

Commissioners & County Council

Joint Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

4:00 p.m.

Pineview Government Center

Commissioner Meeting Room, Suite 104

2524 Corydon Pike

Al Knable called the meeting to order and led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Present: Commissioners –Al Knable and Jason Sharp **Absent:** Frank Loop

Present – Council -Danny Short, Denise Konkle, Jim Freiburger, Sam Sarkisian, Dale Bagshaw and Tony Toran **Absent:** Matt Millies

Also Present: Auditor, Diana Topping; Chief Deputy Audit, Gloria Jones; Sheriff, Steve Bush; Recorder, Lois Endris; Attorney, Kristi Fox and Attorney, Steve Landon

Approval of 5-16-25 Joint Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Sam Sarkisian. Motion passed unanimously.

1. FCR 2025-15 Commissioners Resolution Approving Certain County Bridge Projects and Declaring an Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures

Attorney, Kristi Fox, said the first three items are dealing with Bridge 51 mainly and Bridge 27. The County will need funds to be able to proceed forward with the project. They have been discussing the need to bond it. They will need flexibility since the bidding will not go out until September-October. Brad Bingham, Barnes and Thornburg, said when the construction bids come in for Bridge 51 in October, they will know how much they will need to borrow. At that point everything will be ready to close with the 30 days they have to get money to INDOT. The bonds will be payable from the MVH/LRS revenues.

Nick Creevy, Director of Operations, said the estimate for Bridge 51 project is \$8 million. There is 80% of Federal funding.

Motion to approve FCR 2025-15 Commissioners Resolution Approving Certain County Bridge Projects and Declaring an Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures. Moved by Jason Sharp. Seconded by Al Knable. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Hearing – County Council

Proposed County Bridge Improvement Bonds and an Additional Appropriation of Floyd County

No public comment

Adjourn Public Hearing

Motion to adjourn public hearing. Moved by Tony Toran. Seconded by Sam Sarkisian. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Ordinance 2025-08 Floyd County Council Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds for the Purpose of Providing Funds to be Applied to the Costs of Certain County Bridge Improvement Therewith and on Account of the Issuance of the Bonds, Appropriating the Proceeds of Such Bonds, Appropriating the Proceeds of Such Bonds and Approving Certain Matters Related Thereto

Motion to approve Floyd County Council Ordinance 2025-08, as advertised. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Sam Sarkisian. Motion passed unanimously.

Al Knable said three of the four permits have been accepted and approved for the dam removal. They have one remaining from the US Corps of Engineers.

4. Animal Control Contract

Jason Sharp said they are in their final year for the Animal Control contract. So far everything is going well. He said he would like to see them bring the facility into Floyd County and out of Jeffersonville. Members of the Council said they were pleased with the service and have received very few complaints.

Denise Konkle asked we will get a new rate from the current provider for 2026-2027.

The consensus was to move forward with the current provider.

Attorney Kristi Fox, said there was an Interlocal Agreement between the City of New Albany and Floyd County for the Animal Shelter. The Interlocal clearly defines the land is owned by the County. The building is owned 50/50 by the City and County. Both bodies agreed to each get an appraisal and they will take the average of the two. The City hired an appraiser and got a value of \$390,000.00. The County hired an appraiser and got a value of \$441,000.00. The County would need to pay the average of the two divided by 2, which comes out to \$207,750.00. They will need to negotiate the City's departure. They are working on building a new facility.

Al Knable said the building could be rehabilitated for other purposes or taken down for a potential building site for the new Judicial Center.

5. EMS Service Discussion and EMS LIT

Jason Sharp said last year the EMS sub-committee came up with the conclusion they felt like a county base system was the best system going forward for Floyd County for the long-term solution for our EMS program. He said Ameripro has done a great job but at the end of the day it is time for the County to take charge. He likes the idea of being able to ensure clinical excellence and oversight of the budget for Council.

Denise Konkle said things are going well the way they are and would like to see the County look at the cost of continuing what they are doing versus what Commissioner Sharp has suggested. She spoke to Highlander and they seem to be on top of everything. She also said they need to learn more about the legislation on County-wide EMS and fire rate, max of .4%

Al Knable said Highlander Fire has not named a new Chief and thinks they need to get that individual's input on their desire to run fire-based EMS or not.

