

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

Officials present: Commissioners Richard Dixon, Steve Hopper, and Marshal Noble. Also present, County Attorney JC Tucker, Sheriff Josh 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 February 23rd meeting was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Sheriff Babcock reported Jail population was 74. Sheriff presented the Incarcerated Offender Provider Agreement to allow Medicaid coverage and assist released inmates to apply for Medicaid benefits. Motion to allow the Sheriff to sign the agreement was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Carl Anderson, Orange County Highway Superintendent, reported on road work to address winter damage. Carl reported that there should be information out on the Community Crossing Grant in less than 3 weeks.

Rick Emerick, EMA, reported that Emergency Weather Alert week is March 15-19th. This would be the time residence are encouraged to look at their emergency plans for their households. Rick reported on continued work on the County Readiness Assessment.

Frank Lynd, Building Maintenance Superintendent, reported on the Community Center HVAC system repair. There was an issue identified that was under warranty and the repairs are being complete. Frank presented two warranty plans to be considered after the repairs are complete. The warranty agreements were tabled for consideration. Frank reported on the County Complex generator switch going out and emergency repairs being completed. It was approved to pay the \$6,995 quote for the repairs outside the purchase policy by a motion from Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. In conclusion Frank reported that he had Hometown Carpet quote replacing the scratch mats at the entry doors to the County Complex. The bid was \$1,351. Motion to proceed with replacement of mats was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Garland Eubank, 911 Coordinator requested permission to travel with Survey Office Deputy Debbie Woolston to get back to address checks. It was earlier requested that employees not ravel together in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines. It was noted that both employees have been vaccinated. Motion to lift the request from the Commissioners that employees not travel together was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. It was the consensus of the Commissioners to now follow the frequently changing suggestion of the CDC on social distancing.

Robin Brown, CASA Director, reported on the application for grant that will pass through the Community Foundation for automatic hand sanitizing stations. These will be placed around county buildings as they arrive. There have been some delivered with more to be in the near future. Robin reported that the funding will not pass through the County and the Community Foundation will gift the stations to the County.

Abby Heidenreich, Purdue Extension Educator, reported that enrollment was down 92 students from last year due to the COVID-19. Abby described the current activity of the educators as services continue.

Tammie Johnson, Preparedness Coordinator, requested as much notice as possible on the time the County plans on moving the vaccination site to the purchased property on Hospital Road. It was reported that it could be as early as late April to early May before the closing would be completed.

JC Tucker, County Attorney, presented the Commissioners with an outline of a motion to change the Maintenance Director from 35 hours to 40 hours in the employee handbook. Stroud requested that the motion also include the salary ordinance be prepared. Motion to change the employee handbook Article II, Employment Conditions and Terms A. General, under the heading Full-Time Employees of the Orange County Employee Policy Handbook be supplemented with the following addition: Provided, however, the Orange County Maintenance Director shall be scheduled to work forty (40) hours per week was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Auditor was instructed to prepare an annual salary ordinance to reflect the change of hours to be from \$39,288 (35 hours a week) to \$44,898 (40 hours a week) for County Council’s consideration. JC presented the Commissioners with the Resolution 2021-03 amending the County Credit Card Policy allowing the Maintenance Director to be added. Motion to accept Resolution 2021-03 was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. JC reported that the Lease agreement was completed with IU Health for the property they leased with the County. JC presented the only quote to purchase the 1.9-million-dollar bond for the purchase of county property from Spring Valley Bank and Trust for 3.875%. Motion to allow Stroud to solicited and negotiate the rate with any bank contacted with the request for bid was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. Any rate would need to be presented no later than March 15th at the close of business. JC presented the Resolution 2021-04 Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Orange County, Indiana Approving the Issuance of the Orange County, Indiana Taxable Local Income Tax Revenue Bond, Series 2021, and Matters Related Thereto. Motion to approve Resolution 2021-04 was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. In conclusion JC reported that the County Surveyor Matt Cooper surveyed the JCI property and created a new description for recording.

Auditor Stroud presented the County Attorney with two contracts for review for the County’s Child Support Cost Allocation Plan. Stroud asked what contract would serve the county best. Stroud requested the Commissioners allow the deductions for Dental and Vision to be deducted from employees checks the month of the service being provided rather than pre deducting and refunds being issued when the employee is no longer with the county. Motion to allow Auditor Stroud to turn off the deductions for one month and employees pay for the insurance the same month it is received was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Stroud presented the report he received from IU Health on the County Ambulance service (Richard had a comment for later in the meeting on the subject). Stroud presented a request from Melton Public Library for an appointment to the Library Board. Motion to appoint Tony Whitaker was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Richard Dixon, reported on the ambulance service for the County. Richard requested permission to seek out one representative from each town to be on a committee to negotiate with IU Hospital on the services provided. Motion to allow Richard to seek out a representative from each town to sit on a committee to negotiate the ambulance service was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, 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