

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
March 7, 2023

Commissioner President Spalding called to order the March 7, 2023, Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 9:27 AM. Those present were Board of Commissioners, Bill Spalding, John Jessup, and Gary McDaniel, Auditor Debra Carnes, Executive Liaison Administrator Chyan Gilaspy, and County Attorney Scott Benkie.

Pro's Consulting Update

Pro's Consulting President Leon Younger presented data from the phase two survey. A total of 509 responses were collected from the County and the most desired outdoor service was paved multiuse trails. Discussion had.

Commissioner McDaniel motioned to pay \$5,000 for the parks action plan to be paid from Commissioner Contractual. Commissioner Jessup seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Highway Department

County Engineer Gary Pool discussed the parks action plan and \$2.5 million TIF dollars for land purchase, potentially covering Hancock County Senior Services costs in 2024, insurance to remove liability for removed underground storage tank removed from the Osage property, VCAP letter to update Title VI/ADA, preparing for the total solar eclipse on 4/8/2024, petitioning Council for \$671,000 for INDOT Pennsy funds, and presenting at road school. Discussion had.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to allow Highway Engineer to update the Title VI ADA plan, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to leave the cum bridge Capital Fund rate at the current rate of .0419. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to approve the letter of gratitude to Governor Holcomb, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Facilities Manager

Facilities Manager Cory Taylor discussed finding a contractor to fix leaks from the last rainstorm, getting a duct work cleaning bid, helping Clerk Lofgreen move partitions for voting and presented retractable barriers – Sheriff Burkhardt discussed the partitions are for security purposes, getting quotes to refurbish the Annex elevator, and gate changes at the Highway Department. Discussion had.

*President Spalding recessed the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:18 AM.
President Spalding reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:36 AM.*

Planning Department

Planning Director Kayla Brooks and attorney Gregg Morelock discussed the Planning Commission is now a seven member board from nine since the Fortville and McCordsville seats left. They asked if the Commissioners wanted to refill those seats. The Commissioners appoint three seats, Shirley, Spring Lake, County Council, and the schools combined appoint one each. There are also members who do not technically qualify to sit on the board due to where they live.

Discussion had. Commissioners decided to appoint an additional member and have the Surveyor appoint a member for a total of nine and to remove the jurisdictional requirement for the Commissioner, Council, and the school board member. The Commissioner and Council term for the board will be a one-year, as well. An ordinance will be presented at the April 4th Commissioner meeting.

Insurance Renewals

Walker Hughes representative Brian Brees and Burnham and Flower representative Don Dickerson presented the public entity insurance proposal for Hancock County and Hancock County Solid Waste Management. Discussion had.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to renew with Walker Hughes and to add terrorism coverage for \$2,782 and 5 above 5 umbrella policy for \$3,273.40. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Ice Miller

Commissioner Jessup motioned to allow the RDC to engage Ice Miller's Lisa Lee and approve her engagement letter, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to sign the waiver of conflict of interest for Lisa Lee and Ice Miller, as presented, and to allow the Board President to sign. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Assessor's Office

Assessor Katie Molinder presented an informed consent engagement letter from assessment attorney Sarah Schreiber from Haller and Colvin for assessment litigation since her previous attorney retired. Discussion had.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to give informed consent for the Assessor to engage with Haller and Colvin attorneys at law. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Business

Commissioner Jessup motioned to approve claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to approve minutes for 1/17/2023 as presented. Commissioner Jessup amended the motion for minutes from 1/17/2023, 1/31/2023, and 2/7/2023, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup introduced Resolution 2023-3-1, a resolution for the establishment of meeting procedures and decorum. Commissioner Jessup motioned to adopt Resolution 2023-3-1, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the bid from Rutledge Enterprise for 2023 mowing bid, who was the lowest most responsive bidder at an amount not to exceed \$97,960. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup introduced Ordinance 2023-3A, an ordinance amending lodging, mileage, and meal expenses. Commissioner Jessup motioned to suspend the rules and allow for adoption on the day of introduction. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to adopt Ordinance 2023-3A, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner McDaniel motioned to approve the joint night meeting changes to the schedule for 5/30, 8/29, 10/17, and 12/19, as presented. Commissioner Jessup seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner President Spalding motioned to appoint Commissioner Jessup to the newly formed insurance committee. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Accept ROW

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 40' dedicated ½ ROW along 100S and 40' dedicated ½ ROW on 400E for the Beneath the Stars minor subdivision, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 35' dedicated ½ ROW on Alford Road and 40' dedicated ½ ROW 1000N for the 1000N minor subdivision. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 35' dedicated ½ ROW along CR 150W for the Peace Farms minor subdivision, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 35' dedicated ½ ROW along CR 150W for the Glory Farms minor subdivision, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the additional 5' dedicated ½ ROW, for a total of 40' dedicated ½ ROW along McCord Road, amending the previous plat of lots 2 and 3 for Creekside minor subdivision. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Burkhart presented a lease from TBL Services for the lease of a Chevy Tahoe.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to approve the lease between TBL Services and Hancock County Commissioners for a 2013 Chevy Tahoe, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Clerk's Office

Clerk Lisa Lofgreen discussed installing a kiosk funded by the Indiana Bar Association and the Indiana Housing Authority to provide forms and legal advocates to the public. The kiosk helps individuals who may not have access to a computer or legal representation obtain the correct legal forms they need to file with the Clerk's office. The County Courts are all in support and the Indiana Supreme Court wants to eventually install them in every county. Discussion had. Clerk Lofgreen also discussed using the Commissioners Courtroom for the general election.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to approve the memorandum of understanding between Indiana Bar Foundation and Circuit Court, as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Commissioner Bill Spalding, President

Commissioner Gary McDaniel, Vice-President

Commissioner John Jessup

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor