

RECORD OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 26th DAY OF MARCH 2019 at 9:00 am

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

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

The minutes from the March 12th meeting were reviewed. Steve Hopper made the motion to accept the minutes without changes, Richard Dixon seconded, and the motion carried 2-0-1 with Marshall Noble abstaining.

Sheriff Babcock reported that county was keeping 85 inmates at the time of the meeting.

Carl Anderson, Orange County Road Superintendent, gave highway work report for districts 1,2, and 3. Reported that a bridge was completed in district 1. The County was awarded \$975,603.75 in Community Crossing grant money.

Rick Emerick, EMA, reported on sawmill burning issues. Rick gave list of identified sawmills and other businesses that may be involved in illegal burning. There are likely more that will be identified in the future and information will be given to them that is provided by IDEM. Kim Anderson, Orange County Sanitarian, reported on the businesses she visited and one of the alternatives to burning that was found by a business owned by Jeff Wilkinson. Richard Dixon reported that he was disappointed that this has been identified as only being focused on the Amish. This rule is a state rule and does not target any one community. The focus is the enjoyment of life for all the citizens of Orange County and following state and Federal law. Marshall Noble reported that he wanted to continue to get information out to the remaining businesses that have not been notified yet. Rick Emerick concluded with reporting on the Federal grant for the 75 weather radios that the county received.

Dave Dunn, Orange County citizen, requested assistance in a building problem he was having with a new construction. JC Tucker reported that the county has no authority and he would need to get private legal counsel.

Barry Wilson, 4-H Inc, presented a Casino request for replacing 3 building roofs at that fairgrounds. The 4-H Inc. had obtained 3 bids to have the work done with the lowest being \$47,189 from Stiles Construction. Motion to approve and send to Council for consideration was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0.

Angie Chastain, Purdue Extension, presented a Casino request with bids to replace the carpet, tables, and chairs in the Community Center. The total of the selected bids was \$42,033.60. There was a short discussion on the rent for the Community Center being raised. Motion to approve the Casino request and to forward to Council for consideration was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

JC Tucker presented the agreement with Orleans Town on the county ambulance service. The agreement reflects the request from the hospital that the county send a check that includes the portions from the county and the towns combined. Motion to approve the agreement was made by Marshall Noble, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 3-0. JC Tucker reported that the county received a letter from Steve Ferguson appreciating the cooperation on the work that is being done on Airport road.

Auditor Stroud reported on a meeting with the US Census 2020. It was requested that the county help with the formation of a Complete Count Committee (CCC) and that there would be jobs available in the county for data collection. It was reported that these part time jobs may start at \$15.00 an hour. For more information a person can inquire at www.2020census.gov/jobs . Stroud requested permission to complete a confidentiality agreement with Indiana Department of Revenue to be able to collect information on the Inn Keepers Tax that is collected. Motion to allow Stroud to be the designated contact for the county was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Marshall Noble, and carried 3-0.

Marshall Noble, reported on meeting on REMC fiber optic lines in the county and forming TIF districts in the county. JC Tucker reported that Dave Umpleby is the attorney for REMC and familiar with creating TIF districts. He may be able to present the benefits to the county. More information to be looked at before any decision is to be made or recommended. Marshall Noble requested that Auditor Stroud provide the Commissioners the report that was done to upgrade the County Complex that was done by DLZ.

Richard Dixon commented on the fabulous news of receiving the Community Crossing grant money. Commended the work that it took to get it. Richard requested an update on the status of having the County Park timber assessed. Steve Hopper reported that it should be complete by late April. Richard reported that he also received another contact by the name of Brad Schneck if something changed with that estimate.

Brad Issacs, JSE, Inc., reported that the alternative for burning presented earlier in the meeting was not approved yet but was promising alternative.

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

Orange County Commissioners

Marshall Noble

Steve Hopper

Richard Dixon

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County