

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 25, 2011

The Howard county Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Richard Miller, and members Stan Ortman, Leslie Ellison, Jeff Stout, Joseph Pencek, Dwight Singer, and John Roberts. Also in attendance were Attorney Larry Murrell and Chief Deputy Auditor Laurie Martin.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Miller.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and seconded by Mr. Stout.

At this time Councilman Stout led in a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF REORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITY:

A motion was made by Councilman Singer to elect Mr. Miller as President of the County Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Stout to nominate and elect Mr. Ortman to serve as Vice President. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

By vote of the County Council Mr. Richard Miller will serve as President and Mr. Stan Ortman will serve as Vice President of the Council.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

Mr. Miller commended all Department Heads, Office Holders and employees for making the year 2010 successful. He thanked them for taking to heart the concerns expressed by the Council, and leaving the year 2010 in a better position than when it began. He is looking forward to the year 2011.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2011-HCCO-02 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Chief Deputy Auditor Laurie Martin read Ordinance No. 2011-HCCO-02 – Additional Appropriations through one time and it was acted upon by the Council as follows:

		AMOUNT	
		REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>		
<u>005</u>	<u>Howard County Sheriff Dispatch</u>		
01123.01	Communication Director	\$ 36,254.00	\$ 36,254.00
01123.02	IDACS Coordinator	\$ 34,340.00	\$ 34,340.00
01123.03	Shift Supervisors (4 @ \$32,620 ea)	\$ 130,480.00	\$ 130,480.00
01123.00	Communications Officers (13 @ \$31,979)	\$ 159,895.00	\$ 159,895.00
	<i>Current Budget \$255,832</i>		
01123.04	Part Time (3)	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
01123.05	Overtime	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00

E911 Coordinator Nick Capozzoli submitted and distributed copies of the 2011 Consolidated 911 Center Budget to the Council members. The total amount of the budget is \$801,801.00 with 30% to be paid by the County and 70% by the City. This request is the Personal Services portion of the E911 2011 Budget, which comes from the County General Fund. The Board of Commissioners have approved the 145/146 portion of the Consolidated 911 budget. Mr. Capozzoli was careful to not budget the E911 funds too closely, and hopes that more funds will be brought in.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the appropriation requests in the Sheriff’s account as submitted above. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried. Mr. Capozzoli thanked the Council for their approval.

<u>033</u>	<u>Howard County Superior Court III</u>		
01115.00	Overtime	\$ (500.00)	\$ (500.00)

At the October 2010 meeting Judge Tate informed the Council that he would like to amend his proposed budget. This reduction in the overtime budget is a portion of the amended budget, giving up the overtime money (*please refer to page one, "In The Matter Of Personnel Issues For Superior Court III", of the Regular Council Meeting minutes dated October 26, 2010*).

A motion was made by Mr. Singer to approve the reduction of \$500.00 in the Overtime line item, 01115.00, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

<u>023</u>	<u>Howard County Board of Commissioners</u>		
01524.00	Employee Service Bonus	\$ 132,356.00	\$ 132,356.00

President Tyler Moore informed the Council that this appropriation is to support the Employee Bonus approved by the Council at the 2011 Budget Hearings. Originally the Council approved the bonus to be paid 50% from County General and 50% from the Insurance Fund. In further discussion the Council approved finding a different fund to support the bonus because only a portion of the employees participate in the Insurance Fund. Mr. Moore took this opportunity to welcome Councilman Singer and Councilman Roberts and wish them success. He assured them that the Commissioners are just a phone call or an e-mail away, if they have any questions.

The request to appropriate \$132,356.00 to line item 01524.00, Employee Service Bonus, was approved on a motion made by Mr. Singer and seconded by Mr. Ellison. The vote reflected five aye votes and one nay vote.

<u>034</u>	<u>Howard County Probation Department</u>		
03113.00	Translators	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00

Chief Probation Officer Don Travis informed the Council that in November of 2010 the probation department had a deaf person placed on probation. By ADA standards, an interpreter has to be provided if so requested. Currently the Probation Department does not have a line item to address that need and this request is to fulfill that requirement. He also plans to use part of these funds to convert some of their current documentation to the Spanish language. Our court system is seeing more Hispanic clients. The Alcohol & Drug office is currently sending their Hispanic clients to Miami County because we do not have that program.

At the conclusion of continued discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the new line 03113.00 Translators and the request to appropriate \$5,000 to that line item. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and approved.

TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL		\$ 682,825.00	\$ 682,825.00
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<u>002</u>	<u>Howard County Highway Fund</u>		
22430.00	Bituminous	\$ (420,000.00)	\$ (420,000.00)
44721.00	Trucks	\$ (75,000.00)	\$ (75,000.00)

<u>007</u>	<u>Howard County Local Road & Street</u>		
33761	Morgan Street	\$ (55,000.00)	\$ (55,000.00)

Highway Superintendent / Engineer Ted Cain explained that the last several years he has had to cut funds because of fund decreases from the State, but has not brought it to the Council. This year he brings the listing of cuts from the only place he has room to cut; Bituminous and Trucks, from the Highway Fund, and the Morgan Street line item (New US 31) from Local Road and Street. He did not spend all of his budgeted funds, last year, and believes he is able to run his department effectively with what he now has. Mr. Cain watches his budget very closely. The budgeted funds he has to work with is the lowest since 1995. He may have to do less paving and a little more chip and seal of county roads. The Morgan Street project is shared with the City of Kokomo for the new US 31 project. Mr. Cain stated that he would like to contact State politicians concerning the decrease in funds available. State Road 26 will be closed next year, both east and west, putting more traffic on our county roads. Mr. Cain will be speaking to our Attorneys to prepare an Ordinance concerning weight restrictions around the detour routes.

At the conclusion of ensuing discussion, the reductions were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Stout and seconded by Mr. Singer.

<u>108</u>	<u>Howard County Auditor Plat Book Fund</u>		
03000.00	Other Services & Charges	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00

Chief Deputy Auditor Martin informed the Council that the \$30,000 request is to finish the digitalizing project. The money is already in the Plat Book Fund (fee based fund, not tax money) and just needs to be appropriated to line 03000.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Singer to approve the request of \$30,000.00 to line item 03000.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and seconded.

<u>252</u>	<u>Howard County Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund</u>		
<u>35 37 38</u>	<u>Howard County Kinsey Youth Center</u>		
01115.00	Secretary Bookkeeper	\$ (11,066.00)	\$ (8,006.00)

Kinsey Youth Center Director Brent Kelley began by thanking the Council for the employee bonus. He then explained the budget reduction by informing the Council that Connie Laughlin is now retiring after thirty (30) years of service to Howard County. She will be replaced by a current office worker. That vacated position will not be replaced. Mr. Kelley will hire a part time office worker, instead, reducing the budget by \$8,006.00, not the advertised \$11,066.00 (vacation time not figured).

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the reduction of \$8,006.00 in line item 01115.00 in accounts 035, 037, and 038 of the Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

<u>285</u>	<u>Howard County Auditor Ineligible Deduction Fund</u>		
01112.00	Hourly Pay	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
02360.00	Supplies	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
03000.00	Other Services & Charges	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
04721.00	Equipment	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00

Deputy Martin informed the Council that this fund was created by the State for Homestead Exemptions on property that is not eligible. This fund is supported by tax money due for rebilling the Homestead, plus a 10% penalty. It can only be used by the Auditor's Office and currently has \$94,577 in it but it has to be appropriated.

The appropriation requests were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and carried by Mr. Stout.

TOTAL ADDITIONALS ALL FUNDS	\$ 788,325.00	\$ 788,325.00
TOTAL REDUCTIONS ALL FUNDS	\$ (561,566.00)	\$ (558,506.00)

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2011-HCCR-03 – TRANSFERS:

Chief Deputy Auditor Laurie Martin read Resolution No. 2011-HCCR-03 – Transfers in full one time and they were acted upon as follows:

	Transfer From:	To:	AMOUNT	ALLOWED:
<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund:</u>			
<u>005</u>	<u>Howard County Sheriff</u>			
01116.00	Major	01117.00 Captain	\$ 35,874.00	\$ 35,874.00
01117.01	Lieutenant	01117.00 Captain	\$ 11,031.00	\$ 11,031.00

Sheriff Steve Rogers is reorganizing the Sheriff's office by appointing three Captains in lieu of one Major. Collectively these three Captains have 40 – 45 years of experience and service to Howard County. The three captains are Captain Asher, Captain Hargrove and Captain Vincent, and they answer directly to Sheriff Rogers. This request has been approved by the Merit Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Stout, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to approve the transfers as submitted.

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2011-HCCO-03 – AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2011:

Salary Ordinance No. 2011-HCCO-03 – Amending Salary Ordinance For 2011 was read in full one time by Deputy Auditor Laurie Martin and was acted upon as follows:

<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>	<u>REQUESTED:</u>	<u>APPROVED:</u>
<u>005</u>	<u>Howard County Sheriff</u>		
01116.00	Major	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
01117.00	Captain (2)	\$ 93,810.00	\$ 93,810.00
	<i>Changing Major to Captain by Transfer</i>		
01123.01	Communications Director	\$ 36,254.00	\$ 36,254.00
01123.02	IDACS Coordinator	\$ 34,340.00	\$ 34,340.00
01123.03	Shift Supervisor (4 @ 32,620)	\$ 130,480.00	\$ 130,480.00
01123.00	Communications Officers (13 @ 31,979)	\$ 159,895.00	\$ 159,895.00
	<i>Current Budget (8) @ \$255,832</i>		
01123.04	Part Time (3)	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
01123.05	Overtime	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
<u>252</u>	<u>Howard County Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund</u>		
<u>35 37 38</u>	Howard County Kinsey Youth Center	\$ (11,066.00)	\$ (8,006.00)

Salary Ordinance No. 2011-HCCO-03 – Amending Salary Ordinance for 2011 was approved on a motion made by Mr. Singer and seconded by Mr. Ortman.

