

RECORD OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 7th DAY OF APRIL, 2020 at 9:00 am

Officials present: Commissioners Richard Dixon, Marshall Noble, and Steve Hopper. Also present, Sheriff Josh Babcock, Attorney Lyn Tucker Fullen and Auditor Lonnie Stroud.

Pledge to the US Flag and Auditor Stroud gave prayer.

Sheriff Babcock called the meeting to order.

The minutes from March 23rd were reviewed. Steve Hopper made the motion to accept the minutes, Marshall Noble seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff Babcock reported on Jail population control during the COVID 19 outbreak and presented monthly report for review.

Carl Anderson, Orange County Highway Superintendent, reported on the work being completed in District 1, 2, and 3.

Rick Emerick, EMA, gave report on COVID-19. The County has 11 confirmed cases and 2 deaths. There is sanitizer being distributed to the fire departments, law enforcement, and EMS. There is work ongoing to keep law enforcement up to date on positive COVID cases. The county Health Department is working to notify those that have been in contact with positive cases and Rick is assisting where needed.

Tammie Johnson, Preparedness Coordinator, reported on donations from Hoosier Uplands and the Orleans Schools of sanitizing supplies. These supplies will be distributed to nursing homes, law enforcement, and first responders. There is testing going on that is ordered by medical providers. These tests are reserved for those that have symptoms only. There is no personal information being released on the names of the positive cases nor will there be so do not ask. The Health Nurse will contact those that have been in contact and if there are places that were protentional areas of concern of contamination. There was discussion of the things the Commissioners may consider with retail stores and places of employment and how congested some of them are. The Commissioners have the authority to be more restrictive than the Governors executive order on what gathering is allowed just not less restrictive. The Commissioners will work with the Health officer to see if there are areas that social distancing is not being followed.

Lyn Tucker Fullen presented the Commissioners with and ordinance change request from Treasurer Billie Deel, that Ordinance 1994-3 be amended to read that property tax less than \$25 be due in two installments instead of one. This is a reversal of the prior ordinance and removes the less than \$25 threshold. Motion to approve this to be considered by Council was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

Marshall Noble ask about fencing law that the cost of a fence must be split between property owners. Lyn will provide the Commissioners with that information to pass along.

Auditor Stroud presented the Commissioners with the proposed dated changes for the Primary Election. The County will need to change the holiday schedule from May 5th to June 2nd and the Commissioners meeting date from June 2nd to June 1st. Motion to make these date changes was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. The schedules meeting date on May 4th will not change. Stroud requested permission to pay for a desktop computer out of the Cumulative Capital Development fund equipment purchase line. Motion to allow \$985.54 be spent to purchase the needed desktop for the VA Office was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Stroud presented an amendment correcting the agreement with Lincoln Life that employees pay the dependent portion of the life insurance. Motion to approve the agreement amendment was made by Marshall Nobel, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Richard Dixon presented a request of calcification of the title searchers coming into the building. It was decided in the last meeting that the office holder may set rules for those searches to come in. The Commissioners decided to go one step farther and suggest that the offices use the check list that the Sheriff uses before someone from the public is allowed. Motion to approve the screening of the public before allowing access was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Stroud will forward the check list to county employees and office holders.

Motion to approve the continuation of half staff till the May 19th Commissioners meeting was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. Motion to allow and grant the 10 additional days that will be needed to cover those that will be affected or the sick was made by Marshall Noble, and seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Carl Anderson wanted to thank the Sheriff, Health Department, and Rick Emerick for all the extra work they have taken on during the COVID 19 outbreak.

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

Orange County Commissioners

Richard Dixon

Steve Hopper

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County

Marshall Noble