

RECORD OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE
MEETING ROOM, PAOLI, INDIANA
ON THE 27TH DAY OF AUGUST 2019 at 9:00 am

Officials present: Commissioners Steve Hopper and Richard Dixon. Also present, Sheriff Josh Babcock, County 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 August 13th meeting were reviewed. Steve Hopper made the motion to accept the minutes as written, Richard Dixon seconded, and the motion carried 2-0.

Sheriff Babcock gave a sheriff report. Sheriff requested permission to make some improvements to the Jail and Dispatch areas. The HVAC in the booking area is not able to keep up and the flooring in the dispatch, squad room, and EMA’s office are in need of replacement. Sheriff Babcock reported that he got permission to spend the Commissary fund money from Council for this purpose and it would not cost the county any additional money. Motion to approve and allow the improvements was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 2-0.

Carl Anderson, Orange County Highway Superintendent, gave a report on district 1, 2, and 3 road work and the Community Grant completion. Carl also reported on the completion of the work on the highway garage buildings.

Rick Emerick, Orange County EMA, reported on possible opportunities for grant money for the computer aided dispatch software. There will be a demo on the software in September. There was a discussion on the current software that is used by dispatch.

Judge Steve Owen presented a request to move forward with pursuing grant dollars for the CASA program and the Probation department. The Judge explained the possibilities and program improvements that these dollars could address. Some of these funds are Federal dollars that will be tracked and reported by the Auditor in the Certified Federal Rewards reporting section of the County’s annual financial report. Motion to approve the CASA program and Probation departments to pursue these grant programs was made by Richard Dixon, seconded by Steve Hopper, and carried 2-0. Judge concluded on commenting on the improvements to the Courthouse landscape and security. Judge requested that the county consider having the Courthouse power washed in the near future as well.

County Attorney JC Tucker presented the bids for the HVAC system replacement at the Community Center building. Johnson Control submitted a bid for \$78,897 and Meringer Plumbing presented a bid for \$115,076. It was identified that Johnson Control had bid one-unit 16tons smaller than Meringer and it was decided to table the issue till this could taken under advisement and clarification. JC Presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2019-9 that allows part time employees to participate in the county tax deferred cafeteria plan and increase the maximum allowable about to be deducted to 25% or \$24,000 per year. Motion to approve the Resolution that covers the Sheriff, Highway, and County Employees was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 2-0.

Auditor Stroud requested permission o pay out comp time owed to Keyly Watts and Jean Stanfield. These two employees changed departments and it was found that the County Employee policy stated they should have been paid for the comp time they accrued in the department they left. An appropriation will be made and reviewed by Council to pay this. Motion to approve was made by Steve Hopper seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 2-0.

Richard Dixon reported getting reports on newly surfaced roads being damaged. The Highway department has made repairs 5 times to the same stretch of road. Richard requested the public report these people doing the damage. Richard also requested information on the 27 pays this year. Stroud reported due to the holiday that the 27 pays will be in 2020. There will be 26 pays in 2019 and the budgets for salary employees will be zero after the December 17th pay. Hourly and part time pay earned in 2019 and paid in 2020 will be encumbered as it has always been in the past. Richard requested that there be plenty of notice given to employees of this pay being after the holiday rather than before.

With no further business to discuss, the motion to sign claims and adjourn was made by Steve Hopper, seconded by Richard Dixon, and carried 2-0.

Orange County Commissioners

Marshall Noble

Steve Hopper

Richard Dixon

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Auditor – Orange County