

RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 7th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021 at 9:00 am

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

Richard Dixon led the pledge to the flag and Auditor Stroud offered the prayer.

Sheriff Babcock called the meeting to order.

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2021, meeting was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and passed 3-0.

Sheriff will present the monthly stats for August at the next meeting. COVID has affected his staff but there is a plan in place with the courts to keep the inmate population protected. The Jail population stands at 94 at the time of the meeting. Commissioner Noble reported that he was at an event that Deputy Zach Andry saved a life with quick emergency response. Commended his quick action.

EMA, Rick Emerick, reported that there will be an exercise with Hoosier National Forest to do a mock dam breach at Tucker Lake. There was discussion on the ownership and responsibilities at the Tucker Lake between the County, Spring Valley Conservancy, and DNR.

Frank Lynd, Maintenance Director, reported on work being preformed by contactors. Frank reported that there was an ongoing problem with the HVAC for the lower level of the Community Center. It was operational but is being worked on. Frank presented quotes to seal coat the parking lots (4) at the Complex. The bid from Nelson Asphalt LLC was accepted for \$14,385 because of the detail of the quote (material used), time line, and that they provided insurance information. Motion to accept the bid contingent Council appropriation approval was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Frank presented a bid to work on the landscaping at the the Courthouse. Commissioners approve not to exceed \$7,500 for proposed work from A+ Outdoor Services with the addition of changing from mulch to rock as ground cover. Motion to approve contingent Council appropriation was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Angie Chastain, Purdue Extension, gave financial report on the Community Center revenue. It was reported that the Orange County Health Department was able to reimburse the County, through a grant, \$10,000. The grant was to cover a portion of the loss rent while the Health Department used the Community Center as a vaccination hub (there has been no reimbursement from IU Health for the space used by the Hospital during the pandemic, at this time). There was discussion on the HVAC on the lower level of the Community Center.

County Attorney, JC Tucker, presented the lease agreement with Inliner for the space that is being leased at the future Orange County Justice and Government Center. Motion to approve the lease contingent Inliner making the payments for July and August was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. The space is \$0.25 a square foot for 40,000. Inliner is to pay the property tax on that space as well, since the County is an exempt entity. There is also addition sq ft available if needed.

Auditor Stroud presented the closeout documentation for the Phase 2 Covid grant administer by Region 15. Motion to approve Richard dixon to sign the closeout documentation retroactive was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, carried 3-0. Stroud presented a request that was made by Hoosier Uplands on the behalf of the Commissioners for an extension on the CDBG OOR Grant from September 2, 2021 to March 2, 2022. Motion to approve Richard Dixon to sign the extension request retroactively was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. Stroud reported on the use of American Relief Plan funds and that the Casino Wagering tax has taken a large hit for the next 12 months. Marshall Noble reported that he looked into the revenue lose and that it appears that the county will be receiving only 10% of the normal amount (loss of 90% of projected revenue) for the next 12 months. The County has been conservative in the use of Casino funds the last few years and will be able to carry through with the help of the American Relief Plan funds.

Marshall Noble publicly commended Karie Becht, Deputy Auditor, for her help while Auditor Stroud was in quarantine. Marshall Nobel reported that she went above and beyond her normal duties in her help to fill in the gap during a hard time.

Steve Hopper reported on the Fall Festival that will be held over the anniversary date of September 11 and for the public to be safe.

Richard Dixon reported on the Ambulance Service negotiation. There will be a proposal presented to IU Health for the continued service. Richard also reported that the kickoff meeting for the future Orange County Judicial and Government center has been postponed due to COVID concerns.

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

Orange County Commissioners

Richard Dixon

Steve Hopper

Marshall Noble

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County