

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MARCH 2, 2020

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, March 2, 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.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of February 17, 2020, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Dodd. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

MS4:

Mr. Greg Lake stated that he would postpone the Tudor Drain Lease Agreement proposal to the next Commissioners Meeting on March 16th, due to working through various items within the lease agreement.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS:

Total Court Services Agreement "Addendum 1":

Community Corrections Supervisor Dustin DeLong presented Addendum 1, for the product and services agreement with (TCS) Total Court Services, previously approved by the Board approximately one year ago. This addendum allows Howard County Juvenile Probation to participate in the pricing and services contained in the original TCS agreement. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve Addendum 1 as presented, and authorize President Wyman to sign on behalf of the Board. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. DeLong addressed the Commissioners seeking permission to apply for an "Addiction Response/Pretrial Program" Grant for \$60,000.00. He stated that this grant provides the salary of the individual who works between the inmates at the jail and the community corrections department. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the submission of the application by Mr. DeLong for the \$60,000.00 grant. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. DeLong is also requesting permission to apply for a "Victim Assistance Program" grant for approximately \$300,000.00. This grant is a 2-year, 20% matching grant and is largely personnel based. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the submission of the grant by Mr. DeLong. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

RECORDER:

Laredo Access Agreement:

Recorder Jennifer Jack presented the agreement between the Recorder and an individual title searcher, Roberta Solms. She stated that this is a standard agreement and has been reviewed by County Attorney Alan Wilson. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the agreement between the Recorder and title searcher Roberta Solms. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

AUDITOR:

Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-12:

Auditor Martha Lake presented Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-12, an Ordinance Re-establishing the Cumulative Capital Development Fund, per I.C. 36-9-14.5-1. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-BCCO-12, as presented. 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 March 13, 2020, in the amount of \$849,382.25, were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Dodd. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid March 2, 2020, in the amount of 708,443.72, 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. **Ratify of Claim:** A claim payable to Enterprise for \$13,831.51, was submitted and ratified on a motion made by Mr. Dodd. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried. A Claim payable to Midwest Presort for \$736.17, was submitted and ratified on a motion made by Mr. Dodd. Mr. Bray seconded the motion and, the motion carried.
4. **Monthly Reports:** The following reports were received into record: Treasurer's office for month ending January 31, 2020.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

County Attorney Alan Wilson presented an agreement with Hearn Construction for the Renovation and Coroner's Addition. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS' ISSUES:

Mr. Dodd held an appeal hearing earlier today regarding a denial of assistance issued by the Center Township Trustee to their client CeAsia Woodard. His recommendation to the Commissioners is to uphold the findings of the Center Township Trustee. Mr. Dodd made a motion to uphold the findings of the Center Township Trustee. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Solar Energy Project:

Jensen Renbarger, located at 11678 E. 200 S., Greentown, IN, addressed the Commissioner's with concerns regarding the solar energy fields and the contamination of toxic chemicals obtained within those panels. He further listed the chemicals contained within the panels and his concern for the chemicals leaching into the water table. Weather conditions such as tornadoes propose the potential for damaging the panels thereby releasing chemicals as well, and the hazards for disposal of the panels. He asked that the Commissioners consider the concerns of the residents and thanked the Commissioners for their time.

Several Howard County residents spoke in regard to opposition to the industrial solar fields.

2nd Amendment – Right to Bear Arms:

John D. Smith, located at 5764 N. 50 E., Kokomo, IN, presented a written "constitution insurance resolution" and read aloud its contents. He requested the County Commissioner's sign the document in support of upholding the Constitution which includes the 2nd Amendment.

Other Howard County residents spoke in regard to the protection of 2nd amendment rights.

The County Commissioners kindly heard their concerns.

North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council:

Mr. Steven Ray from the North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council presented the Board of Commissioners with a five-year progression report and how it has and will financially affect Howard County. The Report prefaced 2019 Grant Awards, the direct financial impact for Return on Investments, as well as average return per capita.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Dodd, seconded by Mr. Bray, and carried.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR
Howard County Commissioner Meeting March 2, 2020