



MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Jennings County Courthouse

24 North Pike Street

Vernon, Indiana 47282

Present: Steve Sharer, Maryanna Garrett, Michelle Hall, Riley Murphy, Murielle Bright, Chris Doran, Carin Hurt, JL Brewer, Shana Richmond, Nicholas Kirtman, Brit Burgmeier, Frederick Bailey.

Guests: Whitney Koelling, ARa; whitney@aracities.org and Robin Willats projectmanager@aracities.org

Quorum established

- I. Welcome and Introduction
- II. Old Business
 - a. Review and approval of minutes of July, August, October, November and December meeting minutes. Carin will send September meetings to JRAC this month. Chris Doran motioned to approve and JL Brewer seconds the motion.
 - b. Firefly grant: Start in March and through summer, Carin Hurt will send out communication to JRAC about needing volunteers. The volunteers will be paid out at the end of the grant at \$25 per hour per volunteer. Each agency would be asked to bring a family friendly game and participate with the families to build relationships.
- III. New Business
 - a. OOR grant update- Deadlines are approaching; Robin will be ongoing grant contact. There is an 18 month timeline, applications due by February 13, income verification process will be completed in March 2026, home inspection to occur with reports sent to contractors May 2026. Remind applicants that it will take

approximately 3 months for construction to start once approved, this is not an emergency grant process. 80 applications at this point. Forms can be completed online and at auditors office. Whitney will follow up with Robin's contact information at ARa and also the link to apply. Opportunity for local contractors to meet in May and there will be advertisements in social media and newspaper. Clarification about household members: someone that is present more than 6 months of the year or more than 50% living in the homeowner's residence would qualify as part of the household. OOR covers the following: roof repairs or replacement, accessibility outside the home, and heating/cooling and waterheaters. JRAC members to be able to speak on the grant with information when community members ask.

- b. OOR contract agreement: September 2025-September 2026: needs to be approved this next year for 10,000.00 per year and payable from Opioid Settlement Funds that were awarded to JRAC. JL Brewer motions to approve the payment, Shana Richmond seconds the motion. All approve to move forward.
- c. Robin Willats contact information is as follows: projectmanager@aracities.org and office phone number is (812) 376-9949 Ext 2.

Adjourned at 2:30 pm and motion for adjournment by JL Brewer and seconded by Murielle Bright.

Next meeting is February 25, 2026 from 1:30-2:30pm.