

HARRISON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025

Minutes of the Harrison County Council meeting held on Monday, November 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. local time, in the Commissioners' and Council Room of the Harrison County Government Center located in Corydon, Indiana.

Present:	Jake Blackman, Council Member	Tad Whitis, Council Attorney
	Sherry Brown, Council Member	Sara Burdick, County Auditor
	Jennie Capelle, Council Member	Chad Shireman, County Administrator
	Holli Castetter, Council Member	
	Richard Gerdon, Council Member	
	Joe Kellum, Council Member	
	Kyle Nix, Council Member	

Chairman Nix led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chairman Nix called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with all seven members of the Harrison County Council and Council Attorney Tad Whitis present.

Christy Powell of RJL Solutions introduced two declaratory resolutions related to the Kelly Box & Packaging plant being developed in the Harrison County Industrial Park. The resolutions establish the site as an economic revitalization area and preliminarily approve both a base and abatement. Kelly Box plans to build a 60,000 square foot manufacturing and warehouse facility on a 9.2-acre shovel-ready site. The total project investment is over \$15 million, with a real property investment of \$6,587,000.00 and a personal property investment of \$8,785,000.00.

Justin Dirig of Kelly Box & Packaging came before the council to introduce himself and provide further project details. He said the business anticipates hiring 13 new employees with an annual payroll of approximately \$699,000.00, with most new hires being local. Mr. Dirig estimated the facility could employ 55 full-time employees if growth continues.

Councilman Gerdon made a motion to approve resolutions 2025-07 and 2025-08. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

The resolutions are declaratory only and do not commit county funds or finalize the abatement. A confirmatory public hearing is scheduled for December 22, 2025.

County commissioner Nelson Stepro came before the council with an update on the revamped animal control spay & neuter program. Mr. Stepro said the program will be self-sustaining, with fees covering veterinarian costs and startup materials. The program aims to handle more animals than the previous voucher program, which had limited effectiveness. The new building will also serve as a holding area for pets to address the space constraints of the existing animal control facility.

Councilwoman Capelle expressed a desire for more concrete information and a formal presentation of the new spay and neuter program.

County resident Richard Gettelfinger came before the council to express concerns over the council's decision-making process for highway department requests. He noted the county engineer Kevin Russel's expertise and the potential benefits of proposed equipment investments.

Councilwoman Capelle clarified that the decision to not purchase the equipment in question was based on financial considerations and not a lack of confidence in the county engineer's research.

County administrator Chad Shireman covered additional appropriation requests to be voted on at the next council meeting. The first request was in the amount of \$94,777.00 for asset repair in the commissioner budget in the county share of riverboat fund. Mr. Shireman said this was to pay for roof repairs on the county courthouse and health & education buildings.

The second additional appropriation request was in the amount of \$6,170.00 for other supplies in the pretrial diversion fund. The prosecutor's office had submitted the funding request to pay for the GLS state system, rental fees and labor costs related to their public awareness outreach program.

Chairman Nix said that the next order of business was additional appropriations advertised to be voted on at tonight's meeting. Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve additional appropriations as follows: \$19,825.00 for child support director, \$1,516.62 for FICA, and \$2,815.15 for PERF in the prosecutor IV-D budget in the county general fund. Councilman Blackman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$70,000.00 for medical expenses in the jail budget in the LIT-public safety county share fund. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Gerdon made a motion to approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$24,960.00 for security services in the riverboat officer budget in the county share of riverboat fund. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Blackman made a motion to approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$31,653.63 for capital outlays in the parks department budget in the county share of riverboat fund. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve additional appropriations as follows: \$3,500.00 for fuel, \$5,500.00 for hardware & tools, \$3,700.00 for plumbing & electrical, \$750.00 for petting zoo supplies, \$9,213.75 lake treatment, \$5,200.00 plumbing & electrical services, \$3,937.80 for workers' compensation, \$2,500.00 fuel-heating, \$3,030.00 for garbage collection, \$7,480.00 for contractual services, \$3,500.00 for septic tank services, \$4,700.00 for equipment repair & maintenance, and \$4,500.00 for building repair & maintenance in the park & recreation fund. Councilwoman Capelle seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the Annual Budget;

NOW THEREFORE: Sec. 1 Be it ordained by the County Council of Harrison County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums are hereby appropriated out of the funds named for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-11404-000-0660 Child Support Director	\$ 19,825.00	\$ 19,825.00
1000-12100-000-0660 FICA-Prosecutor IV-D	\$ 1,516.62	\$ 1,516.62

