

Commissioners & County Council

Joint Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 18, 2025
10:00 a.m.

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

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

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

Also Present: Auditor, Diana Topping; Chief Deputy Auditor, Gloria Jones; Attorney, Rick Fox; Attorney, Kristi Fox and Attorney, Steve Langdon

Approval of 6-24-25 Joint Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve. Moved by Danny Short. Seconded by Dale Bagshaw. Motion passed. Matt Millies abstained.

1. Commissioners – Quotes for Tree Removal on Buck Creek Road

Motion to declare an emergency to remove the tree to allow to only have 2 quotes rather than 3. Moved by Frank Loop. Seconded by Al Knable. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the bid for \$5,375.00 from SYS Enterprises. Moved by Frank Loop. Seconded by Al Knable. Motion passed unanimously.

Al Knable said he and County Engineer, Horacio Urieta, stopped by Blackiston Mill Bridge. He said everything is moving as it should be. He said they are on pace to reopen the bridge in 2-4 weeks.

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

Public Comment:

Paige Adams, Brazil Lake Parkway, Georgetown, asked how the ones that voted for the dissolution of Solid Waste sleep at night. She asked about the Recycling workers that could lose their jobs. She said the Recycling program is part of what makes Floyd County great.

Daryle Hensel, Corydon Ridge Road, said that Germany recycles 60% of their waste and United States only 30%. He asked why they can't use some of the money they are getting for new builds to help the Recycling.

Chris Jones, 3528 Paoli Pike, Floyds Knobs, said he is more qualified to talk about recycling in Floyd County. He recycles over one million pallets a year. He asked if any of the Council recycles. He suggested streamlining the program.

Debbie Hackman, Brownstown, is the director of Jackson County Solid Waste District and software specialist for the Indian River Community Assistance Partnership. She proposed to sit down with the committee to find other funding. Some counties have a special assessment on their property tax bills.

Attorney, Rick Fox said the County Council's vote doesn't end where the County is going with Solid Waste. It just starts the 180-day process to make a determination as what plan best fits the county.

Al Knable said the 180 days process could have begun with the Commissioners' vote but they chose for it to begin after Council approval. He said the meeting after the 180 days will be open to the public and, by state statute, has a right to speak at that meeting.

Denise Konkle asked if they have any solutions that they are looking at.

Al Knable said its very encouraging with regards to some of the bids that they have had for hazardous waste, as well as, comparable pick up to what's being done now. They could have a cost savings of 20-60%.

Ms. Konkle said she would have liked to hear some of the options before voting. She said it is not about Floyd County not having enough money to support this. She said they have the money to support Solid Waste for, at least, the next year or two.

Al Knable said its about government not subsidizing something that the private industry could do better and for less cost. Saving the taxpayer, as much as, \$250,000.00 per year.

Ms. Konkle said recycling is a service to the community and its very difficult to make money and to find a third party that is going to do this for a profit.

Jim Freiburger said he is hearing an overwhelming support from the taxpayers for recycling. He doesn't know why they are trying to eliminate this service and would like to see a plan for an alternative.

Sam Sarkisian said that the Commissioners have already made their decision. He said the City of New Albany residents pay \$18.00 extra for recycling and he hears it is not adequate. He is voting to save the taxpayers money.

Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-09. Moved by Matt Millies. Seconded by Dale Bagshaw. Motion passed 4-3. Tony Toran, Denise Konkle and Jim Freiburger opposed.

3. Animal Control Contract

Attorney, Kristi Fox, said they are working with Mr. Draper on a two-year extension with a possible inflationary increase.

4. County Building Renovations

Al Knable said they received three bids. The owner's rep is reviewing the bids. Once the bid is approved, they hope to get renovations underway during the month of August.

5. Wheel Tax

Al Knable said without the Wheel Tax the County will lose a substantial portion of the paving match that comes from the state. If approved they hope to expand the amount of paving they do in the county 25-50% a year.

Denise Konkle wants to hear from the Commissioners what they want to use the wheel tax for and how much do they need to support the plan.

Frank Loop said the County has roads that have not been touched in many years.

Danny Short said if they adopt a \$25 wheel tax per vehicle. With 40,000.00 vehicles would generate \$1 million. That would pave seven miles.

6. Baker Tilly – GO Bond

Jason Semler, Baker Tilly, gave a presentation on illustrative General Obligation Bonds.

- Illustrative Project Costs and Funding
- Illustrative Amortization of \$2,700,000 Principal Amount of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2025
- Comparison of Illustrative Annual Debt Service
- Amortization of \$535,000 Outstanding Principal Amount of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022


Danny Short said he will write up a proposal for the general obligation bond and the other outstanding items they have white boarded. He is in favor of leaving the Public Safety LIT in place as is and eliminating the property tax relief LIT which is .25. It would cut the Public Safety LIT in half for the next two years.

Denise Konkle would like to know the impact to the schools if they do away with the Public Safety Tax Relief LIT.

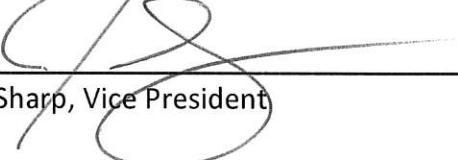
Motion to adjourn. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Danny Short. Motion passed unanimously.

Approved the 26th day of August, 2025

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS




Al Knable, President



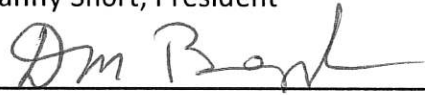
Jason Sharp, Vice President

Frank Loop, Commissioner


FLOYD COUNTY COUNCIL



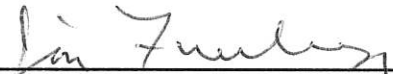
Danny Short, President




Dale Bagshaw, Vice President



Denise Konkle, member




Jim Freiburger, member



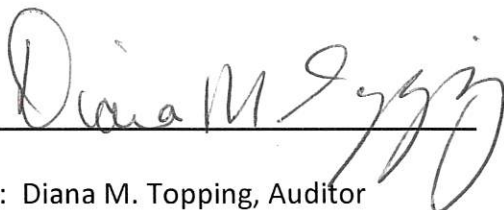
Tony Toran, member



Matt Millies, member



Sam Sarkisian, member



Attest: Diana M. Topping, Auditor