

Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 6, 2020

10:00 am

Tippecanoe Room, Tippecanoe County Office Building
20 N 3rd Street, Lafayette, Indiana

Commissioners present President David S. Byers, Vice President Tracy A. Brown and Member Thomas P. Murtaugh.

Also present: Attorney Doug Masson, Auditor Robert Plantenga, Commissioners' Assistant Paula Bennett, and Recording Secretary John Thomas.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – President Byers called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Attorney Masson opened the floor for nominations for President.

- Commissioner Murtaugh nominated Tracy Brown as President, second by President Byers. Motion carried.

Attorney Masson opened the floor for nominations for Vice President.

- Commissioner Byers nominated Commissioner Murtaugh as Vice President, second by President Brown. Motion carried.

President Brown then chaired the remainder of the meeting.

III. RESOLUTIONS

A. 2020-01-CM, 2020 Commissioners Regular Meeting Dates

President Brown read the meeting dates.

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the Resolution as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

B. 2020-02-CM, Tippecanoe County Department Head Appointments

President Brown read list of appointees.

- Commissioner Byers moved to approve the Resolution as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

C. 2020-03-CM, Appointments to Various Boards, Councils and Commissions and other Bodies.

President Brown read the list of appointees.

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the Resolution as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

D. 2020-04-CM, Authorizing Use of the Build Operate Transfer Concept

President Brown stated that this agenda item has been rescheduled for the next meeting.

IV. CONTRACT FOR ATTORNEY

Attorney Masson stated that this contract is the same as last year with no change in the rate.

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the contract for legal services at \$200 per hour as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

V. CONTRACT FOR SHERIFF

Attorney Masson stated that this contract is the same as the last few years except the salary has been increased to \$122,506. Several years ago, the County opted for direct salary compensation for the Sheriff as opposed to it coming from food and other taxes.

- Commissioner Brown moved to approve the 2020 contract with the Sheriff as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from Monday, December 30, 2019.

- Commissioner Byers moved to approve the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

VII. 2020 US CENSUS – Heather Maddox, Partnership Specialist for the local Census Office, talked about how important it is to have everyone counted on April 1st and how secure the process is in that no personal data will be shared. There will be three ways to fill out the Census forms: on line, through the mail, or by visit from a Census employee. There are also good paying local temporary jobs available.

VIII. ORDINANCE 2019-30-CM

Second Reading Animal Control

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to consider ORDINANCE 2019-30-CM, second by Commissioner Byers.

Attorney Masson stated that the proposed revisions address issues raised since the 2014 changes to the Animal Control Ordinance. The amendments: change the terminology of “Vicious Animal” to “Hazardous Animal”, expands the definition of a violation to include unsanitary conditions that are hazardous to their health, requires adequate exercise and humane environmental conditions, includes an appeals process, provides for property damage awards from a neighbor’s commercial animals for damaging property and loose animals and additional provisions for feral cats. There was discussion between the commissioners about its application to commercial farm animals, but all felt comfortable with the narrow well-defined provisions in the amendment.

President Brown asked for any public comment and Steven Riggs spoke. He was concerned that: 1) The change from vicious to hazardous provides too much discretion and expands the authority of the Animal Control Officers, 2) there are no guidelines or procedures to manage the Officers discretion, 3) the recent court interpretation of a dangerous or nuisance animal agreement. Attorney Masson stated that the ordinance definition for a “Hazardous Animal” hasn’t changed only the name, and there are guidelines specified in the ordinance for how it will be applied. Seth Kirkendall, the Animal Control Officer talked about the guidelines and procedures he uses when working with animals, owners and neighbors.

President Brown asked if there were any additional questions and then called for the vote:

- Auditor Plantenga recorded the vote:
 Commissioner Brown Yes
 Commissioner Murtaugh Yes
 Commissioner Byers Yes
Ordinance 2019-30-CM passed 3-0 on second reading.

IX. HIGHWAY – Stewart Kline presented and recommended:

A. New Motor Grader Lease Agreement with West Side Tractor Sales for a three-year lease.

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the lease agreement as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

- B. Payment, Performance and 1 Year Maintenance Bond for HIS Contractors Inc for the replacement of Bridge 53 in the amount of \$844,504.42.
- Commissioner Byers moved to approve the bonds as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.
- C. Payment and Performance Bond for Milestone Contractors LP for the replacement of Culvert WAS558 in the amount of \$474,237.
- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the bonds as submitted, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

X. PUBLIC DEFENDER – Amy Hutchinson presented and recommended:

- A. Contract with the Legal Aid Corporation in the amount of \$54,774
- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the agreement as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.
- B. Contracts with Kim Wright for assistance with Child Support cases in the amount of \$47,809.
- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the agreement as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

XI. PROSECUTOR – Pat Harrington presented and recommended:

An Indiana Criminal Justice Institute grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for equipment and training for the High-Tech Crime Unit in partnership with the Purdue University Cyber digital forensics in the amount of \$101,651.

- Commissioner Byers moved to approve the agreement as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

XII. GRANTS – Sharon Hutchison presented and recommended:

Permission to Apply for Grants:

For the Health Department from the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) to fund a student internship for an additional year. The intern would begin in June 2020 and last for 10 weeks. There is no cost to the County and the Department will provide a mentor, a workplan and documentation to NEHA.

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve applying for the grant as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

Permission to Accept Grants funds:

- A. For the Health Department from the Indiana State Department of Health for the Local Health Department Trust Account in the amount of \$65,427.73.
- Commissioner Byers moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.
- B. For the Health Department from the Indiana State Department of Health for the Local Health Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$72,672.
- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.
- C. For the Health Department from the Indiana State Department of Health for the STD Prevention Program including a Disease Intervention Specialist/Partner Services Grant in the amount of \$131,555.
- Commissioner Byers moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.
- D. For the Health Department from the Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis, Inc to provide support for the Gateway to Hope syringe service program in the amount of \$10,000.
- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

XIII. APPROVAL OF BOND for Recorder Shannon Withers

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the bond as presented by signing the resolution, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

XIV. CHANGE ORDER FOR COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT

For design services, bidding and management with Tecton for the new fire alarm, audio visual and fire suppression systems in the amount of \$96,600.

- Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the change order as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

XV. CHANGE ORDER FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE & JAIL CCTV SYSTEM UPGRADE PROJECT

For additional cameras, fiber to pole mounted cameras and changes to four cameras in the amount of \$9,205 that is within the contingency allocation.

- Commissioner Byers moved approve the change order as presented, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

XVI. UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

The commissioners recognized Ellie Mlynarik with a plaque for her service as an employee as well as a volunteer to Tippecanoe County.

XVII. REPORTS ON FILE

- Tippecanoe County Building Commission
- Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Commissioner Murtaugh moved to adjourn. President Brown adjourned the meeting.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF TIPPECANOE



Tracy A. Brown, President



Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice-President



David S. Byers, Member

ATTEST:



Robert A Plantenga, Auditor 1/21/2020