

Hancock County Board of Commissioners
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
February 3rd, 2026

Commissioner President McDaniel called to order the February 3rd, 2026, Hancock County Commissioners Board meeting at 8:00 AM. Those present were Board of Commissioners, Gary McDaniel, Bill Spalding, Financial Administrator Mary Bowmer, Executive Liaison Sara Hilderbrand, and County Attorney Scott Benkie. Jeannine Gray and Debra Carnes were not in attendance.

Audio and video recording statement.

President Spalding opened the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Board of Commissioners recessed at 8:01 AM.
Drainage Board called to order at 8:01 AM.
Drainage Board adjourned at 8:49 AM.
Board of Commissioners reconvened at 9:04 AM.

Board of Finance

Commissioner Spalding motioned to appoint Commissioner Gary McDaniel as the President of the Board of Finance. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner McDaniel motioned to appoint Treasurer Jane Klemme as Secretary of the Board of Finance. Commissioner Spalding seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the Statement of Investment Policy. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the additional Hancock County Investment Policy. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the outstanding warrants and transfers presented by the Hancock County Treasurer. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Highway

The Board of Commissioners signed a thank you letter to Governor Braun for recognition of state partnership and achievements in Hancock County.

Gary Pool presented the following updates:

- Jack & Sons- they have until June of 2026 to accept offer
- Indiana Trails Program Grant
- Bridges on 300S and 400S to close this winter

Ordinance 2026-2A

Commissioner Spalding motioned to introduce Ordinance 2026-2A an ordinance amending Hancock County Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 71 Speed Regulations and to suspend the rules on the date of introduction. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to adopt Ordinance 2026-2A an ordinance amending Hancock County Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 71 Speed Regulations. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Ordinance 2026-2B

Commissioner Spalding motioned to introduce Ordinance 2026-2B an ordinance amending Hancock County Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 74 Parking Schedules and to suspend the rules on the date of introduction. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to adopt Ordinance 2026-2B an ordinance amending Hancock County Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 74 Parking Schedules. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Ordinance 2026-2C

Commissioner Spalding motioned to introduce Ordinance 2026-2C an ordinance amending Hancock County Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 73 Traffic Schedules and to suspend the rules on the date of introduction. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to adopt Ordinance 2026-2C an ordinance amending Hancock County Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 73 Traffic Schedules. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Highway Cont.

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the contract with Pavement Solutions, Inc. for CCMG26 Micro-Surface in the amount NTE \$332,427.20 as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the contract with Pavement Solutions, Inc. for 2026 Micro-surface in the amount NTE \$178,393.60 as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Facility

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the quote from K and K Fence Co., Inc. for the Highway Department's entrance gate in the amount NTE \$8,830 to be paid for out of Building Maintenance. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motioned carried 2-0.**

A discussion was had on adding a vault toilet on the Pennsy Trail. The Board of Commissioners asked for more information on this matter.

A discussion was had on the courthouse elevator. Cory Taylor received a quote of \$284,000 to replace with updated equipment. The Board of Commissioners would like a quote for a brand-new unit/system as well.

On the northeast side of the Hancock County Courthouse a dying spruce tree is being removed and replaced.

Cory asked for permission to get a quote to upgrade the Quonset Hut to 180amp service. The Board of Commissioners gave permission to get a quote.

Surveyor

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the contract with American Structurepoint, Inc. for Section Corner Maintenance and On-Call Surveying in the amount NTE \$190/hr. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

E911

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the quote from Kelly Chevy, LLC for two 2026 Chevy Tahoes in the amount NTE \$109,704 to be paid for out of the 2025 GO Bond. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to authorize Gary McDaniel to sign off on an invoice for the vehicles outside of a regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve the quote from Nelson Alarm for a new axis control system at Community Corrections in the amount NTE \$31,055 to be paid for out of a fund to be determined. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Annual Real Estate Expenses

A discussion was had on 2026 Professional Licensing, CE & Membership fees. The Board of Commissioners are determining what fund to utilize for these expenses.

Commissioners' Business

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Auditor's Business

Regularly scheduled Joint Meeting on March 31st, 2026, at 5:00pm has been rescheduled to a Commissioners' Meeting at 8:00am.

Board Appointments

Commissioner Spalding motioned to appoint Alexander Huth to the Impact Fee Board for a 2-year term ending 12/31/2028. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

*Board of Commissioners recessed at 9:58 AM.
Solid Waste Board called to order at 10:02 AM.
Solid Waste Board adjourned at 10:34 AM.
Drainage Board called back to order at 10:42 AM.
Drainage Board Hearing called to order at 10:42 AM.
Drainage Board Hearing adjourned at 10:48 AM.
Drainage Board adjourned at 10:48 AM.
Board of Commissioners reconvened at 10:50 AM.*

Buck Creek Fire Department

Buck Creek Fire Chief, Brandon Wilch presented a proposed MOU between Buck Creek Township and Hancock County Redevelopment Commission regarding fire protection Funding for 2027 and 2028.

Amplify

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve Change Order #6 from Meyer Najem in the amount NTE \$82,688 for the Amplify Project. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Spalding motioned to approve construction fund disbursement #20 in the amount NTE \$1,411,481.60. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

County Farm

The Board of Commissioners opened the following bids:

- MS Consultants, Inc.- \$227,068
- HWC Engineering- \$133,500 w/ reimbursable expenses

Commissioner Spalding motioned to accept the bids and review as presented. Commissioner McDaniel seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

Public Comment

Mr. George Langston spoke to 4H’s operating expenses.

Commissioner McDaniel motioned to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioner Spalding seconded. **Motion carried 2-0.**

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM.

Commissioner Gary McDaniel, President

Commissioner Jeannine Gray, Vice-President

Commissioner Bill Spalding

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor