The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, November 19, 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, and County Attorney Alan D. Wilson. County Auditor Martha Lake was absent. Financial Supervisor Renae Adams assisted for Auditor Lake.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD:**

The Commissioners awarded Karen Long Employee of the Month for October. Ms. Long was nominated by Heidi Simpson and Christina Sommers. Ms. Long has works for the Howard County Health Department. Ms. Long excels in planning, organizing, and leading. Ms. Long developed a county wide vaccination process, and she has received state funded grants. Ms. Long has been a driving force behind several state awards for the health department. Ms. Long is tireless in her efforts to improve the health department. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all. Ms. Long also received a memento from the Commissioners made by Kokomo Opalescent Glass.

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

The minutes of the November 5, 2018, regular meeting were approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Moore. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Howard County Highway Supervisor/Engineer Ted Cain previously submitted a request to the commissioners for a Construction Observation agreement. Mr. Moore stated that the consulting contract is between Howard County and Beams, Longest, and Neff, LLC as the consultant. The Des. No. is 0710021 with the following project description: Construction Observation for the Judson Road Reconstruction from Dixon Road to Phillips Street. Attorney Alan Wilson has reviewed and recommended the contract. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the contract not to exceed $200,500. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Mr. John Speidel from Beams, Longest, and Neff, LLC thanked the commissioners. Mr. Speidel stated that the contract is 80/20, which means the county pays 20% of the costs. Mr. Speidel will submit the contract to the state.

**RECORDHER:**

Howard County Recorder Jennifer Jack submitted a Laredo contract for Moore Title & Escrow, Inc. Previously Moore Title had purchased bulk images from the county. Moore Title & Escrow, Inc. would like to switch to a monthly Laredo access plan. Other organizations also have Laredo plans. Mr. Wyman reviewed the plan in advance. Mr. Wyman made a motion to approve the Moore Title & Escrow, Inc. to have a “Laredo” plan similar to other organizations. Mr. Bray seconded the motion. Mr. Moore recused himself from voting. The motion carried.

**EMA:**

Howard County EMA director Janice Hart previously submitted a request for a gator grant. Ms. Hart stated the EMPG (Emergency Management Performance Grant) is a reimbursable grant through IDHS (Indiana Department of Homeland Security). EMA applied for the grant and was awarded $25,850.00 for a 2018 ambulatory John Deere ATV. If there are any conditions attached to the grant, those conditions will be reviewed by Attorney Wilson. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the EMA 2018 ambulatory John Deere ATV subject to Attorney Wilson’s review of any conditions, and to authorize the president to sign on behalf of the board. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:

Doug Heath from Regions Insurance recommended that there would be no cost change to the employees for the February 1, 2019, plan renewal. Anthem had requested a nine percent increase in cost of stop loss premium, which would have resulted in an $80,000.00 increase. Mr. Heath negotiated the increase down to five percent, which costs $40,320.00. Dental claims are estimated to increase 2.4 percent, which is $10,601.00 for the year. Last year, bids were sent to other healthcare providers. There were no competitive quotes. Bids will be requested again this year. Mr. Heath requested that the commissioners authorize Mr. Wyman to sign the paperwork from Anthem, when the paperwork is available. Mr. Heath will report back any other bids to the commissioners. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the Anthem renewal when the paperwork is available, subject to: 1) bids from other companies, 2) a final review by: Attorney Alan Wilson, Debbie Lorenz and Paul Wyman, and 3) to authorize the President to sign on behalf of the board. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Finance Supervisor Renae Adams acting on behalf of 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 November 23, 2018, in the amount of $812,503.87 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 November 19, 2018, in the amount of $2,089,164.53 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:** An early paid claim was submitted from Level365 in the amount of $63,806.00 for the phone project was ratified as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

4. **Monthly Reports:** Clerk’s Monthly Report Ending August 31, 2018; Clerk’s Monthly Report Ending September 30, 2018, were received.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Mr. Wyman thanked Renae Adams for her service.

Mr. Moore wished everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. Mr. Moore specifically thanked service men and women for their sacrifices.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore, 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 November 19, 2018