

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD July 28,  
2025**

Comes now the hour of 8:30 am. on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July , 2025 in the Commissioners Room in the Noble County Annex building, Albion, Indiana, being the time, date and place set for a regular session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County, Indiana.

Present were:

Gary Leatherman, President  
Anita Hess, Vice President  
Gary Timmerman, Member

Also present were:

Jacqueline L Knafel, County Coordinator  
Zack Smith, Highway Engineer  
Dennis Graft, Noble County Attorney  
Matt Getts, KPC Media

Gary Leatherman, Commissioner President, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30am.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected with a motion from Anita Hess and a second from Gary Timmerman. Motion carried 3-0.

**CLAIMS**

There was a 14-page report of claims reviewed by the commissioners. The report totaled \$1,072,393.64 and was approved with a motion from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

**PAYROLL**

Payroll dated 07/24/2025 was also reviewed. The 3-page report totaled \$557,402.54. Anita Hess moved to approve. Gary Timmerman seconded. Motion carries 3-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The tax sale addendum was missing signatures after the last commissioners meeting was signed today. The motion made at the last meeting covered the signing of this document as well.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- There is a warranty deed that County Attorney Dennis Graft had prepared for the property next to the Bridge 134 project. This was the warranty deed between Noble County and Grosuch Farms LLC. Motion to sign the deed came from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Dilling Group - Glenn Ryan had provided the Dilling Group Service Agreement for signatures. This is for the New Annex building for the Air Handlers, Chiller, Circulation pumps, etc. Motion to sign the proposal came from Gary Timmerman and with a second from Anita Hess the motion carried 3-0. Scanned copy sent to Glenn Ryan Monday 7/28/25.
- Automated Logic - The Service Solutions Contract from Automated Logic is coming before the commissioners today. This is service and system software maintenance/upgrades for the annex building. This is a renewal contract and is approved with a motion from Anita Hess and a second from Gary Timmerman. Motion carried 3-0. Copy sent to Glenn Ryan for distribution. 7/28/25.
- Peterson Consulting Services - This contract is for the capital asset reporting. Gary Timmerman moved to sign the contract. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Interlocal agreement with Perry Township - Barbara Donley has returned the copy of the interlocal agreement with the county. This agreement is concerning buggy plate and the retention of \$8.00 for the township. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the agreement for signature. Anita Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Copy of signed document sent to Perry Township Trustee 7/28/25.

- Hunting Lease - the hunting lease with Jason Schoeff was signed with a motion from Anita Hess and a second from Gary Timmerman. Motion carried 3-0. Copy e-mailed to Jason Schoeff 7/28/25.

## HIGHWAY

Richard Rogers, Highway Inspector, was present to request the following:

- Driveway Variance – this is for a second drive for Kelly Kammerer. According to Richard they are building a pole barn and wanted the second drive. Richard is reporting no sight or drainage issues. Gary Timmerman moved to approve. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carried 3-0.
- Richard is also requesting permission to close a street in Wolf Lake on August 16 for a Car and Bike Show. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the closure for one day. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, has the following engineer business to bring before the commissioners:

- Zack and Richard have been contacted about a deeded right of way at Schockopee Lake. The county has been approached but a resident in the area about a solution to this issue. The commissioners discussed several options and asked Zack and/ or Richard to get with the resident and suggest that he contact the neighbors to see if an agreement can be reached and then take the next steps if they want to possibly vacate or simply use it as a shared drive.
- Storm Damage --- the temporary fix to the roof at the highway was again compromised due to the heavy rains received recently. Again, the roof let go and more damage was done to the main building at the highway. Zack provided pictures and has shared this information with the insurance company. Zack shared e-mailed conversation that he had with the insurance company and also shared pictures of the new roof that was recently completed on the old shop building. Zack also shared some thoughts about the arrangement of the main office for restrooms and meeting/break rooms.
- With State Road 9 closed, drivers are finding alternative routes many of which are county roads. County road 100 N is being damaged further than was already seen after the freeze thaw winter we experienced. Recently a semi had taken county roads and became stuck under the railroad bridge on 150 E. Zack had an estimate of damage to the bridge at \$9,000.00.
- Close out letters were provided to the commissioners for the CCMG 2024 asphalt project and the CCMG 2024 Concrete replacement project.
- Zack informed the commissioners of the changes to the CCMG funding. There will now be annual awards in October. With the county receiving the maximum amount under current rules for the 2025 – with the rule changes we could potentially get another \$1,000,000.00 in October of this year. Zack is likely to submit asphalt paving projects at that time. There is also a change of the percentage that the county is responsible for. This goes from 25% to 20%.
- Bridge 67 - this is an LPA project and was pending approval of the ADA and Title VI paperwork. Zack has not heard if the ADA and Title VI documents were approved but the assumption is that they were based on the fact that Zack received work that Bridge 67 was approved for funding in the amount of \$2,994,400.00.
- Bridge 136 – LPA Voucher for construction engineering was received for approval. The voucher was in the amount of \$803.15 and was approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 44 also has an LPA Voucher. This, too, is for construction engineering in the amount of \$5,596.72. Gary Timmerman moved to approve. Anita Hess seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.
- Ball Road - Zack reported that this safety project was now complete and the road should be opening very soon. This past week after the asphalt had been laid – an Amish buggy had removed the barricades and drove down the road leaving gashes in the road from the horseshoes. This is yet another example of what damage the horseshoes are doing to the roadways. The highway department was looking at ways to fix this issue. Zack is waiting to see what INDOT says since the project is not closed at this time.
- Bridge 134 – Zack shared e-mail correspondence concerning the right -of -way purchasing for this bridge. There remains an issue with Nicols property.