Denise Konkle said she would like for the Council to sit down with the Commissioners and write down all the projects coming up in the next 3-5 years. They can't make decisions one by one. They need to put all the pieces of the puzzle in place and make decisions.

6. County Building Renovations

Al Knable said, based upon options between a complete rehabilitation of the existing building at \$33,600,000.00, \$5 million would be for temporary housing, versus building a 5-story building with only 4 stories finished at \$31,500,000.00 or a 5-story fulling finished building for \$33,500,000.00. He thinks the 5-story fulling finished building would be the best option for this generation of people and generations to come. It will probably require a referendum. He would like to build on the animal shelter site.

Jason Sharp said it is embarrassing the shape the County building is in. He agrees with Commissioner Knable assessment.

7. Wheel Tax

Denise Konkle said there will be some ties to the Community Crossings monies with the Wheel Tax. Danny Short said, it is his understanding that counties will not be eligible for the Supplemental Community Crossing money if you do not have a Wheel Tax and eventually not be eligible for any Community Crossing money. The minimum tax is \$7.50 per car.

8. County Council – 2025-09 Ordinance Showing Intent and in Favor of Dissolution of the Floyd County Solid Waste Management District

Al Knable said they have one confirmed estimate proposal from a private entity who would continue with the current services we have with pickups Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at roughly \$135,000.00 to \$180,000.00 per year. That does not include electronics or hazardous waste. He said this could be a savings of \$150,000.00 and unload some of the liability.

Tony Toran said Solid Waste is an asset to our community. He asked if they have reached out to Solid Waste to try to work things out before going to private.

Jason Sharp said Solid Waste Director, David Massengill, has gone on record saying he didn't believe there was much room to make cuts.

Motion to table to the next Council Meeting. Moved by Danny Short. Seconded by Sam Sarkisian. Motion passed. Tony Toran and Jim Freiburger opposed.

Public

Daniel Harris said he would like to see any alternative solutions in place before taking action.

Laura Riggle said she has worked for Solid Waste for nearly 3 years as an operator and educator. She hopes she hasn't fed the students a pipe dream and we won't recycle anymore. Some citizens will be crushed if they do away with it.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Danny Short. Motion passed unanimously.


Approved the 18th day of July, 2025

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



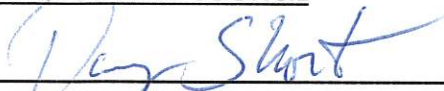
Al Knable, President

Jason Sharp, Vice President

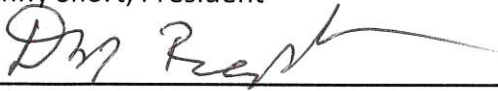


Frank Loop, Commissioner

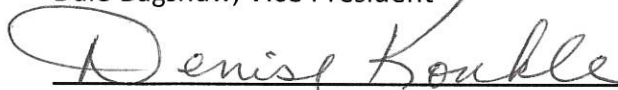
FLOYD COUNTY COUNCIL



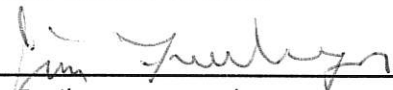
Danny Short, President




Dale Bagshaw, Vice President



Denise Konkle, member

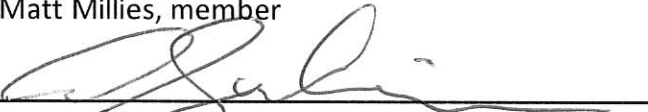


Jim Freiberger, member

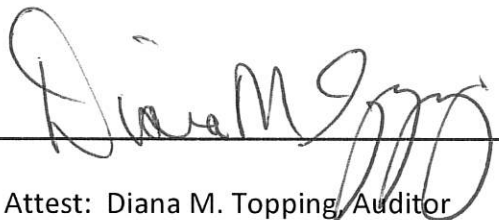


Tony Toran, member

Matt Millies, member



Sam Sarkisian, member



Attest: Diana M. Topping, Auditor