

RECORD OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 19th DAY OF DECEMBER 2018 at 9:00 am

Officials present: Commissioners Steve Hopper, Don Brewer, and Richard Dixon. Also present, Sheriff Josh Babcock, Attorney J.C. Tucker and Auditor Lonnie Stroud.

Sheriff Babcock called the meeting to order. The pledge to the Flag was given and Auditor Lonnie Stroud opened with prayer.

The minutes from December 5th were reviewed. Don Brewer made the motion to accept the minutes without changes, Steve Hopper seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff Babcock reported population is currently 95 in the county jail. Sheriff concluded by thanking Don Brewer for his service to the county.

Robin Marsh, SBS Portals, reported on the quote that they worked up for the county auditor for scanning of the county transfer books and providing a portal for access by the public. Stroud reported that the auditor’s office identified money that will be deposited into General fund that was not identified in years past (over \$100,000) from the surplus tax fund. There was discussion on the service and the benefit of having it done. The cost for the scanning was \$0.65 per page and \$0.10 per page for indexing. The portal would be an extra monthly fee of \$400 after the initial setup of a onetime fee of \$2,000.

John Noblitt requested participation from elected officials for the leadership training that will be provided by Purdue Extension Service. The training covering county government will be January 16th at 1:00pm.

Tammie Johnson, Orange County Health Department, came back to follow up on the request for office updates that will take care of security, repair, and ADA issues. Discussion on compromise of the requested \$8,040 was reviewed and found that \$4,200 would cover the security and floor issues that would be caused by moving a counter. Motion to allow Tammie to proceed with the limit of \$4,200 was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Don Brewer, and carried 3-0. This expense would be paid from Cumulative Capital Development fund major repairs that is already appropriated in the 2019 budget.

Angie Chastain, Purdue Extension Office, extended an invitation to the commissioners to attend the State of Extension meeting at 5:30 and Ag Outlook meeting at 6:30 both on January 28th at the County Community Center. Angie also presented the commissioners with the annual extension educator contract for review. Motion to accept the contract with no corrections for the council approved budgeted amount of \$43,720 was made by Don Brewer, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Rick Emerick, EMA, presented information to the commissioners on a proposed mutual aid agreement plan with northern Monroe County. Richard questioned liability for the county and JC reported that it should reduce the county’s liability because we have an agreement to handle a hazmat spill. The county would only have to be responsible for the immediate response of accidents on county road. The State Highway would have jurisdiction on state road spills. Motion to allow Rick Emerick to sign the agreement once JC reviews final agreement was made by Don Brewer, seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 3-0.

Josh Davis, AMR ambulance service, reported on looking at the opportunity to bid on the county ambulance service. AMR does do some service in the northern part of the county under their contract with Lawrence County. Richard questioned how many trucks would be assigned to the county and stated that we would need at least 2 at all times. Josh reported that if they are contracted for 911 service, they would not be doing transfers to supplement that.

Tai Hubbard, Hydrogeology Inc., explained the services he can provide and introduced himself to the commissioners.

Tara Lynch, Orange County Superior Court, reported on the need for a new recorder for the superior court room. Tara has also been made aware of similar issues with the recorder in circuit court that will need to be address. The equipment for each office would be \$4,030 each. Motion to approve the courts to apply for casino fund money was made by Don Brewer, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

County Attorney JC Tucker, request the commissioners to act on the bids provided for MVH consumables. Motion to approve all bids was made by Don Brewer, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. JC reported that the financing for the county graders will be complete in late January. JC reported that the deed for the county park did not have any restrictions on the deed and the county could sell the property. To sell the property, the county would get two appraisals from licensed appraisers approved to do property of that size. The track is 80 acres with a small easement allowing access, the total of under 86 acres. The county would need to have the timber bid separate than the land because appraisers do not do that part. Richard requested that the issue be tabled and the council be brought into the conversation (county council would also need to approve the sale). JC reported that he was representing the county clerk in a recount for the school board position in Southeast Township area. JC concluded with reporting that the county was part of a class action lawsuit to claim money from the federal government on payment in lieu of taxes for federal ground in Orange County. It is reported that the lawsuit as successful but the federal government may appeal.

Auditor Stroud presented the request to the commissioners for an appointment to the Paoli Library. Motion to reappoint Miles Flynn to the Paoli Library board was made by Don Brewer, seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 3-0. Stroud presented a request for a replacement for Don Brewer for the Region 15 Commission. Motion to appoint Marshall Noble to the Region 15 Commission was made by Don Brewer, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Steve Hopper and Richard Dixon thanked Don Brewer for his service to the county as a county commissioner.

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

Orange County Commissioners

Marshall Noble

Steve Hopper

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County

Richard Dixon