

Randolph County Commissioners

April 7, 2025

The Randolph County Commissioners met at their regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Gary Friend, Tom Kerns and Missy Williams. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council's update

Gary said alright, good morning everybody. We'll officially open up the commissioners meeting. And first on our list, we have councils' update. Scott, good morning.

Scott Fisher said good morning. Council last met on March 4th. They began their meeting with a public hearing on Headwaters III Final abatement. After that closed out, we opened the normal meeting. Resolution for the final abatement was presented. It was approved and signed. So, that's put behind us. Next, there was discussion on the Harter Park funding request by Sarah Black. That was approved and signed. The loan for the town of Lynn, that was tabled until some questions could be answered for the commissioners.

Gary said they've retracted on that.

Scott Fisher said okay. After that, highway overtime funding request was approved. Also approved was the tourism services. That's been approved and signed. There were two or three appropriation requests, a couple for bridges and a couple for equipment. Those were all signed and approved.

Gary said okay. That it?

Scott Fisher said yep.

Gary said nothing else? See you tomorrow. I'll be there tomorrow.

Scott Fisher said okay.

Jake Donham – funding request

Gary said next, Jake. Morning Jake.

Jake Donham said morning your honor. I had Laura put me on there for a funding request. The old hospital has taken a huge hit this year, just on electrical, plumbing and now ground water. I've actually got contractors there today. Luckily enough, I was able to keep the water flowing over the weekend. My ground water pumps, the insides the diameter of the pipe was choked down so much it just wasn't taken, wouldn't take the water enough. So, hopefully, we can get that remedied here quickly. But, I'm down to about 1600 left in my building maintenance Cum Cap line item. I have a lot of things I still need to get. I'll have the invoices coming in here for the elevator. We lost a, somehow or another, they're saying it was probably more of a power surge or something, it lost its memory, so we had to reprogram all that, and that wasn't covered under our normal service contract. So, I've got that coming in, a handful of PMs, cleaning coils, there's other things I need to do still this year at that building. So, I was wanting to see if I could get some funding put back in that line item, so when these invoices come in, we can keep on flowing.

Gary said have you got an idea how much you might need for now? Might as well run them through the year.

Jake Donham said yeah. We started at the first of the year at 20.

Gary said you went through that.

Jake Donham said yeah. So, if we could put another 20 in there, pretty much start over and hopefully, that would carry us through.

Gary said okay. Yeah, I don't have a problem with it. Tom?

Tom said no problem. I'll move to approve.

Missy said I'll second that.

Gary said we want to take it out of Commissioner's Cum Cap or do we want to take it out of the County General?

Tom said General.

Gary said County General. We have a motion for County General. We have a second to add \$20,000.00 to Cum Cap line to your maintenance line, correct?

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Tom Kerns said on the ground water, what's the contractor working on?

Jake Donham said so, we have two pumps in there. They've been in there over ten years, never had a lick of problem with them. Friday, I had a high water alarm around 4, 4:30. When I came in, they were both pumping, but it was just taking on so much water it wouldn't keep up. It didn't come up out of the pit yet. So, I threw another sump pump in there, got it to another pit to

keep it flowing. Had my contractor come out Friday, and we took both pumps out and looked and they were just so clogged up with just rust and over time. The outer part of the pit actually had about an inch of just rust and crust around it. And so, they're back today. They're just going to dig up both pumps out now, and they're going to clean out the bottoms of the pits, clean the pumps, flush the lines.

Tom said just work on equipment basically?

Jake Donham said yes.

Gary said are those exterior pits or interior on the drains?

Jake Donham said they're interior. They're in the boiler rooms.

Gary said okay. I thought at one time, there were exterior pits.

Jake Donham said so, there are three pumps outside.

Gary said okay. Those are operating okay?

Jake Donham said once we put the pit on the inside, those pumps became obsolete. They're not even pumping because that inside pump keeps the ground water at bay, so we don't have any problem.

Gary said okay.

Jake Donham said actually, when I came in Saturday morning, there was so much water in town, every lift station I went by was in high water alarm. And so, that tells me the sewer system is full, storms' full, there was just so much water. And when I got on site, every crack in that basement had, it looked like a water fountain. I mean it had water coming up every crack. So, the ground water was just so saturated.

Tom said that north end down there, so that resolved where it's, you had that moisture problem?

Jake Donham said yep. Well, this is actually more centrally located in the building. So, but it was just, there was a lot of water. I've only seen that happen one other time in that building, when we had another big storm, where we had water coming up out of cracks and so forth. But, it's an adventure.

Gary said okay. Alright. Anybody have anything else for Jake?

Missy said I do. What's coming up next over there? I mean, it is an old building. Are the groups that wanted to have room to meet like down, are they doing, are they coming in and meeting there or do we know if they are or aren't?

Jake Donham said I don't see a lot of activity.

Missy said okay. Yeah, and I know, it would be an evening, and I'm not trying to put you on the spot.

Jake Donham said yeah. I mean, the Ball State, the Ball State people, I've never seen anybody actually on site. They moved some stuff in, but I've never seen any action. I don't ask questions. Like, I don't really get a, just by appointment, I guess, and I'm not real sure.

Missy said yeah.

Jake Donham said and the State Board of Accounts, I mean, I think the State Board of Accounts, when I showed her a room, the more we talked with her, her biggest thing was being a good internet and state internet. And so, when we started you know, conversing, once we got up to the second floor, it dawned on me well the DCS is already on the state internet. So, they made connections and they're going to supply her a place to work out of, to see how that goes. So, I still have the, well, the tornado group, they still have that second floor room. I've never seen any action in there as well.

Missy said yeah. That's why, I was just over there the other day and as I walked around I thought I had a meeting, was invited for a meeting for the tornado relief thing, and then they say yeah, we're not using that, we haven't met there anymore. So, I just don't, I was just curious where, what was going on in there. The basement to me, and I don't know anything, but if somebody is going to be in there in the evenings, that could be a pretty dangerous place to be meeting with people, just because it's, you know if you, I don't know. I'm probably too paranoid about it, but one on one, if somebody got angered or, you were down there with them, by themselves, not saying move it, but if we don't need it, I'm not sure, you know.

Jake Donham said yeah. I don't know what their hours of operation is. If they come in after hours, I don't know on that. All I know is Ball State has a room there and I don't know what they do.

Missy said yeah. I'm just curious. Didn't mean to put you on the spot.

Jake Donham said oh, you're fine.

Gary said anybody else? Thank you, Jake.

Jake Donham said yeah, thank you guys.

Gary said are you hanging around for a while?

Jake Donham said yeah.

Sherri Thompson and Cobi Wells Health Department – purchase new radios

Gary said Sherrie Thompson and Cobi Wells, Health Department.

Sherri Thompson said good morning. The question that you had about the room being used, the room's there for Ball State in case somebody can't, doesn't have internet at home, can't connect with them, they can come in there. We get an updated schedule, and they can come in there and we can connect them, via internet with the Ball State counsellors. A lot of the people that we, that they are counselling on Randolph County's behalf, does it from home right now. But that's why you don't see a lot of activity there, but it's there in case.

Missy said yeah. I wouldn't see it anyway unless I'm just out walking. But it just occurred to me that something happened in another county, in a building where they were allowed evening access, and someone was confronted. And nobody else in the building particularly, and then I got thinking, we're putting people in the basement, leaving the front, or leaving a door open so somebody can get, you know what I mean?

Sherri Thompson said yeah and we don't have hours after, you know, we don't have anybody coming in after hours, so.

Missy said yeah, right.

Sherri said but with that, we are here today to ask about using some of our carry over money, the HFI money from last year, to purchase radios for our preparedness. Actually, we have two. One of the radios that we have will not keep a charge. On top of not having enough radios for everyone, but Cobi is here today to kind of present that to you, and what our needs are.

Gary said so, you're looking for two radios?

Cobi Wells said basically, what I identified when I first got this position is in the emergency preparedness, with the Health department, is they have a lack of communication during an emergency. They had two radios that are obsolete now. They can't, like if you took them somewhere to get them fixed, they probably wouldn't fix them, or it would be the cost of a new radio anyway. But, really, each person that works there needs a radio in the event of an emergency.

Gary said each person in the Health Department?

Cobi Wells said yes, because they do respond.

Gary said no matter who they are? No matter what they do?

Cobi Wells said yes. They each have a position during an emergency, and it's vital that they have contact, not only with each other, but also agencies outside of the Health Department like sheriffs, the EMS, things such as that so that they know where to go, where they're being sent, and that they have contact. As a team, we may be split up during one of those emergencies. So, those are very vital to have that communication amongst, like I said, each other and the other departments within the county itself.

Tom said so is this, they need to have with them the whole time, all time?

Cobi Wells said and the radios, they could use daily also, like on their day-to-day activities or you know, things such as that. But they definitely would have to take them home in the event of an emergency. You never know which one of us is going to show up first. You know, there is an upper echelon where they say so and so is in charge, but the way emergency management works if Sherri's the first one or one of her other employees is the first one, they're being trained to know how to respond, and they need that radio. They may be the first one there. So, they can call the team together and they can do the communication also, until the whole team gets there.

Gary said how many radios are you talking?

Cobi Wells said six.

Missy said did we get a budget sheet on that or any information on that?

Cobi Wells said I didn't print out enough I don't think. I only printed out one copy of each. Sorry about that. These are two different quotes from J & K. They're basically both the same radio. One is just a little bit tougher, a little bit bigger. The other one is a little bit smaller, not as tough, but it's, that's the one I would go for. So, it's, I believe it's the 5,000 and, yeah, this would be my pick if we were to move forward with radios.

Missy said so, have you talked with the staff to see what they feel about taking a radio home, having to have it with them all the time?

Cobi Wells said sure. When I first got this position, we began doing a lot of different trainings and things like that and we're actually getting ready to do a tabletop exercise. Part of that training is involving the radios and use of communications. Our grant requirements currently require that we do their quarterly and bi-annually call downs and you know, radio checks, and things such as that, just to oblige the grant, itself. So, you know, I just feel it's imperative that they have these radios, especially in emergency situation. And you know, not to bring up bad things in the past, but the tornado, I don't think they had, maybe one radio?

Sherri Thompson said yeah.

Cobi Wells said if, any available to them, showing up at different times.

Gary said these are both 7 and 800 megahertz?

Cobi Wells said yes.

Tom said what's the lifespan of these?

Cobi Wells said oh, it varies, but they could last a long time, like years, but it's just like an I phone or any other phone, you know, you never know when that service is going to need to be updated or those radios or going to be updated. Could come and say they're obsolete and that you need to get them. But they usually, two to five years probably.

Gary said you have funding. Do you have funding left that you can do this?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary said before you go there.

Sherri Thompson said in the HFI fund we have a carryover balance of \$95, 946.

Gary said this is an allowable expense?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary said this is an allowable expense? Dr. Sowinski, has he bought off on this?

Sherri Thompson said this is all part, who?

Gary said Dr. Sowinski, has he bought off?

Sherri Thompson said yes, yes.

Gary said has the board of directors voted in favor of it?

Sherri Thompson said we've discussed it.

Gary said so, you don't have a vote from them yet?

Sherri Thompson said it's not been voted. They wanted to make.

Gary said so, you're here premature?

Sherri Thompson said we're here to make sure that we have your support before we.

Gary said the only thing, I don't want to get in the middle of any kind of public, taking care of the public, I don't understand why you need six. You're telling me the sanitarian, as well, needs one?

Sherri Thompson said well, if there's an environmental emergency, how would we get ahold of him? You know, if there's a spill or something like that, we wouldn't have access.

Cobi Wells said one of the biggest issues identified through the latest emergency was lack of communication. And these radios would help solve that, amongst especially the team and with the other agencies. And that's without going into, I mean I could speak for hours on emergency management and communication, but having these radios is the key.

Gary said and you have the funding?

Sherri Thompson said yes we have.

Gary said Missy, do you have anything?

Missy said I would make a motion that we postpone this until we get a little bit more information from some other agencies.

Gary said okay, we have, we don't have, this is the first we got the information.

Missy said yeah, I would like to do a little more research.

Gary said okay. Now where I'm at, I can see doing it after the board of directors approves it. So, I understand. I'm not saying you don't need radios. I'm a little shocked you need six. That kind of, \$15,000.00, maybe that's what it is today, I don't know.

Cobi Wells said really, it's one of those things where may never use it, but then again, if you don't have it when you need it, it's a vital tool.

Gary said fair point.

Missy said sure.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said I would like to see the board of directors and I'd like to hear Chris' input on it.

Gary said yeah. So, let's make a motion to table this until the next commissioners meeting. When do you have a meeting with the board of directors? When do you meet.

Sherri Thompson said the 17th, April 17th. The week after next. Next week, is it next week? I'm sorry, I don't have my calendar.

Cobi Wells said yeah, 17th.

Gary said is it before the commissioners meeting?

Cobi Wells said yes.

Gary said so, you can be back for the next commissioners meeting?

Sherri Thompson said uh huh.

Gary said then we'll all have time to take a look at it. Cobi, I don't disagree with you on this. Just a little bit of a shell shock. I would like to ask you and anybody else that this information gets to the commissioners ahead of face-to-face at a meeting, we don't have any time to do any back study on it, any consideration needs thought time on it.

Sherri Thompson said and some of that is mine because I was out last week, that is my fault.

Gary said understand. So, we'll see you the next commissioners meeting. What date is that?

Laura said 21st.

Gary said the 21st and then we'll go from there.

Cobi Wells said alright, thank you.

Sherri Thompson said thank you.

Julie Wilson – Randolph County Extension update

Gary said now Julie.

Julie Wilson said good morning.

Gary said the standard process, each one of you has three minutes.

Julie Wilson said we'll get after it.

Gary said I guess you're on the agenda, you have a little more time.

Julie Wilson said okay. We'll try not to be too long winded. Good morning. We're just here to give you an update on Extension programming that is happening out at the fairgrounds. First, if you've not been out there, the construction process is coming right along. I've been told July 1st, 14 days before projects move into the fair, that it will be completed. So, I hope. It's done enough to have a fair, that's what I'm hoping for. So, just some 4-H updates enrollment, the enrollment process is still open, so if there're any youth that haven't enrolled, we're still accepting enrollments at this time. In our folder, the green newsletter is the 4-H newsletter. This is the February and March addition. I'm working on April one I'm going to send out. So, we've got lots of events going on. The dog club meets every Tuesday and does dog obedience at the fairgrounds. Horse and pony is meeting monthly, at Shooting Sports, they're about to vamp up out at the conservation club and do hunter education and all those courses within the shooting sports program. Junior leaders are meeting monthly. We're hosting an Easter egg hunt on the antique tractor ground for a community wide event.

Gary said is it true you're going to use potatoes because eggs are so expensive?

Julie Wilson said no, no, we're, well my plastic eggs came from Amazon, so they weren't expensive. But we are doing that on April 13th on the antique tractor grounds. There's a flier in here for that if you've got anybody interested. Egg prices, I am going to all of the 5th grade classes in Randolph County to do the chicken embryology class. We dissect an egg, which is a little bit more expensive than it's been in the past, but every youth member will crack an egg, dissect it, we'll talk about what parts turn into a baby chick, and do some educational

components with that. What else was on my list. See, I'm going to make that 3-minute target. We did postpone Ag Days. So, Ag Days were supposed to be this week, typically but with all the constructions and the kitchen being, all that stuff, so we have moved it to September, some dates in September, 17th and 18th. So, we're inviting all the 4th grade classes in September and then the 5th graders that missed not coming Ag Days will be invited to come in September. So, mainly, just lots of 4-H stuff going on, lots of events going on at the fairgrounds, and just thank you for your continued support. So, I think I did 3 minutes.

Amy Alka said well spring is a busy time of year in the agricultural world, as we all know. And so, we have lots of stuff going on out at the fairgrounds. Tomorrow night is a class, I have worms and you should too. I've got, I think, 13 individuals sign up for this make and take worm compost bin. And I've had messages over the weekend about it. I was kind of surprised. Something else I'm real happy about is for the 2nd year in a row, I've partnered with Tonya Williams with the Solid Waste District, and we're going to give away trees on Earth Day. Up at the Purdue Davis Center we have a program where the participants will come in, go through three stations, learning about how to care for their trees, prune their trees, etcetera, and at the end of the evening, they'll have an opportunity to take home a tulip tree, Washington Hawthorne or pin oak tree, depending on their education, if that tree is appropriate for them, for the location. The next thing, in your packet here, in the back, you're going to see this little flier, we're on this roadway together. Zoe and I have partnered, I'm really big into farm safety, and so, Zoe and I were asked if we would want to pilot this program. So, we've agreed to, and we are way ahead of the curve of all the other pilot counties for what we're doing. So, if you want to take this survey, basically, this is more of a reminder. I hit the ag community pretty hard with farm safety and equipment on the roadways, but it's really not the farmers that need the information as much as it is the general public. So, this is trying to reach out to the general public to remind them, you know, slow down, safe space and avoid passing. So, Zoe and I, you're going to see in there, we have a flier that we've made. We have five different, or six different locations, we're going to be going around the community and setting up, and then we're going to be passing out things to remind people to slow down. And you guys got those things. So, we have an air freshener that you can put on your car to remind you, coasters and lots of other stuff that we're going to be doing to promote for everybody just to slow down and be patient as the farmers get their crops in the ground or out of the field. And with it being wet, we'll have to see how that goes. The other things, three minutes, the other thing is, I'm on a state team to offer multi, we're creating a multi category for spray licenses. There're 14 different categories, and last winter, I partnered with the educator from Blackford County to offer multi categories. We had over 200 participants in 2 different locations. So, we're working together to make that a statewide program to cover more people with more of their categories for their spray license. Also, on the UAV team, we're meeting this Friday and still updating all that information for people with their spray license, drone license, and all that kind of stuff. This winter we had a special training class for the public safety people. We had Randolph County police officers, Blackford County, and we offered that. Let's see the other, the other big topic, I don't know if you guys are up to date on this, is the Avian Influenza. We did have a hobby flock get depopulated here at the start of the year. I had spoken with BOAH. We've had BOAH at Randolph County for our backyard chicken program and we are good to go. As long as we're not in a surveillance area, there isn't any issue. And as the summer comes in, the virus that causes this doesn't survive outside. So, it's a cold weather, damper situation, than it is in the summer.

Gary said two questions, what's considered a hobby flock, and what does BOAH mean?

Amy Alka said okay, BOAH is a board of animal health at the Indiana Department. And a hobby flock is just like backyard chickens, not like, not a commercial situation.

Gary said okay.

Amy Alka said so, this lady had like, I think, 70 birds. And when we left, right before we left, we have 5 incubators full of eggs for our backyard chicken people. They've come to 2 classes on how to raise backyard chickens and they were peeping, and we had some pick. So, we are hatching chicks this week. We typically do that in correspondence with Ag Days but since Ag Days was postponed, we went ahead and did it anyway because it's a pretty popular program. So, that's kind of the update from us, for me. Okay Zoe.

Zoe said so, updates on healthy human sciences, so far this year, I have offered Captain Cash, which is the program for 3rd graders in Randolph County and we go to 4 different islands on earn, save, spend and borrow. I go to the classrooms 4 times and I work with the 3rd graders. I have gone to Northside. I've gone to Randolph Southern, Monroe Central, and then Deerfield, I finish up there in May. So, 4 schools still trying to get into more but that's a pretty good number, so I'm also helping, I'm having to go over to Delaware County to help with that program, so, I'm helping at Yorktown as well, just to cover some classes there. That's a program I really enjoy doing, so I'm trying to keep expanding that to as many schools as possible. Serve safe, I'm partnering with the Health Department to offer that. They had funding available to offer. It's a \$165.00 value. They receive a book, they take the exam and they come to the full-day course, which I'm offering, I can't remember the exact date, but it's April, later on in April, and we have 20 spots available. And I think we have almost 15 filled, and they're all Randolph County, restaurants, gas stations, so we're trying to keep it closed off to Randolph County operations. So, we're doing good on that. And then thinking, I'm also on the farm stress team, so that's a statewide initiative and I partner a lot with Amy on some of her programs, there's any kind of agriculture events I can get into, so really focusing on helping with the agriculture community and their mental health, handling stressors. We know that's going to rear up here shortly when everything starts going, especially with our We're on the Road Together program. So, I'm on a statewide team helping create a curriculum as well, for youth, so we're trying to kind of aim at, there're Ag classes, 9th through 12th grade. So, we have that. I've piloted that with four of Winchester's Ag classes. So, that was kind of the beginning stages, so now I need to get back into some classrooms now that we have the curriculum. It's ready to roll. We just have to get into some classrooms from the grant funding, so, going to set up those hopefully. As we get to the end of the school year, I can get into the classroom and offer that a couple of times. And then, the next thing we have is our Farm to Fork Program, which we do with Randolph Southern 5th graders. So, all of them are now 4-Hers. We've had 2 units with that. So, our first one was a gardening, in like horticulture lessons, so we taught them, oh gosh, we did a lot with them on that. Corn and soybeans, so we went and visited a local farmer and he was able to tell us all about his equipment and tell the kids about, because he was done by the time we got there, so he just was telling us about the operation, what it looks like, showing us his fields, and then we also talked about what's a bi-products that come from our corn and soybeans, and then we also did a

little bit on gardening as well as talking about the nutritional value that comes from the crops and vegetables, fruits, everything that we might be growing. So, that was that lesson, and then we also had our swine unit, so we went to Shaffer's Goldrush for a kind of a community connection to that, showing that there are jobs within the community that you can come back to in Randolph County. And then we also did, Amy did a pig dissection, Julie did cuts of meat and the beneficial nutritional value of that. I cooked with the kids. So, we just, we went for, I think we were in the classroom 2 or 3 days, 2 or 3 days, then we'd go the field trip with them. And then our final unit with them will be the poultry unit before we start their 4-H projects. So, that way, we will have an incubator in both classrooms. We'll talk about the stages of growth within that 21-day process, as well as cooking and then just kind of what that looks like, as well as coming back to Randolph County in the future, as possible job opportunities as they get older. So, now, we're had a lot of requests for this program from other teachers and also school corporations, so our plan is to start looking for funding opportunities to get that into other school corporations. So, we're working on that at the moment, because it's a wonderful program. We all enjoy it. It would just, it would have to be a little more scaled down just because there's only 3 of us and we can't be spread too thin, so, we're just kind of working on what that looks like and what possible funding opportunities there are. So, I think that's about it.

Gary said I appreciate all the work that you ladies do out there. You can tell in the community that you guys care about it a lot. Missy, anything?

Missy said no, I, that's for sure. People in the community know it. I visited with Camp, the folks at Camp Yale, probably been 2 or 3 weeks ago, before spring for Randolph Central, and they also are going to get with you because they're going to invite groups to come out there. You'll probably be gone, but I'll explain it to you sometime because they're really opening that back up. They've made amazing changes to some of it, really.

Amy Alka said yeah, it would be a great partnership.

Missy said you guys do, and Gary's right, tell you what, if we could immortalize you guys everywhere.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said I don't have anything. Your passion shows. Your programs are fantastic.

Gary said yeah. Thanks for being a good sport. You could have went 4 minutes. We appreciate it, thank you.

Ed Thornburg – Utility agreements

Gary said Ed. Good morning.

Ed Thornburg said it's that time of day.

Gary said we have some utility contracts?

Ed Thornburg said 3 of them, I believe.

Gary said 3 of them that you would approve?

Ed Thornburg said yes. These are all, this stuff if all maintenance, maintenance work these people are doing.

Gary said okay. Anybody have any questions for Ed on these utility agreements? Would somebody like to make a motion to approve all 3 of them at once?

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said what else, Ed? Coming to the drainage meeting?

Ed Thornburg said I'll see you guys at 10:30.

**Joe Copeland, Jay Long and Chad Roots – 800 N /Fairview Quarry(tabled from March 17),
Task Order 6 and geotechnical investigation for Bridge 29 on 200W north of 700N**

Gary said alright. Is Joe here? Oh, Joe, you're up. Joe, Jay and Chad Roots. Perry, anybody else? Morning everybody. Thank you for getting this quote together for us.

Joe Copeland said I hope that's what you were looking for.

Gary said yeah, from the gate all the way to I or from the S curve to I, which is what you've done, yeah.

Joe Copeland said yeah, yep. Anybody need a copy?

Gary said I've got a hard one here.

Missy said I've got it on, is it the same one that was on line that you submitted?

Joe Copeland said yes. The dollars I put together are material only. I did one from all the way from 1000 West over to State Road 1 and the other one is from the west end of the curve roughly, just to State Road 1. I added some contingency. There're a lot of little things that could make some difference when you're doing this that could increase the cost, so I put a contingency in there. To do it all the way the full length would be 400 and, roughly, \$414,000, material only. I did, I was trying to get another price for the cement slurry from IMI, but I didn't get it. I think the salesman may be new. I called him and he says he needed a mix design. So, I called the representative of the Ready Mixed Association and he called his boss, and I got a mix design from IMI, sent it to him, and then never got a price. So, \$350.00 a cubic yard from Ernst. So, I was going to see if we could do any better, still can, whatever you propose, or decide to do. Of course, all of the labor and equipment is by the county highway. I figured the stone for the

edging along that asphalt that we lay, was hoping US Aggregates would give us the aggregate for that.

Gary said he's nodding that they would.

Chad Roots said yes.

Joe Copeland said I do not have any additional trucking cost in these figures. Now, I figured doing the stabilization, and we're going to have to do a little wider because if the road's 22, we're going to be out here, so I made it 24. Do the stabilization, come back with 4 inches of asphalt on top of it, alright. Well, the only problem with that, we've got a lot of heavy trucks, and if you'll notice on there, I said to use what they call a PG58H-28, which is a stronger asphalt is what it boils down to. The old designation was PG70-22, and they've changed that designation, they're making it a little different now. And hopefully, it's available. I was told before some time ago, that difference, maybe 3 to \$5.00 a ton. But the plants don't always run that material. So, you know, if we get it, then it's going to be dependent upon what the plant's running at the time. So, the rest of it, I mean, pretty standard stuff. The curves we'll have to lay out the curves. I can do that, but I need equipment to do that with. So, the highway, Lonnie, has been trying to get some prices on a theodolite and automatic level and some things to be able to lay that curve out. It was surprising that the highway didn't have equipment. But, we get, I can teach these fellows how to do that.

Gary said that would be great. I don't think the highway, since I've been involved, built a road.

Jay Long said no, we haven't, no.

Gary said what do you think Jay, on the amount of time that you'll have, when would be a projected start date when engineering is done?

Joe Copeland said when the curves are completed, then we've got to look at what we have as far as right-of-way to acquire. Once that right-of-way is acquired and we get utilities out of the way, we can get going. Even before, I mean, the utilities in certain areas may be a conflict, but it may not be in others. So, we could actually get started before that, as long as the utilities can get in and out to do their work.

Gary said Jay what do you think we'll be.

Jay Long said we've talked back and forth. We were hoping 30 days.

Gary said to build it?

Jay Long said yeah, to get it done. But, you've got to stop on the short section there, I mean, but you've got to go on weather too. We don't know what the weather's going to be.

Gary said right. How much water is out there today?

Jay Long said I don't even know if One is open yet. I mean, it wasn't from the bridge on, we have other projects we're trying to get done too. So, this is going to back us up.

Tom said that was going to be my question. How's is it going to affect your regular schedule, your chip and seal miles, your paving miles, you know, what you're going to get done everywhere else in the county this year?

Jay Long said it's going to back us up a little bit, but we've got the guys, we can handle it.

Gary said if we had to contract some of this out, what would that cost us added on to it?

Joe Copeland said yeah, it would be pretty rough.

Jay Long said it would be high.

Joe Copeland said now, there is a contractor in the county that's done some of this type of stabilization.

Gary said I've heard of him.

Joe Copeland said yeah, he's done it before so, I mean if we need help.

Tom said on each side, you're going to 24 feet, how do you stabilize that edge? I mean, would stabilization, with that kind of weight, you're grinding it down.

Joe Copeland said it'll chew up, it'll chew up, it'll just grind up anyway. Yeah, asphalt.

Tom said I've just seen so, you know, when they widen the roads and then the heavy equipment breaking that.

Joe Copeland said yeah, I added two feet to it. I mean, there's little things that you've got to, it's hard to take into account. Say that, say when they grade the stabilization material, you know, we've got to put crown on the road, okay, 2% or a quarter inch per foot. And if they grade that flat and that crown's not there, then there's added asphalt that we're going to have to put in there to make up the different, I mean just little things.

Gary said okay. Chad, where is US Aggregates at on, you'd mentioned some contribution is we went to the, or no contribution if we started at the S curves and just went from the S curves out.

Chad Roots said yeah, so, first of all, a very big thank you to not only the commissioners here, but Jay and Joe. You guys have all been very gracious and entertained all this discussion. So, obviously, we're willing to work within whatever the county is willing to assist with improving the county road here. With the S curve plan, we would probably still likely move our entrance over toward that S curve location. And we would still be committed to provide any aggregate for the project. And we would also still be committed to providing the right-of-way acquisition services to buy any of the right-of-way that's needed for the county, up to a certain limitation of cost of course. I've estimated approximately, in kind, aggregate material up to about \$57,000.00, land donation from Heritage up to about \$13,000.00, monetary contribution, which would be right-of-way service cost and any land cost, another 10,000, totaling about \$80,000.00 in contribution. That would be for the curves to State Road 1. And if we look at taking this all the way to 1000 West to State Road 1, I think we would be somewhere closer to a 150,000 in contribution.

Gary said in total or added to the 80?

Chad Roots said in total.

Gary said in total.

Chad Roots said my original estimate, if we were to take that to the gates, was about \$360,000 in total contribution, if we were to go up to 1000, which I know that scope has been narrowed. As I said, we're willing to you know, modify our plans to whatever the county is willing to do to improve that infrastructure, because we're grateful for you willing to entertain the idea at all.

Gary said okay. First of all, Tom, any questions?

Tom said I do not.

Gary said do not. Missy?

Missy said I know it's hard to get employees, but I think you're going to need to bring a couple, maybe hire another one or two employees if they're going to be taking this on. You're taking a lot away from our normal summer maintenance. What's your thoughts?

Jay Long said I mean, yeah, we're, we lost a guy.

Missy said right, that's what I.

Jay Long said but we're in the process. I just got an email.

Missy said okay, okay.

Jay Long said we got a guy starting. It would be great if we could.

Gary said you have a part time line to bring people on.

Jay Long said yes, yes, yep. I mean, we just got to put some ads out there and hopefully we can get some people in here and move some people to do other stuff, and you know, let them mow, things of that yeah.

Gary said okay, on the funding mechanism of this, it's, if we go all the way to 1200, I think the commissioners will have to decide what we want to do, and I think that decision will come in the next meeting. Would that be fair? Gives everybody a chance to. And then we will have a joint meeting with the council and commissioners on May the 19th that we can approach both bodies on using some of the Renewable Energy funding to get all the funds we need to put this together. By that time, Jay, when we get to that point, we'll need to know how much of in kind support.

Jay Long said okay.

Gary said the county highway would be involved in it.

Jay Long said okay.

Gary said so if we have to repopulate some along the lines of MVH, we'll know how much to move over from Windfarm funding.

Jay Long said okay. We can do that, yep.

Gary said so, Perry, is there anything that we ought to know or talk about?

Perry Knox said we have a task order here today.

Gary said yeah, we have a task order for the S curve today to get approved?

Perry Knox said that's our piece of the puzzle.

Gary said Chad, that time line, is that okay, we'll get to a decision on this in the next meeting.

Chad Roots said yes.

Gary said and we will move it to the joint session where we'll get the council and the commissioners both have to approve that style of funding.

Chad Roots said okay.

Gary said and then go from there on the timing part of it.

Missy said I also heard that the possibility of using a local contractor, but that's our best person, by what I've seen, putting back roads together after turbines have road down them. You know, I want to stay local.

Gary said if that were to be discussed, he can abstain on all the bidding and all the discussion.

Missy said right, yeah.

Gary said and maybe even have a price of what it would cost to get some outside help for that as well.

Tom said if you move your entrance, how close to the curves in that residential property.

Gary said I was going to get to that, thank you.

Chad Roots said I have reached out to that property owner just to talk about that potential, the potential impact. He's, he didn't express any overt objection. Luckily, he's kind of, he's okay with the environment. We're moving truck around there anyway already. That little notch curve out over that box, I can't say exactly where that drive will align with that S curve or the straightened out S curve, but it will kind of all be centered in that little box of land that you see notched out, the scale, the scale house, in the future in that main drive.

Gary said I've given the S curve scenario quite a bit of thought, probably on a different line. I'd give it a lot of thought because I would hope that would restrict the trucks from even considering going the other way and going down 1200. But it would almost force them back to Highway 1, which would protect the rest of our roads out there. So, I've kind of give that a thought for that reason, especially if a neighbor is not really objectionable. So, that's kind of on my mind too. I know you and I talked and I'd like to see us get it all the way there but then the more I thought when I went out there and looked at it again, and if that would work out and the neighbor didn't have an issue really, that it would help us to just get some trucking restrictions out there, just by default. Does that make sense?

Chad Roots said yeah.

Gary said alright. Well, we got a plan here that we're going to follow through with. I appreciate you coming Chad, Perry, all of you. You can come to any of the meetings also. Or, you can just let me inform you after the meetings.

Chad Roots said very good. Thank you.

Gary said while you're out there Perry and Joe and Jay, we have a task order here. This is for the S curves.

Perry Knox said yes.

Gary said we approved at the last meeting.

Perry Knox said correct.

Gary said so it's for \$99,550.00 and Jay you double check you're okay which account and bring that out of, is it a restricted or is MVH? This can come out of restricted couldn't it?

Jay said yeah, yeah, it can.

Gary said we need to use restricted every time we can.

Jay Long said restricted, yeah, we have the money in restricted, yeah, which I have a list here.

Gary said we're also going to meet again in May too to make sure we don't put the highway in a bind.

Jay Long said uh huh, yep.

Gary said alright, we have this task order number 6 supplemental, that we discussed at the last meeting about engineering for straightening the S curves out. Someone like to make a motion to approve this?

Missy said make a motion to approve.

Gary said we have a motion to approve and it is out of Motor Vehicle Highway Restricted?

Jay Long said uh huh.

Gary said do we have a second?

Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said okay. Let's see, we have task order number 6, Geological investigation for bridge 29 on 200 West north of 700 North. That's up by 28, correct?

Jay Long said yes. Just south of 28.

Joe Copeland said this is a structure I'm trying to get designed for Community Crossings. But up in that area in the northern part of the county, rock can be shallow in spots and that will depend, these borings will depend on what time of piling that we would use to construct the bridge.

Gary said there's a stone quarry nearby.

Joe Copeland said well I've seen the maps that they talk about shallow rock and it's in the area of some maps I've looked at. But, here's the thing, if it's not shallow, we can use what they call steel shell piling pipe. And if it is shallow, then we'll use H pile, and set the H pile on top of the rock.

Gary said so this particular proposal here is approval for?

Joe Copeland said it's doing borings and the Geotech report.

Gary said we don't know a price yet?

Joe Copeland said no, it's in there, on page 5.

Gary said page 5. Do you have a funding source?

Joe Copeland said yeah, at the top, yeah. It'll come out the Cum bridge.

Gary said 3300?

Joe Copeland Cum bridge.

Gary said okay.

Joe Copeland said total is \$14,800. Now the additional line item, boring soundings, what the idea is, we're figuring this particular bridge is on footings since it's so old. And what we want to do is we want to extend the new bridge out to miss those footings, but we need to know where those footings are at so we'll miss them. And that's what they'll do with those borings.

Gary said so this approval here is for \$14,800 to complete this project?

Joe Copeland said yes, yes sir.

Gary said out of Cum bridge?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary said okay. Somebody like to make a motion?

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland said if you could just send a copy to me Laura, and I'll forward it.

Gary said what else?

Joe Copeland said I think that's it.

Gary said I did, I've been in contact with the mayor of Winchester and I sent you a text.

Joe Copeland said yes sir.

Gary said I spoke to Perry this morning so, we'll give a double check on the Short Street bridge to make sure there's no compromise to an already compromised bridge.

Joe Copeland said I guess the water got to the bridge is what Perry is saying. I didn't realize that, yeah. So, yeah, that could be a problem.

Gary said yeah, the mayor, he had it barricaded. He and I talked about it.

Joe Copeland said rather be safe than sorry, yeah, particularly when it's that deep.

Gary said for the record, he didn't barricade it. He and I talked and I asked him if he would barricade it for the county.

Joe Copeland said yeah, okay. Alright, thank you.

Gary said thank you folks.

Jim Nunez, Tourism – Introduce new Tourism director

Gary said Jim Nunez, new Tourism director. New, should say experienced Tourism director.

Angie Martin said the new old, returning.

Jim Nunez said good morning. I just thought since I was the new president, I like to do stuff different like always. I wanted to bring out to the public I had the newspaper come and cover the, that we had since March 17th, we hired a new director and pretty proud of it. The old one did a good one and the other old one did a good one, and the other old one did a good one. So, this is our new old. So, Angie.

Gary said former.

Jim Nunez said yeah, former. And we're starting, we're doing a lot of things different. That's how I roll. So, since I'm the president this year, I want to do a lot of different things. And so, with her new ideas and stuff as we interviewed her, she came up with a lot of good things for Randolph County and that we liked it. We hired her. So, I'll let her talk.

Angie said I'm excited to be back. A lot has changed since I did Tourism before.

Missy said for the record, do you mind saying who you are?

Angie said oh, Angie Martin. I'm so sorry.

Missy said no, that's okay.

Angie Martin said I did Tourism years ago, and it is the same world and a totally different world all at the same time. Our county has changed so much. And you know, that's, we just need to kind of adapt with the world in general, so, we've got a lot of ideas going forward with our website, and you know, we used to mainly strictly do printed brochures and things like that. We have new things. People have cell phones in their pockets all the time. So, we're looking into a lot of different things just to kind of keep us updated and relevant in getting people from outside our community inside our community, because that is the of Tourism. I mean, it is, obviously, educating our county as well, about all the great things that we have, but our job really is to get people here to see all the great things that we have. So, really excited to be back and only been doing it for a couple of weeks, but it feels like riding a bike, right back at it again.

Gary said well welcome back.

Angie Martin said thank you.

Missy said appreciate you taking on.

Gary said Tom, anything?

Tom said exciting.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said the only thing I would say is, and I know you will, get out to the community, go see them. They want to see your face.

Angie Martin said yeah.

Missy said websites are great. They're extremely beneficial. Facebook is extremely beneficial. They want to see you. They want to feel like they're a part of this and it's not just right here. I know you will.

Angie Martin said right. Yeah, yeah, absolutely, you're correct.

Gary said well thank you.

Angie Martin said you're very welcome.

Larry and Anita Amspaugh – Community Christmas 20 year celebration funding request

Gary said next up, Larry and Anita Amspaugh, Community Christmas 20 year celebration.

Anita Amspaugh said that was a great segway for Tourism. We're here representing Community Christmas. I am the treasurer and have been for 20 years. We are a 501C3 since 2006. We started with donated strings of lights from households and we've built from then. We rely on donations and grants, which Tourism has helped us quite a bit and ran on a shoestring. Little background, over the last 20 years, we've brought in 82,000 cars through Community Christmas. We've had \$312,000.00 in donations and we give back \$68,000.00 because each non-profit that works the gates gets 25% of the take, and it has to be a non-profit. All of our money goes back into the park. What we've done for the park, we've one infrastructure for the park. We've purchased a boom truck so he didn't have to climb ladders anymore. Built cold storage building for the use of the city and the soccer organization along with this. Built a covered bridge during the COVID because we had such a huge turnout during COVID because nobody could go anywhere. So, we used that money to build the covered bridge which has really added to our park. Every year we put all of our money back into lights and displays for example our nativity scene we have with \$16,000.00. These things are just huge. We parted ways with our light laser show person 3 years ago, so we had to turn around and buy our own light show at a cost of \$20,000.00 a year for 5 years, so that's where a lot of our money goes. We also purchased 2 laser lights last year at a cost of \$6,000. The reason we're here, we had a rough year last year with our transition. You all know Larry as the creator of community Christmas and with his health problems, he had to turn it over to somebody else. So, we have problems with our infrastructure and our electrical problems, which we're doing to have replace a lot this year. But for our 20th year, we want to do something special. And I don't know if you guys watch America's got Talent and watch the ski elements, the drone show that they put on. Any of you see that? You have to go on YouTube and watch it. Anyway, it's a group that comes in and does drone shows. And one of our members has actually been in touch with them to do a one-night show at a cost of \$30,000.00. They do a 15 minute show every 45 minutes. And for us to reserve them, we need a huge down payment. So, what we're asking for today is if the county can come up with about \$20,000.00 for our down payment.

Gary said I struggle with this because of clubs.

Anita Amspaugh said of what?

Gary said clubs and things, and there are many clubs in Randolph County. And I don't think I, well we did give a little bit to the Union City Historical Society. I don't know. I mean, I don't know. It's a door I don't like to open because it's a door very hard to close. It's great of the work that you do. There is great work everywhere in Randolph County, and everybody has the right to come and ask, and say well why not us? And so, you know, I've, that's, I don't know. What do you think Tom?

Tom said kind of the same thing. Once we start funding for festival-type activity, every single event in the county will be coming for money next week, or the next meeting.

Anita Amspaugh said sure. How many of them have been doing stuff for 20 years though?

Tom said oh, a lot of them have been around for that long or longer, you know, the festivals. And the amount of years doesn't matter. There're a lot of great causes. I mean, what you bring to the community, like the support you're talking about in Tourism is amazing.

Larry Amspaugh said and it's not just our community.

Tom said I know. It's the whole community. And when I say community, I'm talking about the county.

Larry Amspaugh said I'm talking about Ohio too, because we do deal with the Missinewa Valley school. And I'm sorry, I can't talk the best. We're just asking. Worst case scenario is no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I think it's, people love it. Obviously, they flock to it. I'm not, I can't vote for this. I mean, I'm just being up front.

Anita Amspaugh said I understand.

Missy said because we're going to, I mean, Marti Gras, this one, that one, the fellows are right, it's just is never ending. And I think in government we try to help out as much as we can, but I think there's a fine line what we've got to, you've done an amazing job.

Anita Amspaugh said I know we do well with the community foundation. They, we usually get a grant every year.

Missy said right. That's exactly where I was going to suggest.

Gary said and Tourism.

Anita Amspaugh said and Tourism. They do our billboards on 70 which is a God send. So, it doesn't hurt to ask. We're just trying to you know, like my dad used to say, you shoot with a shot gun and hope you hit something. So, you're one of the shot guns I'm hitting at.

Tom said the even RCU would be somebody to talk to.

Gary said yeah.

Anita Ampaugh said well that was my next ask, if not with you, but we didn't know where to start to ask for that.

Gary said Tourism. Talk to Tourism. They can get you into RCU. They have members on the board.

Anita Ampaugh said okay.

Gary said and then they can also, RCU can send you into a community foundation. There's even a forum of funders. But there are other non-profits to help non-profits. This is great work.

Tom said have you applied for the grant

Anita Ampaugh said every, well we do every fall, yeah.

Tom said for the spring

Larry Ampaugh said this again just came up after we had our meeting for last year. And this is where this came about, and it all has to do, we have some funding, but we don't have enough to cover what we're going to do. We will probably get that much next year, but that's next year. So, that's where we're at. We were just asking.

Gary said absolutely.

Larry Ampaugh said appreciate the time.

Gary said I'm glad you did come up, I mean it puts an awareness to what you're doing, at a minimum.

Larry Ampaugh said yeah. It's going to be a big process because we don't charge, so it's donations only. So, we can't sit here and say how much is going to come in.

Gary said sure.

Larry Ampaugh said but for this situation, we're going to have to get people in and out in 45 minutes. I don't know if you've been out there when we've had thousands of cars at night going through. You can be stuck on 32 for 15, 20, 25 minutes.

Gary said I've waited in line there before.

Larry Ampaugh said we're going to have to go and get people in and have to get people out.

Gary said and don't forget the Chamber of Commerce. I mean this should be the Chamber of Commerce's right in there, RCU as well.

Anita Amspaugh said okay. Well, that gives us a good start.

Gary said don't let it stop here. Let it start here.

Larry Amspaugh said yeah, like I say, we helped, I know, I think with the monument out here getting some lights on it, so. You start a process, you don't know where it's going to go.

Gary said that's right.

Larry Amspaugh said and right now, this is where it's at.

Anita Amspaugh said never thought it would last this long.

Larry Amspaugh said it was a hobby.

Anita Amspaugh said or get this big.

Larry Amspaugh said now it's a full-time job.

Gary said thank you.

Justin Lester – Journey Home update

Gary said next up, Justin Lester.

Justin Lester said morning guys. I'll give you guys the quick version of this. I've only got 3 minutes.

Gary said no it's not. You have more than that. I was kidding with them.

Justin Lester said I know. I'm Justin Lester. I am the business director at the Journey Home here in Winchester. I've met Gary before. Tom, it's nice to meet you. Missy, it's nice to meet you. So, we've gone through a lot of changes in the past 12 months. Dan Baker is now the CEO and executive director as of last month.

Gary said is he full time?

Justin Lester said part time.

Gary said part time.

Justin Lester said part time. So, he is still the CFO at the Muncie Y right now. He just accepted that position. So, right now, it's part time. I'm going to give you kind of a brief overview of what we're trying to do. I'm not going to go line by line. Obviously, you guys are, you guys can

read it in your free time. But in the community, we have the facility in the old hospital as everybody knows. We offer transportation services to veterans both in that facility and out in the community, going as far as Ft. Wayne, Marion, to their local VA appointments. We would like to start community collaborations. One of the things is we, the feedback that we have received is collaboration in the community just hasn't been there as much. And that's what we want to do. So, we're making some committees, one being a community relations committee, which would help not just us with the community, but help us give our expertise as subject matter experts on homelessness to help Randolph County understand it, be educated and be able to help others as well. Not just veterans. So, we do have two contracts, the HVAV and the GPD, grant per diem contracts. You know, we offer a plethora donation pickup and delivery services for veterans. But we also have a lot of people in the community that rely on us when there's a death in the family, or they don't know what to do with the abundance of things that they have. So, we try to bridge the gap, not just for veterans to get the access to care but bridge the gap for the community so that we can give them the resources they need as well. So, there are some financials, there are some impact highlights, so we helped 47 veterans off the streets last year. 7 were placed in Randolph County, 6 in Winchester, 1 in Union City. 77% were discharged on a positive. The financials are there.

Gary said those that weren't positive, what do you mean? They were let go because they broke the rules?

Justin Lester said wait, which one?

Gary said 77% discharged positive.

Justin Lester said uh huh.

Gary said the negatives, where do they go?

Justin Lester said so, the negatives go to the communities of which they came from.

Missy said they will in the future or they have in the past?

Justin Lester said they have in the past. So, they will, and they have. Okay, so, if they come from Ft. Wayne, for example, we're connecting them with services in Ft. Wayne. We're not just kicking them out and dropping them off in the county.

Gary said are you taking them there?

Justin Lester said yes, we're transporting them. If we can't transport them in any way, which we usually can, but if we can't, then we find a way for them to get there. So, through another transportation service. Any other questions on that piece?

Gary said well of up to 47 veterans, how many of those are Randolph County veterans specifically?

Justin Lester said I don't have that number. I'm going to be honest with you. I don't have that number.

Gary do you think there were any?

Justin Lester said uh, I know that there have been veterans, especially in 2024, there were veterans that were former to the community that came back to the community. So, it's not that they weren't here ever. It's just they had gone their own ways, through military service and things like that, and they came back. So, there is that aspect of it.

Gary said the 45 unique what's that mean?

Justin Lester said so, there were 2, so there were 2 that had to be, that were homeless before, not necessarily through our program, but, so there is the HMIS system, which is through the state which tracks homelessness and through that, there were 2 that had been homeless before, maybe not in our program, but in other programs.

Gary said okay. Do you check on the 7 placed in Randolph County, Winchester and Union City, is there a support mechanism to make sure that they are doing okay?

Justin Lester said yes. So, we have an LCSW, a licensed social worker on staff, Stacy Orr. I don't know if any of you have met her yet. But she has requirements on hours for community outreach. So, making sure those veterans in the community are getting the help that they need. And then, the other thing was that we want to make sure that everybody knows, like I said, about our committee's growing relationships within the community. That's one thing that we're focusing on, is getting back to our roots. We do realize that there was a lot of talk, I think it was right as I was coming into the organization of November 23, of expanding into different areas, we've reigned that back in 2024, mid-2024. So, we are fully here within the county, and then because of our contracts, our catch binary goes from Randolph County all the way up north to South Bend, and Indianapolis and up, kind of a weird shape, but that is our whole scope. So, it's a regional, but we focus on the community first and foremost.

Gary said how far south do you go?

Justin Lester said so, we work with veterans in Richmond because it's close.

Gary said Dayton, Cincinnati, you don't?

Justin Lester said so, we have. We have, but I mean, it's on a case by case basis. A lot of the homeless veterans are on the move.

Gary said so you mean the catch net from here to South Bend?

Justin Lester said yeah, the catch binary for us.

Gary said that's mandatory, you've got to take them if they call?

Justin Lester said no. No, there is a criteria that they have to go through for each program based on discharge status, things of that nature, and we can talk about that more at another time, but there are criteria.

Gary said okay.

Justin Lester said you know, once they come in and they are successfully housed then they're not coming back. And then the GPD program is, an aspect of that is through job placement, development, things like that. We received that in October of 23, but we didn't have anyone enter the program until January of 24. So, that's one area of development that we're working to build.

Missy said what is that, what does that stand for?

Justin Lester said GPD, grant per diem.

Missy said okay.

Justin Lester said that is one area where we're trying to work with local businesses within the community with job development and DWD. So, that's it from my update. Do you guys have any questions?

Gary said I have.

Justin Lester said several?

Gary said no, not really, but, I think your cause is worthy. I do. I still believe it's in the wrong location, because, I do. I, personally, I just want you to know, I won't be voting to continue your lease where it's at. I, that's just where I'm at. I think we have a, two different things going on. That's a social service center. This is not quite that. This is a like housing resource. I think we have to probably come back around so you guys know what's going on sometime in October or so to see if, two of my colleagues are going to vote to leave you there, but I just want to let you know I'm not. It's not because you're doing anything wrong right now. I believe you're in the wrong spot.

Justin Lester said yeah. And I already knew where you stood, Gary. I knew, I knew that your stance had not changed.

Gary said right, but I want you to understand why it is. The second part of it is that I reviewed your lease agreement with Randolph County and you've been given a \$2.00 square foot lease, and leasing is far much more. I mean that's a lot of money that Randolph County, gets left out of our treasure for that, and that may be something, no matter where you go if you stay or go, your next lease may not be so favorable of \$750.00 a month for 5000 square feet.

Justin Lester said and I think that was set up, Dan and I had talked at length about that, about how much it was, and even when I came on board, I was like really, it's only that much, like it was kind of crazy to me that it was only that much. But from my understanding, it was kind of an understanding between the former commissioners back in 2014 and the Journey Home because we really don't ask the county for money. But that was sort of the donation aspect of it for the cause, was that it would be a watered-down lease as the county to give back to that cause.

Gary said yeah, and that's not a bad thought, really, because I mean, I support veterans too. But that's giving Randolph County taxpayers' money to non-Randolph County veterans. I'd like to see the money that we donate, whether it's in kind, which that is a lot of money, how it gets into our veterans at Randolph County, because VA, the federal government really is supporting this program at full value. They would support you at full lease.

Justin Lester said uh, I mean, so, that's tricky because it's based on bed census and things like that.

Gary said right and why I have some concern on that too. When you need more money, you just go find veterans.

Justin Lester said that's easier said than done, believe me.

Gary said oh, I'm not saying it's easy. I'm just saying it's a thought.

Justin Lester said yeah. It is.

Gary said well that's where I'm at, and I'm not mad at you guys. I think you do a great service, at the wrong place.

Justin Lester said yeah. And we would like you to know, have discussions about that, if our lease is up in December.

Gary said it is.

Justin Lester said I mean, no, our lease being up in December, I'll correct myself. But our lease being up in December, we are going to need time to be able to find another place, I mean to rehab somewhere, probably, you know, things of that nature. So, we would like to open up talks. I'm not asking for a vote today. That's all I'm asking for. It's just time for education within the next couple of months, because October is not going to be okay with the VA because we have to do, they have to do their annual inspection, they have to pass everything, like it's a whole process for them.

Gary said when would you like to get on the agenda to discuss this?

Justin Lester said let me consult with Dan first.

Gary said okay.

Justin Lester said just to make sure that we're in line. But I know they would like us to delve into that with you guys sooner rather than later.

Gary said they being, the board was three people. Have you done any better staying with your board.

Justin Lester said so, Shane Lemaster is now on the board. We have Ean Robertson, Eric Baker, Shane Lemaster, Jack Preston and then they were interviewing a 5th.

Missy said John Stanley is on there too.

Justin Lester said correct.

Gary said and Dan's off the board now?

Justin Lester said yes. He's standing as kind of an offset member, but he's no voting capacity or anything like that.

Gary said okay. Missy?

Missy said I have some, I spoke, I went and met with Dan for about an hour and a half on Friday, asked for a meeting and he was great to go through that with. The same thing I'm going to tell you, I'm sure he's told you that I have concerns about these things, but overall, I like at least, the new leadership that is going to be an improvement. So, job training, I asked about job training and so, tell me about that. I mean, how do we expect, we want, I want, not the same, I'm not going to speak, but I want, the biggest problem we have is people who don't know who to go get a job, don't know how to keep a job, don't know how to. I would be bored stiff if I had to sit in there watching tv all day long. That's one of my concerns. Out of state intakes really concern me, because it is Randolph, I mean the heating, the cooling, the you know, that we're asking constantly out there asking our citizens for donations of food. I personally pulled my car in over, right in front of one of the businesses and had a gentleman on a scooter, I could not get in my car. I couldn't have gotten my car door shut if I had to. I asked him to back up and he, I just need some money, just need some money for food. I finally said I need you to, I'm going to get out of my car. You need to back up and I've seen that. I mean, granted, so, I'm wondering, do they get enough food, I mean, what is the deal and that, you know, that kind of cautioned me to take a little bit of a look. And the financials, if we were to somehow keep this open, and I hope we can, hope we can come up with a solution, I see some good things, but I sure haven't felt very good about it in the last several years, what was going on. I don't want you going to Louisiana and bringing people up from Louisiana to fill beds to meet the quota and then they get kicked out. So, they take them to the hotel, and they're an issue with the hotel I've been told by a police officer. Where is the counselling, where is the, I guess, food, you know, coming from, that they're not going to be out begging for food on the street. And the financials, I want to see your financials every month, where is the money going? To have bought an RV. That's all water under the bridge. We can't stop that. And if we, I mean, and I checked in a lot of those states that I was told they were coming from before, they had VA organizations there that were actually

intakes like we have. So, I'm wondering why are they not getting them to those locations where family might be nearby who could help, because that is a major structure that I don't care what age you are, you need that family structure, or, to create a family structure where they can be. I'm optimistic after talking with Dan Baker on Friday. I want to see some action. Things have got to change. And I know you feel a lot the same way. But I'm like Gary, Randolph County, we owe our people. If we have veterans who needed this or have no issue to say we need to get them some services somewhere. To me, some of the whole system is broken. I mean, I had a friend who needed, somebody they knew had gotten out of jail, went to the Journey Home and they said no, we don't have any beds. So, they called me and I said yeah, they do. I know they do. I was just over there, just was there.

Justin Lester said when was this?

Missy said probably 20, might have been 2022.

Justin Lester said oh, okay.

Missy said okay, yeah. I'm not blaming you or anybody else.

Justin Lester said no, I was just, didn't know when it was.

Missy said I don't want to drag this out, but a long story short, this is how difficult it is for those people if they don't have. So, first thing I told his mother is he needs to get to probation, sign up for probation, go to the Journey Home. He's a veteran, right? Yep. Get to the Journey Home, get someplace to sleep tonight. So, they turned him away. So, he slept on somebody's front porch. Next day, I went over there. Oh no, we do. We have some. I said I know you do, so they took him in. Or no, actually, by that time, we'd got him in over at the Muncie Mission. And of course, he got a job right away, which was great, working nights, it went great. They wouldn't let him sleep during the day. Everybody's out during the day. And you know this is, we're beating these people who want to get help sometimes, it's either the rat race to try to get the door open just to get in to try to get it. So, I'm hoping that the changes, and I know he has a passion for it, Dan does, so, I'm hoping some of these things change. I was bothered and this is just personally that I, I was bothered that we need help to clean up this garden area out here. You've got men inside there. Teach them how to use a shovel. Teach them how to use a rake. Teach them how to clean that stuff up. The way I think, I was raised that way, you work.

Justin Lester said right.

Missy said we've always, you know, you got to work. And whether you're old or young, there's always something you can do. I had other people who, my, you know, some people that takes care of a coffee club once in a while, who was saying why on earth they trying to ask for help, why can't they get out there, their smoking, you know, those are the, those are the images and perceptions that they certainly bother me. I don't like it. But I appreciate you coming. I'm not trying to beat up on you, but I'm going to tell you some of my concerns. Are we making a difference or not? Be like letting kids come into a school and just sitting talking all day long rather than going and doing some work, you know what I mean.

Justin Lester said so, that's one thing with the committees and the community relations. We ask anybody in the community, any community organizations, there was just a face book post about flood clean up that we're trying to get involved with and get some guys out there. We want the guys to be more into the volunteerism if they can't maintain a full-time job, because it is an aging population of veterans that we are talking about. But volunteerism is huge, and that's what we want. We want them to be in the community helping. If they're not from here then they can do their piece and everything else, and not just sit around and watch tv all day. So, we are fully behind that to make sure everybody gets.

Missy said because there're some very big salaries being paid out in this organization.

Justin Lester said well, and yeah.

Missy said \$83,000.00 in my opinion, is a very hefty salary for the last director, and I know that because I did an inquiry and they had to answer some.

Justin Lester said well, and a lot of that is to do with licensing and things like that.

Missy said sure.

Justin Lester said but anyway, so, did you have anything for me, Tom?

Gary said Tom?

Tom said I don't have a lot to add on to what, I agree with Gary that, that's rough looking for a residential type with everything else that's there. But I also, I think a veteran is a veteran. I really don't care where they're from to be honest with you. They're all, all of our veterans. So, from that point of view, it doesn't matter.

Missy said that's a good point, Tom.

Tom said but it's a, it's tough. It is. And like, I think the biggest comment Missy made that's correct is the system is broken. And so, more communication, yeah, I'd love to sit down with you and I was going to get ahold of Daniel also, and we just see where we come to this fall. In the long run, there has to be a better facility because that's just a rough facility for what's that there. But, maybe, I don't know where that is and I'm 100% for anything we can do for veterans.

Justin Lester said so, to that, I appreciate you saying that a veteran is a veteran. That's, I'm kind of cut from the same cloth with that. You know, we're all Americans, that type deal.

Missy said and I agree with that, except tax dollars go for that. So, when Randolph County people ask me why our tax dollars, and that's my only point.

Justin Lester said right, right, right, yeah. So, and then the other thing just in closing to be respectful of everybody's time, is that we are open and we do know that if we would stay that you guys would want to increase, we would just ask for a scaled increase. That way, we can get things in line financially to prepare for the increase when it happens, because our fiscal year starts in January, just like I'm sure you guys' does, so. But I appreciate you guys' time.

Gary said I think you did a fine job bringing this to us.

Justin Lester said thank you.

Brad Mullens – Farmland EMS Building

Gary said Brad Mullen, you asked to be put on the agenda.

Brad Mullen said good morning. Yeah, I was bringing up some of the issues over at the Farmland station, they were having over there. We've had some shingles that's came off. Of course, we had some more come off this weekend with all the winds and stuff that had come in.

Gary said is it all still the coping?

Brad Mullen said yes. We did have a guy come in and looked at the trim around in the garage and didn't find anything wrong with it.

Gary said he is wrong.

Brad Mullen said yeah, I had a big issue with that. I've got pictures here that, I mean, it looks very bad.

Gary said I spoke with Dan from Thor Construction. We're not going to accept, I mean, it's a minor thing, but it also sets the stage.

Brad Mullen said and went around and looked at the brick again and we have more brick that's coming out. It looks like they physically just picked it up and put it back in. There's no mortar on the back of it.

Gary said but before you get started, I'll tell you what I spoke to Dan personally, and then sent him, the stone is not acceptable. The shingles coming off are coping shingles. I also discussed with him that Randy Abel, our building inspector, would be monitoring the frost protection of the water line, when it reaches the ultimate codes that we can use that Randy will sign off. The reason some of that, Randy was off with hip surgery when this thing was being built. We had contracted the inspection. So, that's how that might have gotten by. Both bath stands will be wired properly and they're not. The holes will be patched that were left where they missed the towel bars, and the trim will be mitered. That's what I sent to Thor Construction. He didn't dispute any of it.

Brad Mullen said this weekend there was a gap in the shower where it's not been sealed at the bottom of it and then.

Gary said on the floor?

Brad Mullen said yes. And there was a little hole there, not a hole, but a, where I don't know if it's not been put in right or if that needs to be sealed also.

Gary said I'll have to look at it. And also, Dan did tell me and he's going to reach out to landscapers to get this thing backfilled so he can get that pad down and get our generator and air conditioner on it.

Brad Mullen said I mean, besides that, I mean, it's looking great but the guys are really liking it over there. They feel like they have a station now. They're not stuck in a room.

Gary said sure. That's miles above.

Brad said been very busy. The public's come around and asked, you know, we showed it to the public. They like it. They like us being in town.

Gary said in the grand scheme of things, everything is minor except for the stone and the frost protection. The rest, and it will be fixed.

Tom said and I don't know how they repair that stuff.

Gary said I don't either. I think it's come off and knocked off the mortar and you can stack mortar on to mortar.

Brad Mullen said I mean if you had to, you can just take all of it off and just brick down the siding and make it all siding instead of that rock. I mean, the rock, I think, is going to be a problem well down the road.

Gary said it shouldn't be though. It should be, it should be acceptable, because they put it on.

Brad Mullen said my big concern is when it was done, it was 18 degrees out there.

Gary said well, it was, and they were nailing on three quarter plywood on the inside at the same time with air guns, and blowing it off and, I was standing there when a big chunk fell off.

Tom said there're additives they can put in to work at that temperature.

Gary said there is.

Tom said buy, obviously, we have issues.

Gary said right. He's well aware of it and he's also well aware that we're going the stand our ground on it.

Brad Mullen said I mean eventually, I'd like to have a meeting with you guys and to go over do our final walk through.

Gary said there will be because we have a contingency hold.

Brad Mullen said so everybody can see yes, this stuff has been fixed, it's up to what we expected and he could be there with us if we find something that's not been up to par.

Gary said right. Randolph County, we have mechanisms to make sure we get what we paid for. Anything else?

Brad Mullen said that's all.

Gary said I think the layout is fine. Everything is, it's in operation, which is great and we'll get this fixed.

Tom said how's your staffing?

Brad Mullen said good. We've hired one and we're looking to have two more interviews this week. We're running great. I mean, hadn't had to turn any trucks down. We're keeping them very busy lately. And we're getting into our busy season with you know, the race track coming up and stuff like that.

Gary said what do you think about the morgue layout?

Brad Mullen said it's going to be tight. It'll be kind of tight on the sides of not having enough room over there.

Gary said for the property line?

Brad Mullen said yeah.

Gary said where, it's being surveyed as part of this. We can't guess. We have to know some of the state perimeter.

Brad Mullen said I know that the guy was there doing measurements for the HVAC and stuff like that, and that was one of his concerns. He thought it would be kind of tight, but he couldn't tell until it's actually surveyed and stuff like that.

Gary said yeah. We can't even begin to get a state print until it's surveyed that proves you know we are allowed to be right there. But other than that part, the flow in the interior and all that doesn't bother, I mean, it's good with you?

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

Gary said I haven't spoken, have you spoke to Darrin and since?

Tom said no.

Gary said alright. In fairness to Brad called me and said I forgot to get with Laura to get on the agenda.

Brad Mullen said thank you.

Bob McCoy and Missy Williams - Blight

Gary said Bob, Mayor McCoy and Missy, you're involved in this. Are you going to sit there or go over there?

Missy said I'll sit right here. I think Bob can handle it.

Bob McCoy said anyway, kind of went down a big rabbit hole when I started this.

Missy said it's a good rabbit hole to go down.

Bob McCoy said but this one really hit me hard when it came across my email. So, blight properties for just taxes owed. And I think, I don't know who said it, but somebody said Randolph County is the place to come. So, now they're having seminars to tell people how to buy these properties. And the one thing that really got me was how to get 16 to 25% return on real investment without being a landlord or any renovations. So, this little yellow sign, has anybody seen any of them around town before, around communities? 5424 McFarland Road. That seems to pop up everywhere that yellow sign pops up. Now, multiple LLCs, they're all tied to land trust. They all come back to the same name, a guy named Nathan McCain, all over the state. I think we have 18 of them in Winchester. Something that really caught my eye was all these properties have been cited at one time or another for their land trust, and LLC, whoever. Leadership 101 is another one out of Leavenworth, Kansas. It's been cited. PD23 out of Buford, Georgia, we've cited that one before. They have 10 in Winchester. Floyd Swaidan out of Marathon, Florida. There're 7 over the county. We have 3 or 4 here. I just saw where a lot of his properties already went to tax sale again. So, we just keep playing that game. One of the newer ones, which I just gave you guys a little bit of a newspaper article was about a company called New Ikaga LLC. They purchased a property in Losantville recently. I talked to Bonesteel, one of the officers, I think Parker, that handles Losantville as well. They're having a problem with the property, 109 Cherry. This company had bought it. There's already an article about the guy that owns that company about how things are a little shaky as far as how they do their business and how they create multiple LLCs, and such worth and such worth. We wrote up about 300 cases since I've been mayor, just on blight and trying to deal with it. It's a revolving door. We get one person in, we cite them, they clean up for a little while, property flips again, just so forth, so forth. We've got new players coming on board. Running Pair LLC just popped up recently.

Meeks said so the problem is they're buying those at tax sale?

Bob McCoy said yes.

Meeks said so you just don't do a minimum bid anymore. Just do the bid for what the taxes are for the second sale. SRI doesn't like it, they want the \$150 for the minimum bid. Your minimum bid can be whatever, 80% of the taxes, whatever.

Bob McCoy said well, and I don't, I mean, they've.

Meeks said then, at least the county would get paid on the taxes. What will happen is though, it won't put it, no one would buy it at tax sale, and then the commissioners will have to have the community, the Winchester, Union City, whoever, to be willing to take those properties and take them on.

Bob McCoy said I think the way to resolve the issue is we don't have tax sales.

Meeks said but we have to have a tax sale. The first one we do.

Bob McCoy said do we, or can the Commissioners step in and say hey, I don't know the legality of it, but the problem is they're buying them, they're sitting on them and they're not paying.

Meeks said but they're buying them for a 150 bucks at tax sale. They're buying at the second tax sale, certificate sale.

Bob McCoy said at the certificate sale for 200.

Meeks said the certificate sale.

Laura said 200.

Meeks said is it 200, it used to be 150.

Laura said minimum bid is 200. And commissioners set that minimum bid.

Meeks said yeah, and you guys set the minimum. So, what's happening is they have the first tax sale. And I totally doubt at the first tax sale these are the ones you're complaining about.

Laura said minimum bid at the first tax sale is the amount of taxes owed.

Meeks said is the taxes. Is your delinquent taxes owed.

Laura said and if it doesn't sell there, then it goes to Commissioners certificate sale, which as of right now is a \$200.00 minimum bid.

Meeks said yeah.

Laura said you guys set that annually.

Meeks said yeah. I think you have to do the first tax sale for sure. So, the certificate sale, if you say our minimum bid is the taxes owed, what'll happen then is if no one buys it, because they're picking these up for cheap. That's what they're doing.

Bob McCoy said oh yeah.

Meeks said I mean, these won't be cheap anymore. These will be for what the taxes are owed. Already didn't go for taxes, so, you already know the first time it hasn't gone for taxes. Highly doubt the second time it's going to go for taxes, means you have another 6 months of taxes to add on to it.

Bob McCoy said well like the last tax sale we had on, well March 6th, Peedee23 picked up 18 of them in the county.

Meeks said yeah and that was at the certificate sale, right?

Bob McCoy said yeah, \$200.00.

Meeks said but for \$200.00.

Bob McCoy said so they picked up 18 of them. I mean, drive around and look at the properties they picked up. I mean, I'm not the brightest person when it comes to investments, but that's not an investment. I don't know what you want to call it.

Meeks said so, if the commissioners say okay we're going to then, you know, do it for what the taxes are owed, and that doesn't go to sale, then at that point, you can transfer it to the municipalities. And that's what we've been doing in the past.

Bob McCoy said we got 3 of them the last time.

Meeks said and Union City got a couple, and I forget.

Bob McCoy said right.

Meeks said but if you did that, then you're going to have all these properties with delinquent taxes but that, you're going to have to, something you're going to have to deal with, or have the cities deal with it.

Bob McCoy said but the taxes are basically liens, for the most part.

Meeks said it's a tax lien.

Bob McCoy said and they're not tax liens, they're sewage, mowing and everything else. And they do come back to the cities, but I mean, I would rather just have the property and deal with it on our level if we had some sort of assistance to get it tore down, because most of these

properties, no matter whether it's first tax sale or second tax sale, are not worthy of anybody living in.

Meeks said it cost what, how much does it cost to tear one down, 15,000?

Bob McCoy said anywhere between 10 and 15. I mean, we could get where we could contract somebody, get a contractor and take more than one down at one time. I mean, I just, I think it's, we're turning in, I mean, I love it, the fact that people want to invest in our community.

Missy said they don't want to invest though.

Bob McCoy said but this is not, this is not an investment. And we keep going back to cultivating communities. First two things, housing, blight. We can talk about it all we want, but we're not doing anything. We're just sitting there letting it happen. And these properties keep growing and growing. So, we've got a lot of people from out of state. They own a lot of property here that's not even occupied for the most part.

Gary said so, if we take the attitude of after the first sale, if we don't get the taxes owed, that the commissioners don't even let it go to the second sale?

Meeks said well you could, I think you have to go through that second sale.

Gary said but taxes owed, you don't have to go to a 200 minimum?

Meeks said I think you have to go to a second sale before the commissioners can.

Gary said but you can still request taxes owed?

Meeks said oh yeah, you can, it's.

Gary said once we pass a proper procedure.

Meeks said the minimum big would be what the taxes are, your minimum bid would be whatever the.

Gary said no matter what, okay. Would the cities rather have them?

Bob McCoy said I would say yes. But, it gets very expensive. We get them, and then I've got to invest 4 to \$600.00 to have a title search done on it, mailing has got to go out, and all that other stuff, and then we get to eventually take possession in 120 I think.

Meeks said yeah, 120.

Bob McCoy said on a certificate. I want to send a message, say hey, we're not, this is not what we want to do for business. We want to bring business in.

Gary said I agree.

Bob McCoy said I mean, this is, it's getting to the point where it's ridiculous that we keep talking about it and then you know, part of that is business retention and expansion. We're not going to expand and bring business in if they continue to look around the county and see houses that are in disrepair. And even, I think we brought up before about enforcement. There's still a house out on new 27, out by the storage buildings that's been, I think, I was a kid and that house was falling apart. It's still out there. I don't know who owns it, but that thing should have been demoed a long time ago.

Missy said to me, the issue Bob, and I know I have kind of harped to you about this maybe too much, you've, tired of hearing me on this one is, I'll give you an example. The big house where the American Legion used to house, they sold that. Just right across from the jail. So, there's 1673.

Bob McCoy said yeah, got that sign out there. I knew who bought it.

Missy said taxes owed on that. Taxes haven't been paid since the American Legion sold it. It's, they went in and did, they say some repairs. The front door was open. I went in and it's not safe to be even walking in there right now. I, two or three steps and, but it's like that. So, if I'm the neighbor and I want it, you want me to buy a house, why am I going to buy a house next to something like that? Because what happens is, people move in, unhoused people move in. They sometimes start a fire to try to stay warm inside those places. They put slop buckets on the back porch or the front porch. It just continues on. The grass is never mowed. So, I had two retired people, a couple who wanted to return back to Winchester. And I had known them really well from years ago. So, I think your mom knows them really well too. I think she might have had lunch with them. So, I said hey yeah, we'll drive around Winchester and see what you see and by the end of the day they said I'm not, we're not interested. I mean, it's just the empty houses are getting to be too much. Where I wanted to or we used to live, it's nothing like a neighborhood. I mean some of them are still really well kept, but then that one that's thrown right in beside you, I think we've got to try to do some cleanup. That's where I'm at to let people know we're going to have safe neighborhoods also.

