

HARRISON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026

Minutes of the Harrison County Commissioners' meeting held on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. local time, in the Commissioners' Room of the Harrison County Government Center located in Corydon, Indiana.

Present: Nelson Stepro, Commissioner
Annis Kellum, Commissioner
Brad Wiseman, Commissioner

Chris Byrd, County Attorney
Sara Burdick, County Auditor
Chad Shireman, County Administrator

County commissioner Nelson Stepro called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with all three commissioners and county attorney Chris Byrd present. The pledge to the American Flag was recited.

Commissioner Stepro said the first order of business would be claims for the commissioners' consideration. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve all regular claims as presented. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the payroll and prepaid vouchers as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The next order of business was flagged claims. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve a flagged claim in the amount of \$893.63 to vendor #3551, Joseph Claypool, to be paid as submitted. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro said a minor plat had been submitted for the commissioners' consideration, but the county cartographer has found some discrepancies that would need to be addressed. He had spoken to individuals involved and received reassurance that the request was not time sensitive. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to table the request so corrections could be made. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

County engineer Kevin Russel came before the commissioners with multiple discussion items. The first was detour agreements with INDOT for the State Road 11 project. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to allow Kevin Russel to sign the agreements outside of a meeting. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The next item was resolution 2026-06 between Harrison County and Knox County outlining the purchase of a used distributor. Mr. Russel said the county council had awarded funding for the equipment purchase at their previous meeting. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to adopt and sign resolution 2026-06 as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The next item on the engineer's agenda was a request to consider trading in two existing graders to put toward the purchase of a new one. An additional appropriation in the amount of \$208,992.00 from the motor vehicle highway fund would also be needed. The commissioners chose to take the request under advisement to allow more time for research.

Mr. Russel also mentioned the desire to create a committee to work on a fleet replacement plan for the highway department. He said the committee could be made up of a commissioner, two or three council members, and some members of the highway department. The group would create a more formalized plan to maintain the department's equipment fleet that can be used for budgeting purposes moving forward. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to forward the request to the county council for their consideration. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

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The next item pertained to the Old Highway 11 reconstruction project. Mr. Russel said he expects to receive the INDOT/LPA contract for the right-of-way phase of this project soon. \$120,000.00 of federal funds are allocated toward these acquisitions. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to authorize Kevin to sign the INDOT/LPA contract once it is received. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The next item on the engineer's agenda was a utility and reimbursement agreement with Edwardsville Water Company for the Corydon Ridge Road reconstruction project. Mr. Russel explained that by allowing the waterline to be relocated within the newly acquired right-of-way, any future relocation needs would be at the expense of the utility company. If the water line is outside of the right-of-way on a private easement, the County would have to incur the costs of having it moved. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve and sign the agreement as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The next item was a request to make the intersection of Lotticks Corner Road and Doolittle Hill Road and three-way stop. Commissioner Wiseman said he was in support of the change but requested an abundance of signage and other alerts to account for the short sight distance. Kevin Russel said the highway department would add rumble strips, flashers at the top of the stop signs, and flags on the 'Stop Ahead' signs to increase awareness of the change. With that understanding, commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

County resident Pat Davis came before the commissioners to voice concerns about the stop sign at the top of Doolittle Hill Road, expressing the difficulty that trucks have coming to a stop on the steep incline. The commissioners and members of the highway department noted that there had always been a stop sign at the end of Doolittle Hill Road. They also said adding stop signs to Lotticks Corner Road may make that situation safer due to the other traffic also having to come to a complete stop.

Continuing with his agenda, the county engineer presented the Harrison County highway department 2025 annual operations report. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to sign the report as submitted. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The last items on the engineer's agenda were personnel issues within the department. He requested the reclassification of Jason Phipps from highway crewman (tractor-district 1) to large equipment operator (district 1). Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve the reclassification as requested. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The last item was to consider hiring a new employee that had been interviewed by the commissioners. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to hire Clinton Bell for the position of highway crewman (tractor-district 1). Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Under personnel issues, county auditor Sara Burdick presented a request for 8.5 hours of leave without pay for an employee in the emergency management office. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve the request as presented. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the April 20, 2026 commissioner meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Auditor Burdick presented an engagement letter from Baker Tilly Wealth Management, LLC that would allow the firm to provide investment services on the County's behalf for bond monies. Commissioner

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Kellum made a motion to approve and sign the engagement letter as presented. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro said there were a couple of time sensitive documents that had to be signed outside of a meeting. The first was a credit application with Bobcat for the highway department. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to ratify commissioner Stepro's signature on the credit application. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The second document was the police professional liability insurance application. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to ratify commissioner Stepro's signature on the insurance application. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

County resident Pat Davis again addressed the commissioners, requesting a cost breakdown of chip and seal work in comparison to laying two inches of asphalt on roads. Kevin Russel asked that Mr. Davis provide a couple of roads that he would like to see the price comparisons on and he would prepare them.

Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.



Nelson Stepro, Commissioner



Annissa Kellum, Commissioner



Brad Wiseman, Commissioner

ATTEST: 

Sara Burdick, County Auditor