

## Minutes

January 20, 2022

Commissioners present: Michael Pepple, William Bateson and Timothy Bechtol.

Also Present: Christine Carrigan, Auditor Rauschenberg, Doug Cade, Steve Wilson, Adam Witteman and Mary Ann LaRoche.

Commissioner Pepple opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the January 18<sup>th</sup> 2022, meeting was read with Timothy Bechtol making a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration, due to Cindy Land being unable to attend the meeting:

Resolution #39-22 – Resolution authorizing the Board of Hancock County Commissioners to apply for, accept and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund agreement on behalf of the County of Hancock for the repair and replacement of home sewage treatment systems. Timothy Bechtol made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #40-22 – Resolution authorizing reduced speed limit change for County Road 9 from mile point 14.12 at the Aurand Run bridge to mile point 14.93 (State Route 12) and requesting approval from ODOT. Timothy Bechtol made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Doug Cade stated with the construction of Liberty Benton's new elementary school being built on County Rd. 9 the traffic will double. The Engineer's office prepared a current traffic study. The study results showed that there was a need to decrease the speed limit from 55 to 45 miles per hour on a portion of County Rd. 9. Doug will present the study information to the Director of ODOT with a recommendation to reduce the speed limit. Doug stated he wanted to be proactive and have the speed limit reduced before the new school opens to eliminate accidents.

Timothy Bechtol made a motion to approve one warrant journal, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Auditor Rauschenberg stated that the Hancock County's Farmer's Breakfast has been moved to June and the Hancock County's Barn Tour has been moved to September. The Auditor also stated the visitors have increased in the courthouse due to people making real estate tax payments and purchasing dog tags.

Steve Wilson stated that the Landfill will be receiving a recommendation from Mannik Smith Group on whether they need to do construction at the Landfill. If the construction is recommended to start this year, there may be a need to borrow funds for this due to the purchase of the new Landfill haul truck.

### **Meetings/Reports**

Timothy Bechtol attended the Hancock County Regional Planning Commission meeting. In addition, he attended Web Ex meeting with the Sheriff and consultants for the jail and justice system study.

William Bateson attended the Hancock County's Convention and Visitor's Bureau meeting.

Michael Pepple along with Lynn Taylor interviewed two different organizations that provide ARPA assistance. Both of the interviewed organizations stated they would assist with state audit.

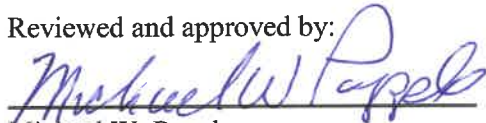
At 11:00 the Commissioner's met with Judge Bishop, Judge Hackenberg and Candace Griffith to present reasons that Hancock County would benefit from supporting a Community Alternative Sentencing Center. Lou Wilin from the Courier was also present. Judge Hackenberg stated that a Community Alternative Sentencing Center (CASC) is a facility that will house low risk level offenders. It will allow offenders to come and go for work, community service and treatment. The CASC is a post sentenced facility. Misdemeanor offenders can be housed at the CASC to serve mandated jail days. Currently there are too many people that need to be housed in the jail. On behalf of Municipal Court, a CASC facility will alleviate a lot of the needs to house individuals outside. The CASC will work in conjunction with the jail. It can not exist without the jail due to statute only allowing Misdemeanor offenders to be housed in a CASC facility. Judge Bishop ended the meeting with stating that the CASC is a facility that all of Hancock County will benefit from. Judge Bishop, Judge Hackenberg and Candace Griffith will continue to meet with city and county officials, based on interest they will determine the next steps to take with the development of the CASC.

Respectfully submitted,

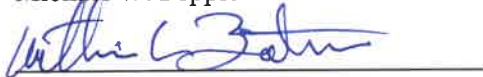


Christine Carrigan, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Michael W. Pepple



William L. Bateson



Timothy K. Bechtol