

RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 18TH DAY OF MAY, 2021 at 9:00 am

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

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

Sheriff Babcock called meeting to order.

Motion to approve the minutes from May 4th meeting was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

Sheriff Josh Babcock reported that the Jail population was 75 at the time of the meeting.

Carl Anderson, Highway Superintendent, reported that the County was awarded the Community Crossing Grant. Carl has merged all three crews to get the prep done on the roads that were approved. There will be ditching and culverts replaced to get the roads ready for the hot mix paving to be completed. County Attorney Lyn tucker Fullen, presented the Community Crossing Grant agreement for review and signing. The total amount of the grant was \$999,057.90. Motion to approve and sign the agreement was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Carl requested permission to approach County Council for an additional appropriation of \$50,000 to purchase culvert stock due to cost increase that will be seen in the near future. Richard reported that this will save the County in the long run. Motion to allow Carl to proceed to request the additional funds was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Carl request permission to also ask for additional appropriation from three funds to up the materials that will be purchased for each district. The budget was cut last year with the anticipation of the economic downturn. It is now believed that the County will be made whole for the lost in income that resulted from the COVID pandemic through the America Recovery Act (highway lost about \$105,000 expected revenue estimated in MVH alone). Commissioners were comfortable allowing up to \$60,000 for each district contingent Council approval until the recovery money has been received. Motion by Marshall Noble to allow the \$180,000 additional appropriation request to Council, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Rick Emerick, Orange County EMA, presented a Mutual Agreement with Washington County for the Commissioners to review and sign. Motion to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. Rick reported that REMC could provide fiber internet service at the Future Orange County Judicial and Government Center (OCJGC). REMC will provide it at the residential rate at this point. Motion to approve and allow Auditor Stroud to sign that application was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Frank Lynd, Maintenance Director, reported on the conversion of the thermostats in the Complex. Frank also reported that he has been spending time at the Community Center replacing lights and making repairs. In conclusion Frank reported that Carrier has been working on the HVAC system at the Courthouse. Some of the agreed services were not up to date and they were making them current as agreed by contract.

Dan McDonald, Kinetik IT, reported that the County IT system worked as designed at a current server crash. The Commissioner have allowed Kinetik to install a system that was robust enough to handle this event with only 30 minutes of down time. An event like this could have had the County down for a week or more. Dan also reported that the County is very well protected from Ransomware. The County has multiple secure backups that would provide the information in the event of an attack.

Brandy Terrell, Orange County Youth Mentoring, reported on the organization and requested a location to house their office. Motion to have a lease agreement prepared for the OCJGC office space as an in-kind contribution. Motion to have Tucker Law prepare a lease agreement at no cost was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Jenny Mathis, Region 15, presented the Commissioners with close out documents for review and signing. The public meeting was required to complete the awarded Phase 2 COVID Relief Grant for \$250,000. Krystal Painter, Orange County Economic Development, reported that 31 businesses from a wide sector of employment benefited from the grant. Motion to sign closeout documents was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble.

Valerie Moon, Orange County Transit presented the application for the CY2022 5311/5339 Transit. Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07 and sign all the applicable documentation was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble and carried 3-0. Valerie presented a pass-through agreement with the County to be able to receive the grant dollars. Motion to approve and sign the pass-through agreement was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

Karina Moore, Purdue Extension Educator, reported on services provided to county residents and training that was received by the Extension Office.

Tammie Johnson, presented the Commissioners with a written report of preparedness and COVID vaccination activity for review.

County Attorney Lyn Tucker Fullen presented the Commissioners with a request from the County Fire District for Section 147 (F) Approval and Written Agreement. The Rural Fire District is purchasing a used Mini Pumper and refinancing a Tanker. This agreement does not involve any financial involvement or obligation for the County. Motion to approve and sign the Section147(F) Agreement was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Lyn presented two contract cancelations for services provided by Johnson Control (contracts #1-98159166112 and 1-84951625010). Motion to approve the cancelations and sign the forms was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. In conclusion Lyn presented the interconnection agreement for the solar panels at the OCJGC. The agreement would be between the Town of Paoli and the County. Motion to approve the interconnection agreement was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Auditor Stroud requested permission to have work done on the County’s Capital Asset Reporting Ordinance. Stroud had a sample for Tucker Law office to use to work it up for the County. Consensus was given for Stroud to proceed and have something for review at the next meeting.

Steve Hoper reported that all items not labeled in the down stairs cage area were fine to be deemed no value and discarded.

Highway Department will assist in removal of the items to comply with the Indiana Fire Marshal.

Richard Dixon reported that the plans for the future OCJGC are being considered and the process is a long slow one with many steps.

Lyn Tucker Fullen introduced Katlyn Reynolds as Tucker Law Office intern along with Noah Magner.

Frank Lynd reported that there has been a Tulip Popular tree planted to commemorate the late Steve Wells. There will be a plaque and service in the future.

Upon motion made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0, the claims were approved and to be signed and the meeting adjourned after signatures.

Orange County Commissioners

Richard Dixon

Steve Hopper

Marshall Noble

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County