

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING JANUARY 21, 2020**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, January 21, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice-President Brad Bray, Member Jack Dodd, County Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Jerry Asher and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Wyman offered a word of prayer. President Wyman welcomed Jack Dodd as the new Commissioner.

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

The minutes of January 6, 2020, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Wyman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**\*\*The Board of Commissioner's Meeting Recessed to Initiate the Board of Finance Meeting\*\***

### **BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING:**

#### **The Election of the Board of Finance Officers:**

Mr. Brad Bray made a motion to retain Paul Wyman as President of the Board of Finance; himself and Jack Dodd as members and Christie Branch as the Secretary.

Treasurer Christie Branch presented the Board of Finance Report for 2019. Treasurer Branch stated that the Treasurer's Office has seen many areas of growth and improvement in 2019. The Treasurer's Office had an increase in growth with a collection rate of 97%, in the sum of \$93,928,403.42 for 2019 taxes alone. Revenue was up 34% from 2018 to 2019, in the sum of \$320,409.71. The Commissioners sale brought in \$5,400.00 in 2019. Inn-keepers tax collection was up 26% from 2018 to 2019, in the sum of \$848,281.11. The total interest earned from banks, CD's, and Bonds was up 55% from 2018 and the total interest earned in 2019 was \$1,041,654.82. The increase in interest was due to an increase in interest rates and investments in federal agencies in 2019. The investment policy is the same as there are no changes in the list of public depositories provided by the State.

Mr. Wyman made a motion to approve the Board of Finance Report as presented by the Treasurer. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The Howard County Board of Finance Report was submitted for signatures by the Board. A copy will be submitted to Auditor Lake for retention

Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the list of financial institutions as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Wyman stated that the Finance Policy follows Indiana Code which dictates how investments can be made. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the Investment Policy as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**\*\*The Board of Finance meeting was adjourned and the Board of Commissioner's Meeting reconvened\*\***

President Wyman welcomed Commissioner Jack Dodd to the Board and invited any questions he may have during the meeting.

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

#### **HIGHWAY:**

##### **Bridge 31 Plan:**

Highway Superintendent/Engineer Ted Cain presented plans for bridge 31, located on Co. Rd. 500 South, between 100 and 200 West. Mr. Cain stated that the county will be replacing the bridge this winter, sometime in February and

Mr. Cain requires the signature of the Auditor and the Board of Commissioners on the bridge plan. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the plans for bridge 31 located at 500 S. at 124 West. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**2009 Bucket Truck Purchase:**

Mr. Cain requested the permission to purchase a 2009 bucket truck in the sum of \$44,900.00. Mr. Wyman entertained a motion to approve the purchase of the bucket truck with the requirement of the purchase being subject to legal review by County Attorney Alan Wilson. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2009 bucket truck as requested, subject to the County Attorney's approval. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**2019 Annual Operating Report:**

Mr. Cain presented the 2019 annual operating report for the signature of the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the 2019 annual operating report as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**2020 Community Crossing Matching Grant:**

Mr. Cain presented the 2020 Community Crossing Matching Grant Letter for application of \$1 million dollars for the county. The State should make a decision and notify the department if the grant is approved, sometime in February 2020. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the matching grant funds letter and authorize Mr. Wyman to sign on behalf of the Board. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Engineering Services Contract – Beam, Longest and Neff LLC:**

Mr. Cain addressed the Board with the need for engineering services from Beam, Longest and Neff LLC in order to review the load bearing requirements of a bridge project and to assist the county with the utility company access and right of way. There is a bridge at Cassville and one at Haynes that will need work. Mr. Wyman stated that Attorney Wilson has reviewed the service contract. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the service contract with Beam, Longest and Neff LLC, as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Approval to sell outdated items in the Highway Dept.:**

Mr. Cain stated that there is equipment at the Highway Dept. that is outdated and no longer in use. He has discussed this with County Attorney Alan Wilson and his desire to post these items for sale. President Wyman requested that Mr. Cain meet with Attorney Alan Wilson to discuss the individual items prior to listing them for sale. Mr. Dodd made a motion to authorize the sale of the unused items at the County Highway Department with Attorney Alan Wilson's review prior to listing items for sale, as requested. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**MAINTENANCE:**

Superintendent William Stonestreet presented a maintenance agreement with EVAPAR for the two generators located in New London and Greentown in the sum of \$840.00 per generator for a total of \$1680.00. This is the same agreement the county had with EVAPAR last year. Mr. Stonestreet stated that he has met with County Attorney Alan Wilson to review this contract. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the contract as submitted and authorize President Wyman to sign on behalf of the board. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**RECORDER:**

Recorder Jennifer Jack welcomed Commissioner Dodd. Mrs. Jack thanked Jeremy Stevens in IT for his assistance in the project of moving land records to a secure server. As well, she updated the Board of Commissioners, stating that her department completed the conversion last week moving the county land records from our county server to a remote secure server with Fidlar. Mr. Jack submitted the 4 year land records life cycle extension contract between the Recorder's Office and Fidlar, in the sum of \$30,390.00, commencing December 31, 2019. Fidlar will provide Avid software to record land records documents. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**AUDITOR:**

Auditor Martha Lake presented the 100-R Report which is required by State Statute in January each year. This report reflects the compensation paid by Howard County for the 2019 calendar year. Auditor Lake stated that the report has

been posted in the building, advertised in the local paper and is now posted on Gateway, as required. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the 100-R Report as submitted by Auditor Lake. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**ASSESSOR:**

Assessor Mindy Heady presented the re-appointments for the PTA/BOA for the 2020 calendar year, as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>PTA/BOA</b>
Virginia Baker / Democrat	Re-appointment
Ann Harrigan / Republican	Re-appointment

Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the re-appointments to the PTA/BOA as requested. Mr. Dodd 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 January 31, 2020, in the amount of \$897,820.94, were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners’ Operating Claims to be paid January 6, 2020, in the amount of \$2,734,720.42, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Dodd. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bray, and the motion carried.
3. **Monthly Reports:** The following reports were received into record: Howard County Weights and Measures through January 16, 2020; Howard County Clerk’s Office through December 31, 2019 and the Howard County Treasurer’s Office from October 31 through November 30, 2019.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Dodd, seconded by Mr. Bray, and carried.*

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

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ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

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JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR  
Howard County Commissioner Meeting January 21, 2020