The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 8, 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 and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Justin Markley offered a word of prayer.

**IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

**SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD:**

The Commissioners congratulated the first female deputy in Howard County, Sherrie Galloway, on her retirement. She has taught D.A.R.E. in Howard County as well as worked with the middle schools to provide training materials. She has worked in the community with Turning Point and helped to fight the opioid epidemic in Howard County. Her work in the C.A.R.E. track program assisted with the monitoring and the tracking of individuals with Autism and Alzheimer’s to help keep them safe. Sherry thanked everyone for their support and stated that it has been an honor to serve in Howard County. She was nominated by Dustin Markley for her outstanding service and commitment to Howard County. It is with great honor that the Commissioners extended congratulations and the memento from Kokomo Opalescent Glass to her. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.

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

The minutes of August 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:**

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Kristina Sommers presented the “Local Testing Initiative” grant application to the board of commissioners. She explained that the State of Indiana has approved the grant and she is now presenting to the Commissioners. The grant amount is $200,000.00 and is effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The grant provides for mobile testing for the community due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the grant for the mobile testing site. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Jennie Cauthern presented the “IN CARES ECHO” grant application to the board of commissioners. She is requesting approval of the grant already approved by the State of Indiana. The grant amount is $102,000.00 and is effective from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The grant allows for the health department to provide a mobile response team for addiction services such as following up post hospitalization discharge, peer recovery coaches and an overdose fatality review for the community. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the grant as submitted. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Plan Commissioner Greg Sheline presented Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-37 (Case 8-CZ-20) Rezone (1 lot) in BK Howell Subdivision from (AG) agricultural to (RR) rural residential. Mr. Sheline stated that there was no remonstrance on the rezoning. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-BCCO-37, as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Sheline presented (Case 5-CP-20) Bk Howell Subdivision (1 lot). There was no remonstrance. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the plat, as submitted. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Sheline presented (Case 6-CP-20) Shrock Acres Minor Subdivision (2 lots). There was no remonstrance. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the plat, as submitted. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The plats were submitted to the commissioners for signatures. There was no public comment.
MAINTENANCE:
Superintendent Bill Stonestreet told the Commissioners about the fire system check valve blow-out at the Kinsey Center which required emergency replacement. It quickly became apparent that the cost would exceed the County’s Purchasing Ordinance pre-approved limit of $5,000.00; therefore, he submitted an email to the commissioners which was received and permission to proceed was given. He is now asking for the approval to complete the project with a not to exceed amount of $6,000.00. He would like to utilize the cum cap building repair account 1138.47241.000.000. He stated that Jeff Lipinski, Kinsey Center Director, was quick to respond to the emergency in order to secure a new check valve from Elwood Fire Dept. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the project with a not to exceed amount of $6,000.00, as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:
Sheriff Asher addressed the Commissioners regarding a 2020 Dodge Ram Pro-master van that was purchased last year and was approved before the council. Upon review, his staff determined that this request had not gone before the commissioners. He is now retroactively submitting this request for permission before the commissioners. The van is a 2020 Dodge Ram Pro-master purchased from John Jones Auto Group in the sum of $28,528.00. Mr. Bray retroactively approved the purchase of the van, as presented. 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 for payment on September 11, 2020, in the amount of $849,071.78, 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 paid September 8, 2020, in the amount of $3,494,994.34, 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 Clerk’s Office month ending July 31, 2020.

4. **Auditor’s Office:** Auditor Martha Lake presented the request to change the minutes of August 3, 2020 to reflect the correct purchase price of the AutoPulse Automatic CPR Trainer in the sum of $14,220.00 and not $10,995.00. Mr. Dodd made the motion to approve the correct amount of $14,220.00 as amended. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:
Attorney Alan Wilson addressed an agreement between the Howard County Court and First Baptist Church to utilize the church for jury duty selection due to the required distancing for the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Bray made a motion to ratify the approval of the agreement between the Court and First Baptist Church, as presented. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Attorney Wilson addressed two quotes received by EMA for the purchase of a vehicle utilizing the CARES Act Grant from the State of Indiana. The lowest quote was from Button Motors in the sum of $31,210.00. Mr. Dodd made a motion to approve the purchase of the vehicle from Button Motors in the sum of $31,210.00, as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
Commissioner Dodd addressed an email he had sent to the commissioners in regard to sponsoring the renovation of a women’s shelter room in the sum of $2,500.00. Mr. Wyman stated that he would meet with him to discuss this item.
There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Dodd, seconded by Mr. Bray, and carried.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

_________________________________________________
P AUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

_______________________________________________
ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

______________________________________________
JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR
Howard County Commissioner Meeting September 8, 2020