

Minutes

March 17, 2020

Commissioners present: Mark Gazarek, Brian Robertson and Timothy Bechtol.

Also Present: Tammy Erwin, Bill Bateson, Miranda Lobdell, Phil Johnson, Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman and Jonathan Starn.

Commissioner Gazarek 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 March 12, 2020 meeting were read with Timothy Bechtol making a motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Brian Robertson abstained. Motion passed 2-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions:

Resolution #158-20 – Authorizing payment of the listed and/or attached purchase orders. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #159-20 – Authorizing solicitation of bids for Village of Mt. Blanchard Pool Restroom Renovation Project as part of the CDBG Allocation Grant. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #160-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Tier Fee. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #161-20 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Common Pleas Court – General Office. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners signed 1 travel request reimbursement for the Sheriff's office. Two other travel requests were tabled due to group meeting restrictions from the Governor.

Charity asked if there has been any communications from Clement/Nelson on some of the HR issues or through the CCAO for Commissioners and Boards regarding any action being taken. Mark Gazarek stated that he hasn't gotten anything besides the basic standard warnings and Brian stated the same. Charity said that there is a lot of concern with employees and she thanked the Commissioners for sending out the email regarding the cleaning of all of the buildings. She would like permission for IT to send that information out in an email to all the county employees so that they know action is being taken and all the county buildings are being taken care of. Charity would like to have a conversation regarding The Families First Coronavirus Response Act as far as temporary relief during this time as far as FMLA and how that is going to impact everyone, as there is a lot of concern on who is going to be paid and for what hours, self-quarantine versus employer asking them to quarantine and is there a contact on who is going to

be head of that. Mark Gazarek stated that he did not feel there would be a clear cut “apply to everyone” policy. Every situation is going to be different. He strongly suggested all elected officials take action in their own offices. Phil Johnson stated that the Families First Response Act is still being worked on through Congress and his anticipation is that his office will take a look at it once they have something concrete to anticipate what it is we are ordered. Then the situation will be different and can talk about the elected officials overseeing it. He thought they were trying to get it voted on today. Charity stated that they are getting a lot of phone calls from employees, and even though she has told them to contact their supervisor or elected official, they continue to come in because they are concerned about pay and exposure. She referred some to the Prosecutor’s office. Adam stated that the Auditors are still here but are working at home as much as possible.

### **Meetings/Reports**

Brian Robertson listened in on the Whitehouse conference call on the virus last Wednesday. They went through everything from the virus itself to impact on education and businesses. The press release came out that it was a global pandemic. He has been taking a lot of calls and questions and sitting in on group meetings regarding what the county is doing and what should businesses be doing.

Timothy Bechtol attended a meeting at Hancock Public Health talking about information dissemination and they are working with Blanchard Valley Hospital, City of Findlay and the County Commissioners to coordinate any press releases and anything going out. They are setting up a call center to delineate frequently asked calls. They are trying to get that set up to be staffed by the school nurses for the medical calls but that has not been finalized with the city schools yet. The Mayor also had a discussion group yesterday afternoon. They will not be meeting in person anymore and plan on doing it through conference calls from now on. She had representatives from the city schools, St. Michael’s School, YMCA, Health Department, and United Way. Timothy Bechtol talked about a copy of continuation of operations that was given to the Commissioners by Lee Swisher from EMA and stated that there are some things that they will have to do sometime soon to make sure the staff is listed in priority of importance in case this gets more serious than it already is. He talked about the email that he sent out yesterday regarding maintenance detailing the enhanced cleaning measures that maintenance and cleaning staff are doing. There are other county buildings that are being cleaned separately, however, they are being hooked up with James Sammet so that he can set them up with the “Ready, Set, Go” 24 hour cleaning cycle. The CCAO has a weekly conference call to pass information from the state on Mondays at 3:30 p.m. He attended the Hancock Beef Banquet, which was a carry out due to the Governor’s restrictions. The NRA Banquet was also rescheduled. 50 North has a listing of what they are trying to do to outreach seniors. Hancock Helps is the website to go to for the most up to date information along with the Hancock Public Health website. They will be setting up a banner or button that will be put on everyone’s websites so that it will make it easy for anyone to find those resources.

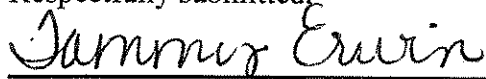
Phil Johnson announced that the CAC building will likely come down next week. The Fire Departments and Police department are using as training exercises and taking items out that can be used in trainings in other places. Phil requested an executive session regarding potential real estate acquisition and potential litigation.

Mark Gazarek stated that yesterday he spoke to one of the Ohio Senators and also one of the House of Representatives and they are working towards the whole election process and what the next step is. He also talked to the sheriff on procedures and what is going to happen if it infects the jail and how to handle that along with a game plan if an inmate gets the virus. The Sheriff is actively talking to other sheriffs in the state and prisons so he can come up with a concrete plan if that happens. Mark also talked to Health Commissioner Karim Baroudi yesterday on what the Health Department is doing. Basically, we all need to wash our hands, don't cough, and if you feel sick then stay home. Timothy Bechtol stated that as of 4:00 p.m. yesterday, there were no cases in Hancock County.

Jonathan Starn stated that he and Judge Routson issued orders yesterday in response to state and federal declarations of emergencies to modify some of their procedures in the courthouse to limit access where they can. Closing the courts is not going to happen so taking all the steps to make modifications to central functions where they can if they lower the number of people that can be in contact.

At 9:52 a.m., Mark Gazarek made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential real estate acquisition, potential litigation, personnel-compensation and hiring. Brian Robertson seconded. Roll call resulted in: Mark Gazarek; yes, Brian Robertson; yes, and Timothy Bechtol; yes. At 10:55 a.m., Mark Gazarek made a motion to come out of Executive Session, having discussed potential real estate acquisition, potential litigation and employment, specifically hiring with no action taken. Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

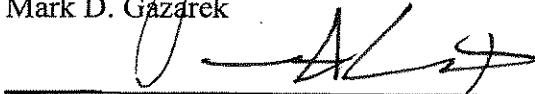


Tammy Erwin, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Mark D. Gazarek



Brian J. Robertson



Timothy K. Bechtol