at the Jail, 3-4 years with Road Gang Supervisor/Sergeant, and the remaining time as a civil process server. Mr. Brackett has a bachelor's degree in Theology, and a master's degree in Strategic Leadership. Mr. Brackett was sworn in by Chief Deputy Clerk Debbie Stewart, surrounded by his family. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.
3. Mr. Moore read Howard County Treasurer Weston Reed's nomination for Christie Branch into the record for July Employee of the Month. Ms. Branch supervises staff and manages projects, personal property, and judgements. Ms. Branch is reliable, picks up the slack, is always timely, and does not complain. The commissioners presented Ms. Branch the July Employee of the Month Award. Ms. Branch received a round of applause as well as a small glass memento from Kokomo Opalescent Glass and a certificate. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the August 20, 2018, regular meeting minutes were approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Wyman made an amendment to the agenda to include the proposal by unions under old business.

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

#### **CORONER DEPARTMENT:**

Howard County Auditor Martha Lake presented copy machine bids from local vendors Shearer Printing and Beckley Office Equipment. The copy machine in the coroner's office is 15 years old, and repair parts are not readily available. Mr. Seele recommended the copy machine from Shearer due to the fact the bid from Shearer was the lowest and provided the requirements he had requested. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the purchase of a copy machine from Shearer Printing not to exceed \$4,575.00 as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. Jerry Paul, President of the Howard County Veterans Memorial Corporation, came forward to receive a check for \$5,000.00 in support of the Women's Legacy Memorial in Howard County. Mr. Wyman thanked Mr. Paul for all his work on the Woman's Memorial. Pictures were taken, and congratulations was given by all. Mr. Wyman also requested that Mr. Paul keep the commissioners updated on the progress of the memorial.
2. The Board of Commissioners addressed the issue of a collective bargaining ordinance. Mr. David Robertson, of 1431 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond, Indiana, spoke out in support of unions. Mr. Ron Glendenning, of 1704 N Lindsay, Kokomo, IN, spoke out in support of unions. Mr. Jeff Haworth, of 1114 N Indiana, also spoke out in support of unions. Mr. William Stonestreet, of 3772 N 400 W, Kokomo, Indiana, spoke out against an employee union due to union dues supporting an international entity with opposing views, virtues, values, ideas, and political candidates. Mr. Stonestreet also recognized that unions did a good job in helping to prevent accidents, but he did not view that as a factor for county employee jobs. Mr. Gerald Armfield 1135 S Wabash, Kokomo, spoke out in support of unions. Mr. Bob Davis, of 114 S Elizabeth St., Kokomo, asked for a secret ballot to gauge employee support of unions. Commissioner Moore explained that Commissioners set policy not budgets. Mr. Moore stated the following

problems with allowing a collective bargaining ordinance: 1) how it would affect budgeting for the county, 2) the county is a not for profit entity, and taxpayers pay employees' salaries, and 3) individual employees in the county were not interested. Mr. Bray stated that several departments have told him that they are not interested in forming a union. Mr. Wyman stated that 1) employee phone calls have been overwhelmingly opposed to organizing a union, and 2) employees voice their opinions regularly through phone calls and emails on a variety of topics. By consensus the Howard County Board of Commissioners decided against considering a collective bargaining ordinance.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:**

Special Project Director Pam Isaac thanked Erika Cunningham of Huston Electric, Information Systems Director Jeremy Stevens, and Howard County Attorney Alan Wilson for their help on the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) project. Ms. Cunningham helped guide the county in determining needs for a new phone systems. Proposals were received back from CBTS, Level 365, Intrasect, and AT&T. The proposals were submitted to the Commissioners. Various pros and cons were evaluated for each company. The most responsive bid for the county was Level 365. Level 365 has a local host company, Elsewhen Technologies. Some of the highlights for Level 365 were: the installation timeline; no maintenance cost; it is a redundant network; network monitoring is provided; and the taxes/surcharges are included in monthly fees. A major driving force for making the decision quickly is the \$60,000.00/monthly fee proposed to begin October 1, 2018, due to the expiration of the current contract on September 16, 2018, with AT&T. Mr. Stevens stated that a major drawing point for him was the redundancy factor, and that Level 365 was the only one with a redundancy feature. Ms. Isaac stated that Level 365 was the only one who could complete the installation in 30 days. Level 365 is a month to month contract. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve VoIP with Level 365-Elsewhen Technologies proposal in the amount of \$56,600.00 from Cum Cap Equipment Line. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:**

