

RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 6th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020 at 9:00 am

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

Auditor Stroud gave prayer, Richard Dixon led in the pledge to the Flag,
Sheriff Babcock called meeting to order.

Motion to approve the minutes as written from September 22nd meeting was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble and carried 3-0.

Beth Jones, County Clerk, reported on election. The County will return to the normal election sites for the November election. The Clerks office has mailed out 900 mail in ballots. Due to Covid 19 staffing issues Beth reported that she needed guidance from the Commissioners on how to maintain work load. It was suggested that some services be delayed to give priority to the election process. Motion to allow Beth to delay service to allow for election activity at her discretion was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Sheriff gave September stats. Jail population is at 90 at the time of meeting with one additional inmate being held in Clark County.

Richard Dixon, report for the county highway, paving to begin completed on Valeene road this week.

Rick Emerick, EMA, reported on the continuation of the burn ban. The County has only had .3 of an inch of rain and the ban remains in place. Rick also said he is still working with Homeland Security and the Health Department to keep first responders, corrections, and local police stocked with PPE.

Amie Wilson, Orange County Health Department, reported on the grant that was approved by the Commissioner for Cares Act Local Health IT Funding. The Grant will be for the amount of \$24,976 in total to help prepare for the vaccination sites. Amie reported that the Health Department is now doing flu shots by appointment. The vaccine for COVID-19 may be available to the highly susceptible population and high risk as early as mid-November and the general population early in the year 2021.

Jenny Matheis, Region 15, presented the OCRA Phase 2 grant agreement with corrections that was approved for signatures. Money from the grant is expected to be received next week and be ready for distribution once the award claims are processed. There will be 231 jobs impacted by the grant money award in Orange County.

Garland Eubank, 911, reported that she has been continuing work in the field on correction of addresses for 911.

Paul Turner and Kim Pitcher, Smithville Fiber, requested right of way on the County property near the Community Center. The area would be a 20-foot by 20-foot easement for \$7500 (50 year). Marshall Noble requested more time to review other options that may be considered. The issue was tabled till the next Commissioners’ meeting on the 20th.

County Attorney JC Tucker presented Ordinance 2020-8 Horse Drawn Carriage Registration. The registration will run from January 15 through January 14 the following year and will be \$80 per carriage that hauls people. There will be a \$250 penalty for noncompliance. Richard reported that this Ordinance was negotiated and agreed on by the Amish Community and will be reciprocating with Lawrence County. Motion to approve ordinance and forward on to Council to review fee and penalty was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. JC Tucker presented Ordinance 2020-3 Horse Drawn Carriage Lighting. This ordinance describes the lighting heights and location on each buggy that hauls people. There will be a \$25 penalty for noncompliance. Motion to approve this ordinance was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0. This ordinance was also done with the cooperation of the Amish Community and will be a positive step in the direction of ensuring safety of the buggies and other drivers. In conclusion JC thanked the commissioners for their continued diligence in keeping the Courthouse (on the square) in good repair and a focal point of our county for over 150 years.

Steve Hopper reported on the Valeene Road and the other patch work being completed in his district.

Richard Dixon thanked the Amish Community for their cooperation and this was a good example of how we can work together to address issues.

With no further business to discuss the motion to 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