

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

June 1, 2026

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in a regular session on Monday, June 1, 2026, in the Commissioners’ Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Council Members attending were Warren D. Albright, Monty Gregory, Jim Hamby, Sheri Bowling, Gerald D. Montgomery, Jim Woody, and Jordan Berry. Also attending was Auditor Michelle Norris.

President Albright called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 6:35 pm.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Albright asked if members had a chance to review the minutes of the last meeting. Sheri Bowling made a motion to approve the minutes from May 4, 2026, seconded by Monty Gregory. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Public Health Nurse Julia Albright requested additional appropriations for funds 1168 and 1206 in order to spend remaining balances from legacy health funds to close unused accounts, explaining funding had been significantly cut last year and the State prefers old accounts be closed for year-end reporting efficiency. Additional appropriations requested were:

Local Health Maintenance - Fund 1168	
1168.610.3000.11	Contractual Services \$3,473
ILHD Trust Account – Fund 1206	
1206.000.3000.10	Contract Services \$1,884

Nurse Albright stated funds would be paid to Hoosier Uplands to support nurse salaries. A motion was made by Monty Gregory to approve the additional appropriations for funds 1168 and 1206, respectively; seconded by Jim Woody. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – INTRA-FUND TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION

Auditor Michelle Norris presented a request from Community Corrections to transfer within the same grant fund from lines in the 3000 series (services) into the 2000 series (supplies) to fully expend grant funds; Community Corrections has already received approval from IDOC for the transfer. A motion was made by Jim Hamby to approve the intra fund transfers for Community Corrections; seconded by Gerald Montgomery. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

From: 9131.387.3000.23	Misc. Services	\$834.00
9131.387.3000.20	Travel & Training	\$937.00
9131.387.3000.14	Contract Services	\$0.50
To: 9131.387.2000.24	Misc. Supplies	\$1,771.50

RE: AMBULANCE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Commissioner President Paul George, attending via Zoom, questioned why the ambulance budget had not been restored to what had been approved at the beginning of the year, noting the earlier hold was to prevent over-expenditure while ambulance service changes were considered. Jordan Berry stated the meeting agenda includes additional appropriations to reinstate the ambulance budget now that the ambulance service will remain with the County. A motion was made by Jim Hamby to reinstate the ambulance budget by approving the additional appropriation requests; seconded by Jordan Berry. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Monty Gregory asked if an executive session could be scheduled to discuss billing and collection issues prior to budget preparation; Commissioners agreed to coordinate with Auditor Norris who will contact the county attorney and then circulate availability and set a session.

AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND- FUND 4002

4002.000.1000.30	Compensatory Program	\$26,700
4002.000.2000.11	Uniforms	\$3,750
4002.000.2000.12	Fuel	\$30,000
4002.000.2000.13	Office Supplies	\$2,625
4002.000.2000.14	Vehicle Maintenance	\$12,500
4002.000.2000.15	In Service and Recruiting	\$1,409
4002.000.2000.16	Medical Supplies	\$30,000
4002.000.2000.17	Tires	\$2,700
4002.000.3000.12	Travel Expenses	\$375
4002.000.3000.14	Radio, Lights, Sirens	\$3,500
4002.000.3000.15	Training	\$3,145
4002.000.3000.16	Liability & Work Comp	\$7,081
4002.000.3000.18	EMS Billing	\$20,000
4002.000.4000.11	New Equipment	\$3,750
TOTAL FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND		\$147,535

RE: COMPENSATORY PAY PROGRAM – EDIT, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY FUNDS

Auditor Norris reported on the Commissioner and Council-approved compensatory pay program adopted at the end of December, presenting updated calculations and full-time staffing counts in the EDIT, LIT Public Safety, and MVH funds. She noted EDIT currently has forty-nine employees and eighteen elected officials receiving \$166.66 compensatory pay per pay period, with a negative line balance because no original budget was established for these compensatory lines. She explained her previously advertised amount of \$254,502 included two payrolls where compensatory is not paid (the third payroll in the months of May and October) in the year; and should have been based on fifteen eligible pays instead of the calculated seventeen, current projections indicate a total near \$235,000 will be required, depending on staffing fluctuations. Auditor Norris further reported LIT Public Safety has three full-time employees and Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) has eleven full-time employees receiving compensatory pay.