Howard County Auditor Martha Lake 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 September 14, 2018, in the amount of \$796,550.97 were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid September 4, 2018, in the amount of \$1,332,209.11 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. **Ratify Claims:** The following early paid claims: Howard County Veterans Memorial (Women's Legacy Memorial) in the amount of \$5,000.00, and Staples Credit Plan in the amount of \$49.80 were ratified as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
4. **Ratify Signature Matching Grant:** Auditor Lake presented a Community Crossing Matching Grant letter that was signed by the president of the Board of Commissioners. This is a proposal by Highway Superintendent for a \$1 million matching grant. Mr. Bray made a motion to ratify the president's signature on the Community Crossing Grant letter as presented. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:**

1. Howard County Attorney Alan Wilson presented a letter between Behavioral Howard Regional Health and Kinsey Youth Center for a therapist and for life skills support. Attorney Wilson has reviewed the document, and he has no reservations. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the letter between Behavioral Howard Regional Health and Kinsey Youth Center and to authorize the president to sign on behalf of the board. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. Attorney Wilson also submitted Ordinance No. 2018-BCCO-28 AN ORDINANCE OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL FUND FOR DEPOSIT OF FOUR COUNTY COUNSELING LEASE PAYMENTS. Attorney Wilson reminded the commissioners of Four County Counseling pays \$500.00/month for use of the facility. These dollars would be earmarked for use at Kinsey. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2018-BCCO-28 AN ORDINANCE OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL FUND FOR DEPOSIT OF FOUR COUNTY COUNSELING LEASE PAYMENTS. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
3. Attorney Wilson asked Charles Malinowski of Malinowski Consulting, Inc. (MALCON) to speak about proposals involving Title IV-D funds. Mr. Malinowski presented the following five proposals which cover Audit Defense, Program Compliance and Internal Control dealing with Title IV-D funds:
  - a. Proposal formalizing the current agreement between the Clerk's Office and MALCON.

- b. Proposal between Howard County Circuit Court and MALCON.
- c. Proposal between Howard County Commissioners and MALCON for Title IV-D Annual Cost Allocation Plan. This deals with indirect costs tied to Title IV-D.
- d. Proposal between Howard County Commissioners and MALCON for Public Defender Quarterly Cost Allocation Plan. This issue deals with indirect costs for the Public Defender not tied to Title IV-D that are reimbursable by the state.
- e. Proposal between Howard County Commissioners and MALCON for Claim for Fuel Tax Refund. This deals with vehicles that use fuel, but that do not use the roads.

Mr. Wyman asked why it would be necessary for the county to hire a consultant. Auditor Lake stated that one of the first areas that the State Board of Accounts audits is Title IV-D funding. Howard County Auditor Martha Lake explained that Title IV-D reporting is very complicated, and that audit defense is the reason. Mr. Moore asked why a formal agreement is needed for the Clerk's Office. Mr. Malinowski explained that they can continue with the letter of understanding with the Clerk's Office, but it would be best to formalize the agreement through the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Malinowski explained that with the possible change in Circuit Court adding a magistrate position, the magistrate's/hearing officer's paid time is eligible for reimbursement as long as he/she is not an elected judge. Mr. Malinowski stated that agreements with MALCON can be terminated at any time without cause. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the agreements between the Clerk's Office for Title IV-D monthly expenditure reporting and consulting, and Circuit Court for Title IV-D monthly expenditure reporting and consulting with MALCON. Mr. Moore amended his motion to authorize the president to sign on behalf of the board. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Terry "Tater" Roach, 1100 S Buckeye St., Kokomo, IN also spoke in favor of the agreements.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:**

Mr. Wyman explained that Mark Kady is retiring from the Greentown Public Library Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is recommending that Cynthia Galford replace Mark Kady. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the appointment of Cynthia Galford to the Greentown Public Library Board of Trustees. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore, and carried.*

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

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PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

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TYLER O. MOORE, VICE PRESIDENT

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ROBERT B. BRAY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Meeting September 4, 2018