- Bridge 69 - there is a project coordination contract between Noble County and INDOT for this project. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the contract with INDOT. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Old State Road 3 - An invoice was received from INDOT for the County's portion of the road rehabilitation project from Avilla to LaOtto. The bid came in considerably lower than expected so the county's portion was \$654,143.32 (a savings of almost \$300,000.00).
- Bridge 59 - the letters of interest received at the last commissioners meeting will be scored at the commissioner's meeting held on August 11, 2025.
- Riley Road/Appleman Rd – there is an LPA voucher in the amount of \$8,550.00 for this project. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the voucher. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.
- Bridge 56 – the LPA voucher for this project in the amount of \$13,564.50 was approved with a motion from Gary Timmerman and a second from Anita Hess. The motion carries 3-0.
- CR 525 W Ordinance – the public hearing preventing commercial trucks to go south on this road coming out of the new gravel pit will be held at the commissioners meeting on August 11, 2025
- CR 1000 E – Zack did a follow up speed study in the area between 1000 N and 1100 N. Speed limit signs were posted in the area and while there was a small reduction in the average speed, there were still a number of reports of excessive speed. Zack will do a draft ordinance lowering that speed to 50 MPH and also notify law enforcement of these findings.

#### COURTHOUSE

Weigand was able to show some savings during the project at the courthouse. The change order showing a savings of \$9,664.59 came before the commissioners for approval. This amount will be taken from the retainage amount still due to Weigand Construction. Gary Timmerman moved to approve this change order. Anita Hess seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

In other business, Zack had received correspondence from Denise Lemmon concerning a stone marker that the Blessed Sacrament Church would like to place on the southeast corner of the New Annex Building. The site is the original site of the Catholic Church and priest house. Anita Hess moved to approve the setting of the stone marker on the SE corner of the annex building. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

#### UNSAFE HOUSING

Mike Klopfenstein, Building Inspector, came before the commissioners with pictures of the Barth property that he has been working with for several months. Mike reported that Mr. Barth has completed about 90% of what he was asked to do. With the completion of tearing down some of the structures, there is another issue that has been created with exposed electrical wiring and a lot of debris sitting around. There is also a "lean to" that Mike feels needs some support. Mike is recommending that – because Mr. Barth is doing all of this on his own – that he needs to be given some more time to clear up some of the lingering issues. Anita Hess moved to give Mr. Barth another 90 days to complete the rest of the clean up starting with the exposed wiring, which would need to be done within the first 30 day. Next would be to remove the unsalvageable debris and remove it from the property. Gary Timmerman seconded the motion. Motion carries 3-0.

#### SHERIFF

Max Weber, Noble County Sheriff, Jennifer Cummins, Jail Commander, Brian Walker, Chief Deputy, Nate Jones, IT asst director and Ryan Tomlison SAS were all present to talk to the commissioners about the replacement of security, door locks etc. in the jail. Max and Jenny explained that the system is a Stanly system which has been in place since the jail was built. Stanley is no longer in business and the parts for the product are obsolete. The SAS system is in several jails in the area and Max indicated he has visited the other jails and they are very happy with this system. Nate from the IT voiced the departments wished to keep the same camera system at the jail as we have at all of the other county facilities. Mr. Tomlison said that they will be able to integrate the Genetec system through Tech Solutions and will get Max a new quote with that integration to the Genetec cameras.

In other business, Max is asking permission to reapply for the JRAC grant (Opioid Settlement) for the Jail Release Coordinator. Max reported that so far this program seems to be going well but time will tell the true story of the effects of having this type of help available to offenders. Anita

Hess moved to allow Max to reapply for this grant. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

#### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Tina Lough was present to request permission to make some purchases at the health department:

1. There is a quote from Datamark Development for an upgrade to the records system at the department. The new required forms according to Tina can not be put into the current system. The upgrade is at a cost of \$5,000.00. Motion to approve came from Gary Timmerman and was seconded by Anita Hess. Motion carried 3-0.
2. The second purchase was for a fireproof safe for records that will be put in the lower level at the South Complex. The vital records secretary will be moving to the lower level and this will enable her to have the records she needs to do her duties without leaving her desk to search records in the upstairs vault. This is at a cost of \$5,699.00. Motion to approve this purchase came from Anita Hess. Gary Timmerman seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Dr. Schowe, Health Officer, was present to request stipends be given to two of the health department employees who will be covering for the school liaison nurse who recently left employment. The department is considering not replacing this position on a full-time bases and giving some of the responsibility to these two employees. Dr. Schowe would like to give them each a \$1500.00 stipend to take on these additional responsibilities. Gary Timmerman moved to approve the stipends pending Council approval for the remainder of this year. Anita Hess seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

#### ADJOURNMENT

This session of the Board of Commissioners of Noble County was at approximately 10:50 am recessed from day to day until August 11, 2025

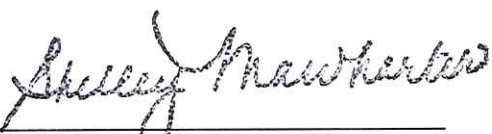
Dated this 11<sup>TH</sup> day of August, 2025

  
Gary D. Leatherman, President

  
Anita Hess, Vice President

  
Gary Timmerman Member

ATTESTED:

  
Michelle Mawhorter, Auditor