

**Hancock County Board of Commissioners**  
**Regularly Scheduled Meeting**  
**6/6/2023**

Commissioner President Spalding called to order the 6/6/2023, Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:15 AM. Those present were Board of Commissioners, Bill Spalding, John Jessup, Gary McDaniel, Auditor Debra Carnes, Executive Liaison Administrator Chyan Gilaspy, and County Attorney Scott Benkie.

**Right of Way**

Mike Gibson presented request to accept ROW Wilhelm Minor, Rogers minor, Hudson Minor, Manship Estates.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept 40' 1/2' ROW on 400 E and 35' ½ ROW on 500N for Larry Hudson minor subdivision. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 35' dedicated ½ ROW for the 400S Lindsey Rogers minor subdivision as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 105' dedicated ROW for the 600W replat Fitzwater subdivision as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup motioned to accept the 50' dedicated 1/2 ROW for the 900N Manship Estates subdivision as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Highway Department**

Ann Scheidler was present in Gary Pool's absence. She advised they are pursuing a consultant for Title IV and ADA documentation. They are looking for a fee proposal from USI this week. Pennsy Trail between 500-600W should be paved by June 20<sup>th</sup>. Stop signs are being explored for 500 N and 300 N due to the 400W detour. RFI out for 2 roundabouts on 700W as well as bridges 24 and 48. A segment of 600W is included also. Gary is still working on a towing waiver to be presented to the commissioners. CIRTA invoice for 2024 will be received soon. Any questions should be directed to Gary Pool. Interstate Justification Study is on schedule and they expect it to be given to agencies in this fall for a Spring decision. Ann will be handling INDOT/Feds this week. Randy will hand internal construction. Road striping begins on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Recorder**

Recorder Marcia Moore presented a contract for refurbishing recorder books in basement. HF group submitted the only bid for the project. The other company who used to do this type of work, Boyce, no longer does. Commissioner Jessup asked about the Council weighing in on this project, Recorder Moore advised no.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to send 50 books to HF Group for contract not to exceed \$179,175.75 paid from the Recorder perpetuation fund. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Amateur Radio Week Proclamation**

Commissioner Spalding on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, read proclamation that declares June 19<sup>th</sup>-June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as Amateur Radio Week. In recognition of the important emergency preparedness exercise, we call upon all citizen to pay appropriate tribute to the Amateur Radio Operators of Hancock County.

### **Facilities Manager**

Cory Taylor advised the courthouse elevator is not in compliance. He is asking permission to terminate the contract. Cory does have quotes for new contractor to do the work. The current company is a year and two months late in doing the 5 year inspection. Attorney Scott Benkie will contact the current company.

### **Probation**

Josh Sipes presented MOU for toxicology services with Avertest, LLC.

Commissioner Jessup made motion to enter into MOU with Avertest, LLC DBA Averhealth for all drug testing within Hancock County Criminal Justice System. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried. 3-0.**

Judge Davis proposed transferring Kevin Minnick to Behavior Health Court Coordinator into his court. No additional funds will be needed. Josh Sipes will have an open position in probation.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to create Behavior Health Court Coordinator and allow Judge Davis to use his existing funds from another line item with approval of council. Also keep Josh Sipes's open position in probation department. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **911 Center**

John Jokantas gave update on construction of his new office in basement.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to allow John Jokantas to replace the employee that will be leaving in August. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup made the motion to accept the request for a new employee to start in 2023 instead of 2024. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Director Jokantas discussed budgets and budget increases. Commissioner Jessup made a motion to recommend to county council that they approve the 1222 and 1235 fund budget with the increases in shift differential. **Motion 3-0.**

*Commissioner President Spalding recessed the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:02AM  
Commissioner President Spalding reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:16AM*

### **Assessor**

Assessor Cindy Roberts discussed getting bids from company to complete cyclical assessment on commercial property.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to allow Assessor Roberts to move forward with bids for cyclical assessment on commercial property. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.** BOC requests a 1 million dollar blanket policy and the same for workman's comp.

### **Driveway Variance Request**

Zachary Hart requests a driveway permit at 8549 N 300W Fortville, IN. He is requesting variance for a new driveway with turn around to pole barn.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to approve the driveway variance application at the property location as presented. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Certificates of Insurance**

Brian Brees discussed lowering limits from 5 million to 1 million. This is due to several vendors advising that they are unable to afford that coverage. 2 million umbrellas will be required for master division.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to amend the master set of insurance requirements. General liability 1 million per occurrence and 2 million aggregate and 2 million dollar umbrella policy. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Commissioner Business**

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

Commissioner McDaniel motioned to approve minutes for 5/16/23 & 5/23/2023 Executive session. Commissioner Jessup seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Auditor business- Auditor Debra Carnes discussed ARPA and the Hope House agreement. They are asking for a 90 day extension as they are having trouble finding an employee. Commissioners agree to this 90 day extension.

Commissioner Jessup motioned to approve RFP process for historical building located at 233 E Main St. Striking the language that says they need to maintain the historical integrity of the building. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioners discussed the RX Protect, LLC client agreement. Commissioner Jessup made a motion to approve the agreement with RX Protect, LLC as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to ratify action taken by Board President to approve a temporary part time deputy prosecutor as requested by the prosecutor. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to engage Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc to be the managing underwriter for any capital project bonds in the RDC specifically the education and innovation center as presented. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Natalie O'Hare spoke to board about their business Skillman Corp. She indicated they are interested in becoming the construction manager for the Amplify Project. Commissioner Spalding advised they are interested in what they have to offer and that he is familiar with work in the area. The BOC will be sure to include them in the bid process.

Commissioner Gary McDaniel motioned to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting.  
Commissioner John Jessup seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:10.**

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Commissioner Bill Spalding, President

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Commissioner Gary McDaniel, Vice-President

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Commissioner John Jessup

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor