

RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2021 at 9:00 am

Officials present: Commissioners Richard Dixon, Steve Hopper, and Marshal Noble. Also present, Sheriff Josh Babcock, County Attorney JC Tucker, and Auditor Lonnie Stroud.

Auditor Stroud gave prayer and Richard Dixon led in the pledge to the Flag.

Sheriff Babcock called meeting to order.

Motion to approve the minutes as written from December 15TH was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble and carried 3-0.

First order of business for 2021 was the reorganization of the Commissioners officers. Motion to reappoint Richard Dixon to President was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 2-0-1 with Richard abstaining. Motion to appoint Marshall Noble to Vice President was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 2-0-1 with Marshall Noble abstaining. Auditor Stroud presented a list of board appointment that were possessed by Commissioners. Motion to reappoint same as last year was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. The positions are as follows: Marshall Noble was appointed to Community Foundation Board and the County Health Insurance Committee, Richard Dixon was appointed to the EMA Council and the Orange County Economic Development Partnership, and Steve Hopper was appointed to the Alcohol Bureau Commission, County Extension, and the Community Building Board. The Commissioners considered replacements for the French Lick Planning and the CVB but will make appointment for both after further review. Motion to re-appoint Brian Hawkins and Steve King to the Paoli Planning Commission was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

Sheriff gave December and year end stats. Reported that the Jail population is running around 89. Sheriff also provided the Commissioners with the 2020 Jail Commander report for review.

Carl Anderson, Highway Superintendent, reported on the completion of Bridge #96 on County Road 675 South. The project took 28 days and took a 3 ton bridge off the critical list. Carl reported on working on the 2021 CCMG, the deadline to submit for that grant will be January 29th. In conclusion Carl reported that work has begun in preparation for paving projects in 2021.

Frank Lynd, Orange County Maintenance Director, presented 2 quotes for a boiler replacement at the County Complex. The winning bid total was \$15,900 from Mehringer Plumbing. Motion to accept the bid for the replacement boiler was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. Carl Anderson commended Frank for the help at the Highway Department with an electrical issue.

Elizabeth Jones, Orange County Clerk, requested permission to dispose of a list of old outdated office equipment and hardware. Motion to deem the list of items no value and allow for the disposal was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Billie Deel, Orange County Treasurer, requested that the annual Board of Finance meeting be held immediately following the regular Commissioners meeting. Billie introduced Jackie Clement, Association of Indiana Counties, to give information on the TRECS (Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System). This program allows Indian tax returns to be held when money is owed to the County. Jackie described the security and that the County would be out little to no expense for implication. JC Tucker reviewed the Memorandum and had no objection to the Commissioners entering into an agreement. Motion to sign the memorandum was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Kristal Painter, OCEDP, reported that the 3rd round of Cares Act COVID-19 Relief was available (\$250,000). Kristal reported that many of the requirements were the same and there were some expansions to what would be applicable to qualify. It was the consensus of the Commissioners that the County would allow both public safety and economic development to be the focus. There will be public hearing required for information and there will be a 15-day notice for grant administrator proposal. The cost of the administrator can be paid from the grant. Motion to approve OCEDP to contact Region 15 to begin the process was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble and carried 3-0.

JC Tucker, County Attorney, presented disclosure form to allow transfer of 2.66 acres from Wolfe Contracting to the County. The property was part of the old County dump site. Motion to accept and sign the disclosure form and accept the transfer of the property was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. JC questioned to what end he should negotiate the phase 2 environmental study for the property to be purchased by the County. It was the consensus that should be provided by the seller.

Lonnie Stroud, County Auditor, presented a request to add two lines to the county wireless phone package. The two new lines would be paid for through probation department collection. Motion to approve the two new cell phone lines added to the County plan was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. WTH GIS request permission to share a layer of county map data to the Crawford County Schools. Motion to allow WTH to share the information was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Stroud requested permission to pay out a bailiff from Superior Court that was transferring to Circuit Court for comp hours earned. This is a deviation from the county policy and requires Commissioners approval. Motion to allow the payout of comp time in one lump sum for hours earned was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. Commissioners discussed comp time changes for the future to prevent large payouts of accrued time. Auditor Stroud presented a copy of the Grant Agreement with the Indiana State Department of Health and Orange County. The grant is to support the distribution of the COVID 19 vaccine to the public. Total funds available are \$40,320. Motion to approve the preparedness coordinator Tammie Johnson to sign the agreement was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Angie Chastain, Purdue Extension, reported that it was requested that the Community Center be used for the month of February for the vaccination clinic. Motion to approve February but requested that arrangements be looked with the 4-H block building for the following months if necessary was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

With no further business to discuss the motion to sign claims and adjourn was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Orange County Commissioners

Richard Dixon

Steve Hopper

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County

Marshall Noble