1000-12200-000-0660 PERF-Prosecutor IV-D	\$ 2,815.15	\$ 2,815.15
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 24,156.77	\$ 24,156.77

LIT PUBLIC SAFETY-COUNTY SHARE FUND

1170-34301-000-0380 Medical Expenses-Jail	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
TOTAL LIT PUBLIC SAFETY-CO. SHARE FUND	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00

COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND

1191-30114-000-0210 Security Services	\$ 24,960.00	\$ 24,960.00
1191-42100-000-0803 Capital Outlays-Parks Dept	\$ 31,653.63	\$ 31,653.63
TOTAL COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND	\$ 56,613.63	\$ 56,613.63

PARK & RECREATION FUND

1219-22100-000-0803 Fuel	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
1219-22102-000-0803 Hardware & Tools	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
1219-23304-000-0803 Plumbing & Electrical Supplies	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,700.00
1219-24203-000-0803 Petting Zoo Supplies	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
1219-31418-000-0803 Lake Treatment	\$ 9,213.75	\$ 9,213.75
1219-31517-000-0803 Plumbing & Electrical Services	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,200.00
1219-34500-000-0803 Worker's Compensation	\$ 3,937.80	\$ 3,937.80
1219-35206-000-0803 Fuel Heating	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
1219-35403-000-0803 Garbage Collection	\$ 3,030.00	\$ 3,030.00
1219-31600-000-0803 Contractual Services	\$ 7,480.00	\$ 7,480.00
1219-35504-000-0803 Septic Tank Services	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
1219-36100-000-0803 Equip. Repair & Maintenance	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,700.00
1219-36205-000-0803 Building Repair & Maintenance	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
TOTAL PARK & RECREATION FUND	\$ 57,511.55	\$ 57,511.55

ADOPTED THIS 24th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025

Chairman Nix said the next order of business would be transfer of funds for the council's consideration. Councilman Blackman made a motion to approve a transfer request in the amount of \$2,500.00 from first deputy to part time employees in the auditor budget in the county general fund. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Gerdon made a motion to approve a transfer request in the amount of \$3,000.00 from emergency fuel to maintenance supplies in the maintenance department budget in the county general fund. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Blackman made a motion to approve a transfer request in the amount of \$50.00 from office supplies to dues, subscriptions, and conferences in the EMA budget in the county general fund. Councilman Gerdon seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve transfer requests as follows: \$5,970.00 from child support investigator and \$600.00 from longevity to child support director in the prosecutor IV-D budget in the county general fund. Councilman Gerdon seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Blackman made a motion to approve transfer requests as follows: \$1,500.00 from uniforms and \$200.00 from garage & motor supplies to fuel in the riverboat officer budget in the county share of riverboat fund. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Gerdon made a motion to approve transfer requests as follows: \$3,600.00 from unemployment to assistant superintendent, \$500.00 from unemployment to office manager, \$600.00 from unemployment to garage foreman, \$500.0 from unemployment to head mechanic, and \$500.00 from unemployment to garage mechanic in the motor vehicle highway fund. Councilwoman Brown seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilwoman Brown made a motion to approve transfer requests as follows: \$15,365.00 from spay & neuter program and \$635.00 from printing & marketing to other supplies in the animal control budget in the county share of riverboat fund. Councilman Gerdon seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Kellum made a motion to approve a transfer request in the amount of \$81.00 from promotions & events to equipment in the park & recreation fund. Councilwoman Capelle seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

TRANSFERS PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 54

WHEREAS, certain extraordinary emergencies have developed since the adoption of the existing annual budget, so that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the Annual Budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, to meet such extraordinary emergencies:

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the County Council of Harrison County, Indiana, that for the expenses of said Municipal Corporation the following items are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-13300-000-0002 Part Time Employees Auditor	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
1000-23100-000-0160 Maintenance Supplies	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
1000-39100-000-0361 Dues, Subscriptions & Conf	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
1000-11404-000-0660 Child Support Director	\$ 5,970.00	\$ 5,970.00
1000-11404-000-0660 Child Support Director	<u>\$ 600.00</u>	<u>\$ 600.00</u>
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 12,120.00	\$ 12,120.00
<u>LIT PUBLIC SAFETY-COUNTY SHARE FUND</u>		
1170-22100-000-0210 Fuel-Riverboat Officers	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
1170-22100-000-0210 Fuel-Riverboat Officers	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
TOTAL LIT PUBLIC SAFETY-COUNTY SHARE FUND	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
<u>MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY FUND</u>		
1176-11411-000-0530 Assistant Superintendent	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
1176-11110-000-0530 Office Manager	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
1176-11123-000-0533 Garage Foreman	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
1176-11318-000-0533 Head Mechanic	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
1176-11218-000-0533 Garage Mechanic	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY FUND	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00

COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND

1191-21300-000-0626 Other Supplies-Animal Control	\$ 15,365.00	\$ 15,365.00
1191-21300-000-0626 Other Supplies-Animal Control	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00
TOTAL COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00

PARK & RECREATION FUND

1219-42100-000-0803 Equipment	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00
TOTAL PARK & RECREATION FUND	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00

Sec. 2. **WHEREAS**, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have un-obligated balances which will not be needed for the purpose for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced the following amounts:

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-11700-000-0002 First Deputy-Auditor	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
1000-22209-000-0160 Emergency Fuel	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
1000-21100-000-0361 Office Supplies	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
1000-11313-000-0660 Child Support Investigator	\$ 5,970.00	\$ 5,970.00
1000-12400-000-0660 Longevity -Prosecutor IV-D	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 12,120.00	\$ 12,120.00

LIT PUBLIC SAFETY-COUNTY SHARE FUND

1170-24100-000-0210 Uniforms-Riverboat Officers	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
1170-22300-000-0210 Garage and Motor Supplies	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
TOTAL LIT PUBLIC SAFETY-COUNTY SHARE FUND	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00

MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY FUND

1176-12500-00-000-0533 Unemployment	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
1176-12500-00-000-0533 Unemployment	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
1176-12500-00-000-0533 Unemployment	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
1176-12500-00-000-0533 Unemployment	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
1176-12500-00-000-0533 Unemployment	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY FUND	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00

COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND

1191-32602-000-0626 Spay & Neuter Program	\$ 15,365.00	\$ 15,365.00
1191-33200-000-0626 Printing & Marketing	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00
TOTAL COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00

PARK & RECREATION FUND

1219-37501-000-0803 Promotions and Events	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00
TOTAL PARK & RECREATION FUND	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00

ADOPTED THIS 24TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025

Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the public defender board's 2024 annual report. Councilwoman Brown seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilman Kellum made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the October county treasurer's monthly report. Councilwoman Brown seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve the 2026 council meeting calendar as presented. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

The next order of business was council meeting minutes. Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve the July 14, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Councilman Blackman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve the July 28, 2025 meeting minutes as amended. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

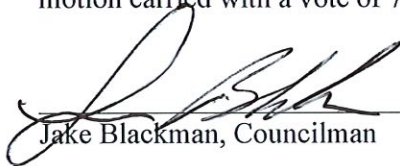
Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve the October 14, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

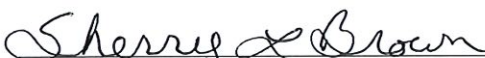
Councilwoman Castetter made a motion to approve the October 27, 2025 meeting minutes as amended. Councilwoman Capelle seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

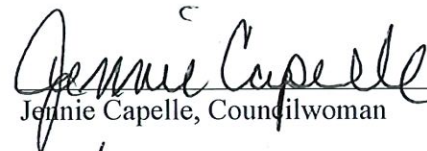
Chairman Nix concluded the meeting by discussing the possibility of purchasing portable workstations for each of the councilmembers to digitize the documents and information the council receives and to help facilitate the budget process.

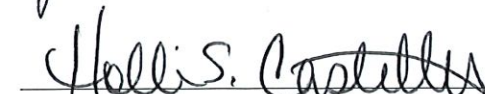
Chairman Nix also announced that a letter had been sent on the council's behalf to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development in opposition to the region/local area realignment that is being considered. The current proposal would remove Harrison County from the Louisville metropolitan area with Floyd and Clark County, shifting Harrison County's region West to be included with the Evansville area.

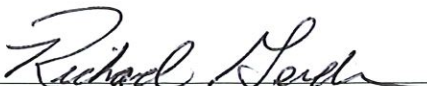
Councilman Blackman made a motion to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Councilwoman Capelle seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

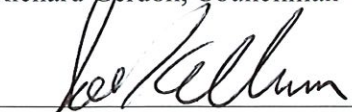

Jake Blackman, Councilman


Sherry Brown, Councilwoman


Jennie Capelle, Councilwoman


Holli Castetter, Councilwoman


Richard Gordon, Councilman


Joe Kellum, Councilman


Kyle Nix, Councilman

ATTEST: 
Sara Burdick, County Auditor