Highway Administrative Assistant Theresa Ray, attending via Zoom, confirmed staffing levels of eleven full-time with three part-time, with one mechanic vacancy and possibly one additional position not currently being filled, and explained part-time lines were increased via internal budget transfers due to hiring challenges. Highway insurance costs were also discussed. Auditor Norris reported that the Highway Department's highest monthly insurance expense during the current year was \$15,357.66. She noted that, with seven months remaining in the budget year, the department may need to request another additional appropriation for insurance at the end of the year. A motion was made by Jordan Berry to approve the additional appropriations as presented for Fund 1112, Fund 1170, and Fund 1176; seconded by Monty Gregory. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

EDIT COUNTY SHARE- FUND 1112

1112.000.1000.44	Compensatory Program	\$254,502
------------------	----------------------	-----------

LIT PUBLIC SAFETY SHARE- FUND 1170

1170.000.1000.25	Compensatory Program	\$5,001
------------------	----------------------	---------

MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY- FUND 1176

1176.533.1000.15	Health Insurance	\$50,000
1176.533.1000.17	Compensatory Program	\$30,000

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OPIOID UNRESTRICTED FUND 1238

Auditor Norris presented an item for the Opioid Unrestricted Fund 1238 to reimburse the Highway Department for the salary of an employee who drove four hours to serve as a Veterans Service driver in short notice. A motion was made by Monty Gregory to approve the additional appropriation for Fund 1238; seconded by Jordan Berry. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Council members briefly discussed volunteer drivers, frequency of trips to Indianapolis, Louisville, and Evansville, and suggested the Veterans Service Officer consider budgeting for driver costs or modest per diem (e.g., meals) for long trips.

OPIOID UNRESTRICTED FUND- FUND 1238	
1238.000.1000.11	Veterans Service \$72

RE: EDIT FUND – REDUCTION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR EMS SALARIES

Auditor Norris requested a reduction of appropriations in the EDIT fund to remove remaining budgeted lines for ambulance salaries that were moved into the EMS LIT Public Safety Fund in April. This action removes the unused salary appropriations from EDIT corresponding to the balance left after the transition date. A motion was made by Jordan Berry to approve the EDIT fund reduction of appropriations for the ambulance salary lines; seconded by Monty Gregory. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

EDIT COUNTY SHARE- FUND 1112	
Director	-62,589
EMT-B1	-29,555
EMT-B2	-27,904
EMT-B4	-26,653
Part Time EMT-B	-30,515
EMT-P1	-50,243
EMT-P2	-50,093
EMT-P3	-46,507
EMT-P4	-35,609
Part Time EMT-P	-25,589
Driver	-16,202
Stand-By	-59,181
Overtime	-56,463
Administrative Assistant	-30,893
Part Time Drivers	-7,058
TOTAL FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND	-555,054

RE: SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – OPIOID UNRESTRICTED FUND

Auditor Norris presented a salary ordinance amendment to establish a pay range for the two employees who served as veterans service drivers which was paid from the Opioid Unrestricted Fund 1238, aligning hourly rates to Highway Department ranges due to use of both full-time and part-time county employees as drivers. The proposed range was \$15.00–\$25.27 per hour, with individual rates dependent on whether the driver is full-time or part-time and existing pay rates. A motion was made by Monty Gregory to approve 2026 Salary Ordinance Amendment 2026-19; seconded by Jim Woody. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

RE: TAX ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE – ANNUAL REVIEW

Auditor Norris presented the annual compliance review for abatements, advising that companies must submit their CF-1 Compliance with Statement of Benefits forms by May 15 each year for Council review.

CACI: The company’s abatement has not yet begun; construction is near completion with estimated occupancy as early as September 2026. As assessment is based on the January 1 snapshot, the building will not be assessed for the 2026–2027 cycle if occupancy occurs after January 1, 2026. CACI submitted a CF-1 for informational purposes and clarified an error on the SB-1 application- statewide Indiana CACI payroll totals were used instead of Crane-area figures;

the corrected base is 64 Crane-based employees rather than 111 statewide. CACI reiterated its goal to add one hundred jobs once the building is occupied.

Solomon Westgate Holding (aka Westgate 8): Estimated employees were seventy-six; actual reported employees are seventy-six with reported salaries of \$7,073,000. Auditor Norris indicated this is year 4 of a 10-year abatement, with year 4 receiving a 70% assessed value reduction on improvements.

A motion was made by Jim Hamby to acknowledge receipt, review, and acceptance of the abatement compliance filings as presented; seconded by Monty Gregory. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

RE: AJOURNMENT

With no further business, a motion was made by Jim Hamby to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jordan Berry. All in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM. The next regular meeting of the Martin County Council is scheduled for July 6, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Martin County Courthouse. The Courthouse will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.



Warren D. Albright



Jim Hamby



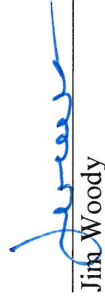
Gerald D. Montgomery



Monty Gregory



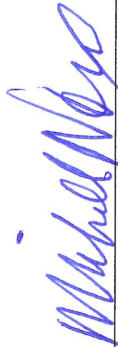
Sheri Bowling



Jim Woody

Jordan Berry

ATTEST:



Michelle Norris, Martin County Auditor