

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, November 18, 2019, 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 Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was called to order by Major Gary Cook and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Moore offered a word of prayer.

**IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

President Paul Wyman congratulated Vice-President Tyler Moore on his election as Mayor for the City of Kokomo. He will take his new position as Mayor in January of 2020.

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

The regular meeting minutes of November 4<sup>th</sup>, the bid opening for the Coroner's Addition special meeting minutes of October 31, 2019, and the bid opening for the Prosecutor's Office Interior Renovations special meeting minutes of November 7, 2019, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

**HIGHWAY:**

Highway Superintendent Ted Cain addressed the annual material bids received and the Board of Commissioners opened the bids for review. Mr. Cain stated that he would review the bids and give his recommendation to the Board. Mr. Moore made a motion to take the bids under advisement and have Mr. Cain review the bids and give his recommendation at the next board meeting. The bids received were as follows:

<b>Item#</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Bid Description</b>
Item 1	Primco Inc.	Pre-cast and pre-stressed beams
Item 2	Mohr Construction Co. (a division of E&B Paving)	Various grades of asphalt, emulsions and tar
	Asphalt Materials Inc.	Various grades of asphalt, emulsions and tar
Item 3	Mohr Construction Co. (a division of E&B Paving)	Bituminous coated aggregate asphaltic concrete binder & top
Item 4	Martin Marietta Materials	Stone
	Irving Materials, Inc.	Stone
	Hanson Aggregates	Stone
Item 5	Primco Inc.	Equipment rental
Item 6	Ceres Solutions (Co-op)	Diesel fuel

**CLERK:**

Clerk Debbie Stewart addressed a renewal agreement from CSI, providing software access to the old child support records prior to ISETS and Odyssey. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the agreement between CSI and the Howard County Commissioners on behalf of the Clerk's Office. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Major Gary Cook addressed the board in regard to the purchase of a new vehicle. The vehicle is a 2019 Chevrolet Tahoe SSV from Kelley Chevy, Inc. The appropriations have been approved by the Council in a prior meeting from the Misdemeanant Grant Fund. The Sheriff's Department is seeking board approval to purchase the vehicle. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2019 Chevy Tahoe SSV in the amount of \$29,461.00. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **SUPERIOR COURT 3:**

Judge Douglas Tate addressed the Board of Commissioners with the request to consider their appointment to the Local Public Defender's Board. Judge Tate stated that in the years prior, the Judge was the overseer of the Public Defenders; however, in 2005 the Local Public Defender's Board was established to oversee the Local Public Defenders Office as well as to hire the chief public defender. The board was established due to counties receiving state funds and thereby allowing the Public Defender's office to increase their services without increase in cost to the counties. A new law now in effect requires that the three appointments to the Local Public Defender's Office be done by the Judges, Board of Commissioners, and the State Public Defender's Office, each appointing one member. Each Local Public Defender Board member will serve a three-year term. Judge Tate stated that the public defenders contract expires on January 20, 2020 and this would be a good time for the Commissioners to consider their appointment to the Local Public Defender's Board prior to January 2020. Judge Tate stated that the Judges have made their appointment to the Local Public Defender's Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Commissioners Meeting Minutes and County Holidays 2020:**

President Wyman addressed the adoption of the commissioners meeting dates and the county holiday schedule for 2020, which will be taken under advisement until the next Commissioners Meeting on December 2, 2019.

#### **County Health Insurance Renewal for 2020:**

President Wyman asked if Mr. Doug Heath, Employee Health Insurance agent from McGriff Insurance would like to address the Howard County Health Insurance Plan for 2020. The Insurance Committee met and put together a proposal to go out to four re-insurance partners as well as United Healthcare. The re-insurance partners declined the proposal stating that they would not be competitive with the Antheims renewal. Mr. Heath's recommendation would be for the Board of Commissioners to renew with Anthem BC/BS. Mr. Heath stated that the renewal would be an as-is with no changes in the policy plan coverages except for the increase in premiums at the 2, 3 and 5% increases over a period of three years. President Wyman entertained a motion to approve the County Health Insurance Plan with Anthem with the 2, 3 and 5% increase in premiums over a three-year period. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the County Health Insurance Plan with Anthem and authorize President Wyman to sign the necessary documents to procure the policy. 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 November 22, 2019, in the amount of \$843,204.87, 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 18, 2019, in the amount of \$2,958,756.04 were submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Bray. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore, and the motion carried.
3. **Monthly Reports:** The following reports were received into record: Howard County Clerk's Office October 2019 month end report and the Weights and Measures report to November 16, 2019.

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

Mr. Moore stated that there is still time to participate in the no shave November which supports the Carl Koontz scholarship fund.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mike Young of 11037 W 150 N, Kokomo, Indiana, addressed the Board with the request of allowing the county employees the option to form a union. He presented to the Board a petition with names of individuals who were in favor of the option to form a union for county employees. No employees had signed the petition. Mr. Young stated

that his intention was to bring to the attention of the Board the interest of citizens in forming a union in Howard County Government. Mr. Moore commented that only a very few counties have formed unions. President Wyman stated that he has not had one county employee approach him with interest in forming a union in Howard County Government. No motion was entertained.

*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. Bray, seconded by President Wyman, 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 November 18, 2019