IN THE MATTER OF THE KOKOMO EVENT CENTER CLAIM:

President Miller submitted a claim from the Kokomo Event Center, in the amount of \$15,000 for Event Center repairs. The repairs have been made and the Event Center has paid the bills. They are requesting that Howard County reimburse them for those repairs. The Claim for reimbursement in the amount of \$15,000 was approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and seconded by Mr. Ellison.

IN THE MATTER OF A PROPOSED CHANGE IN MEETING TIME:

Mr. Miller submitted a recommendation to change the Council Meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., to see if it has any effect on the work done and the amount of participation. It would be one less trip after work for the Department Officials involved. Mr. Ortman suggested the Council try the time change for the months of February and March to see what the effects are. After ensuing discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Ortman to change the start time of the February and March meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT:

Mr. Miller submitted the Employment Agreement with County Attorney Larry Murrell, for 2011 and 2012. This agreement was approved by the Board of Commissioners at their January 4th meeting and the Howard County Drainage Board at their January 4th meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Stout to approve the Employment Agreement between Larry Murrell and Howard County for his services as the County Attorney. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and Mr. Ellison, and carried. Attorney Murrell thanked the Council and stated that he is looking forward to the next two years. President Miller thanked Mr. Murrell for his wise counsel, advice, and concern for Howard County. It's obvious that to Mr. Murrell it's not just a task, but he makes it very personal.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO THE PTABOA:

President Miller submitted County Assessor Jamie Shepherd's recommendations for the Council's appointments to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA). Her recommendations are Ms. Susan Kordel and Mr. Ralph Reddersdorf. Ms. Susan Kordel and Mr. Ralph Reddersdorf were appointed to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals as recommended by Assessor Jamie Shepherd on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and seconded by Mr. Singer.

IN THE MATTER OF A REQUEST TO REHIRE A POSITION IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Health Department Director Kent Weaver introduced Ms. Kathy Oldaker, who has been working in the Health Department in March, 2010. Ms. Oldaker is the Nursing Coordinator and has a master's degree in Public Health Nursing. As the State is preparing to mandate that all County Health Departments be accredited, Ms. Oldaker's qualifications will help work toward that goal. Our Health Department is experiencing an increased work load, sharing services with other counties. Nurse Judith Lausch will be resigning in March, after thirteen years of service to Howard County, and Mr. Weaver is requesting that he be able to re-hire that position. He has budgeted \$40,000 for the position. At the conclusion of

discussion a motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the re-hire request as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. Miller submitted reappointment recommendations of Mr. E. P. Severns and Mr. Bradley R. Newton to the Redevelopment Commission for one year. A motion was made by Mr. Pencek to approve the reappointments of Mr. E. P. Severns and Mr. Bradley R. Newton as the Council's appointments to the Redevelopment Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and approved.

In order to correct a previous error in appointments, a motion was made by Mr. Singer to appoint Mr. Dick Lee to the Howard County Board of Zoning Appeals for a term of one year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Sheriff Steve Rogers submitted the following issues for the Council's information and approval:

1. **Commissary Report:** Sheriff Rogers submitted the Commissary Report for the month December 2010, which was accepted by the Council by consensus.
2. **Benevolent Fund:** Every year at Christmas Time, the Howard County Sheriff's Department Benevolent Fund donates Christmas for several needy families by taking the children shopping at local stores for needed clothing items. Sheriff Rogers submitted a report of donations received, money spent, and children helped, from the Benevolent Fund. Corporal Stacy Wines was commended for her work with the Benevolent Fund, as well as the whole department. Sheriff Rogers also thanked the community for the many donations received.
3. **Acknowledgement Form:** The Sheriff's Retirement Fund is now being serviced by First Farmers Bank & Trust. Sheriff Rogers submitted an Acknowledgement Form from First Farmers requiring the Sheriff's signature to continue the use of an outside investment advisor. Sheriff Rogers would like this Acknowledgment Form entered as a permanent record. The form was received and accepted by the Council.
4. **Overtime And DOC Monies:** Sheriff Rogers informed the Council that \$240,000 was used for Overtime in 2010, but \$265,000 was paid to Howard County through Department of Corrections fees.

IN THE MATTER OF CLOSING COMMENTS:

Mr. Clee Oliver requested that Council Meeting minutes and agendas continue to be posted to the County's website.

Commissioner President Moore informed the Council that Commissioner Wyman will be sending Commissioner Meeting updates to the Council members to keep them informed. His most recent update omitted the Board's decision (at Mr. Thompson's suggestion) to prepare a State of the County Address. That address will be given at the February 7th meeting.

Mr. Miller welcomed Councilman Dwight Singer and Councilman John Roberts to their first Council meeting in 2011. Mr. Roberts stated that it was an honor and a privilege.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Stout and seconded by Mr. Singer.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

STAN ORTMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

LESLIE ELLISON, MEMBER

JEFF STOUT, MEMBER

JOSEPH PENCEK, MEMBER

JOHN ROBERTS, MEMBER

DWIGHT SINGER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR
Howard County Council Meeting January 25, 2011