Bob McCoy said well, I think, and it goes back to, and I'm not putting anything on Laura, but it comes back to the Auditor when it comes to them purchasing tax sales. And I really question, and this is why it came up because most things you read about some of these LLCs is they're hiding behind one person, and that person is making these purchases basically, under false pretenses. And you go back like, I gave you that article about that one.

Meeks said well we can't, , it's not Laura. It's just, if you come in here and say.

Bob McCoy said no, no, no, but I mean, when you get into Indiana Code, it says the auditor has the right to reject or turn down a property bid. And Lake County right now is saying they're wanting to amend their bidding process, basically, to state bidders may not bid on behalf or at the direction of any person or entity.

Laura said SRI take certifications and they told a guy that he had to provide his ID because he didn't have the certification for his company. And, so, you have to do your ID and you have to fill out the paperwork in your personal name. And so, they do vet them to some extent but if they have the certification, then, how do you tell them they can't bid?

Bob McCoy said no, you're right. I mean, I, but I think they're basically circumventing the process.

Gary said okay. So, I think what we can do is to begin a new process, legally, and the way to probably do it, if we can get away from the \$200.00 minimum bids and get it into the commissioners' hands to get it to the communities, I'm even in favor there's a \$500,000.00 Blight grant out there, a 10% match, of using EDIT funds to match that to get this thing started. But we, you know, obviously, everybody knows we've got to follow the statutes and how it goes. We can't discriminate from one buyer to the other one. We've just got to make it.

Meeks said well you can specifically do per, like property, you can change bid, you can do it minimum bid on one, but the next one you don't have to do a minimum bid on it. It doesn't have to be a blank \$200.00 minimum bid or whatever. What my suggestion would be when the certificate comes back around, you make sure the cities have that information of what's in their city. They can go and see if they want those properties and then let you know hey, we need a bid, we need a minimum bid or you know, or not, on these because there's going to be a good 20, I bet you a page that's not in any city, that's just in the county, that you guys would say okay, we're going to do, now that's you guys' problem, what's the county going to do about that?

Bob McCoy said well currently the process, I mean, we kind of get a heads up what's on there, and I think I already, Danita or Laura or whoever or you guys say hey, we'll take them, don't even bother listing them. So, we've already kind of beat that process, but I think we need to somehow take it another step further to, I mean, they are buying those properties in that first tax sale and paying the taxes.

Meeks said then we have to allow a taxpayer that opportunity to come in. The taxpayer can then come and they have a year to redeem it.

Bob McCoy said exactly, exactly. And the certificate, they've got a 120 days.

Meeks said yeah. That's a statutory process and we really have to offer it for tax sale.

Bob McCoy said and then you know, if we can get a blight program for tear down, maybe, and I've talked to Rolland Abraham a little bit, you know the schools are slowly getting into some programming, maybe in some home building, we could somehow work with the school, say hey, put a house on this lot. And the problem right now being, talked to many people, you guys aren't building anything affordable. Well, the builders are building what people are asking for. I totally get the statement that you're not building what's affordable, but if we can get somebody involved that could build some affordable housing in some of these neighborhoods, and something that would blend with the neighborhood, then that would be great because then we're helping the

first-time home buyer and things like that. I just want the conversation started because I think, and I put, like I said, I'm, and people tell me not to say this, I'm done after this term.

Gary said I understand where you're at.

Bob McCoy said well I am, I am but, I'm going to spend my balance of my time trying to figure out this whole blight thing and stop it because it's ruining communities. It's ruining, it's not just Winchester and Union City, it's everywhere.

Gary said I'm game to help you for sure.

Bob McCoy said okay.

Gary said before we get, Steve Shoemaker is here from the city of Union City. Would you like to come up and say anything about this?

Steve Shoemaker said I've got 10 houses right now.

Gary said you have to come up. You have to come up so we can get you on the record.

Tom said I think we need to come up with money, even with grants, I mean, through EDIT, or whatever, even with grants, without grants, to, you know it's part of that initial step of matching what you're paying to get title searches and all that.

Missy said Steve, if you'd start with the one, the rock house, I mean, to renovate our community and you've got a blighted home next to that, you're never going to get anybody to buy, I mean.

Steve Shoemaker said owned by Floyd Swaidan of Marathon Florida. The city has, at a minimum right now, 10 homes that we need to demo and remove from our community. A couple years ago I went and got detailed bids on having that work done. It's over a \$100,000.00 to remove the ten homes that we have. So, we try to do it as we have funds available, but it's an uphill battle, and as Bob stated, the battle is getting more and more complicated to do things with, because the homes that are delinquent and are being cited on a regular basis are just growing exponentially, year after year. So, the city has control of 10 that we, that are on the demo process, but it's, if we get 1 or 2 done a year, that's a good year for us.

Gary said right. And actually, a \$100,000.00 for 10 homes is a pretty good big.

Steve Shoemaker said it is.

Gary said yeah. And I guess I'll just say about the affordable housing, I don't know for sure everybody understands, the breakeven cost of building the house is not affordable to some citizens.

Bob McCoy said yeah, you're exactly right. That's what I mean like getting the school or somebody like that involved, maybe we could start popping a few smaller affordable homes for first-time homebuyers.

Gary said well, to move this meeting on, I think it's, I'm in favor of starting to work on this blight. I'm in favor of putting dollars up to help with this blight. Tom?

Tom said I very much agree.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said absolutely.

Gary said so, I think you know, to keep this moving, you know, we'll do what's next. We'll get with Meeks, our attorney and find ways to get these properties turned back over to the government entities and not let them get out. We've got to do it according to Statute, legally.

Steve Shoemaker said that's another concern. We have had homes that were bad enough that we had no choice but to tear them down. And when we do that, and we don't own the property, now we have yellow signs on vacant lots and adjoining properties can't have any benefit of the property. There can be no development. They won't sell the property. They won't turn it over. They won't do anything. They basically don't respond if you're a government entity.

Gary said right.

Missy said I don't think they respond to anybody.

Gary said okay. Well to keep it moving, I hear everybody, I agree. I think the commissioners all agree. Meeks will make sure we do it right.

Bob McCoy said like I said, I went down a rabbit hole looking at one particular company that I mean, I feel that they're playing the game, the newspaper article, the add out how to tell people how to buy a property and not be a landlord and not put any money in it. That's exactly what's going on. I mean, and like Steve said, it's everywhere.

Missy said well the other thing, if you walk, I mean, you walk a lot, Steve, I know you're over there in your community, kids love to go in those old houses.

Gary said oh my gosh.

Missy said and believe me, they won't, if they get injured or get, that floor falls through or whatever else, they're not going to be able to go back on those landlords. They're not going to be able to find them either.

Bob McCoy said and then State Legislature, I just saw a Senate bill that's going through right now on unsafe structures where they're going to give people more time to respond to a court

order. So, I talked to JD and he said well, the people in Indianapolis are overzealous with enforcement, so we're going to give them now 90 days. He said but he thinks they're going to tweak it, but, I mean, we know how long it takes something to go through court. I mean, I just spent a year on a property that I'm finally going to get cleaned up maybe tomorrow. But, who knows?

Gary said okay. I appreciate you bringing it to the forefront. That's where it's got to start.

Tom said where do we have to start on going after that grant, to the grant money?

Gary said I can tell RCU in the meeting that we want to pursue this.

Tom said and we'll match.

Gary said yeah, and we'll match.

Steve Shoemaker said that blight clearance program, we did that for the coroner there next to the city building. That's what that was. That's through OCRA.

Gary said if we were to get that \$500,000.00 I mean, I would look at a plan that you know, proportions off you know, Union City, Winchester, one per town.

Steve Shoemaker said that would help tremendously if we could do that collectively.

Bob McCoy said residential blight?

Gary said yeah.

Steve Shoemaker said yeah.

Bob McCoy said okay. That would be great.

Steve Shoemaker said it's through OCRA.

Gary said yeah, it's 500,000.

Missy said and the nice thing is with their new director over, Sydney, I can't pronounce her last name, she knows tons about grants. I think we need to get her involved too.

Steve Shoemaker said well we just navigated it, so, we'll be happy to help with the grant.

Gary said thank you.

Other Business:

Art Movstner, Randolph County Sheriff

Gary said alright. We need to go on to other business. Art. Sheriff. Good morning.

Art Moystner said morning. A very quick update for you.

Gary said and it's fair to say that on our May the 19th agenda will be the jail project and the funding.

Art Moystner said sure. And I plan on trying to be there.

Gary said send somebody in your stead, like Ken maybe?

Art Moystner said if I'm not there, somebody will be there, but I should be able to make that one. Just a real quick update. The GPS system, we've got the bugs worked out of it. We've started implementing it into the vehicles. There're a few things that we want to tweak with regard to mapping and figuring how exactly it works so we can get the most of it. But that's working. So, other than that, that's all I have for you guys today unless you have questions for me.

Gary said I do not. Thanks for the report.

Art Moystner said you're welcome.

Missy said I've got a question. There is no ordinance on golf courses on county roads is there?

Gary said golf carts?

Missy said yeah.

Art Moystner said there is not an ordinance for it, but it would be a slow-moving vehicle, and it I illegal for them to operate because it would be a motor vehicle, and therefore, it would need to be registered.

Gary said yeah.

Art Moystner said when the county did their ordinance, we specifically discussed an ordinance similar to Winchester's for golf carts. I asked the county specifically to leave golf carts out of it. I believe that is a hazard.

Meeks said there's an ATV one though.

Art Moystner said we do have an ATV. We kept it to side-by-sides and ATVs because we did not want those slow-moving golf carts operating on county roads, because the last thing we need is a slow-moving golf cart at the bottom of the hill a fast-moving vehicle come over the top.

Missy said and that happens.

Art Moystner said it does. So, no, we do not. It would be illegal for them to operate on a county road or a state highway.

Gary said a golf cart.

Art Moystner said a golf cart.

Missy said so they can't be on 32, although, I think the city ordinance says they can be on 32 to get connecting.

Tom said crossing.

Art Moystner said I think they can cross, but I think if you operate along it, it would be in violation of state law unless the law has changed.

Gary said I'm thinking so. It's in violation of state law to run an ATV down a state road.

Art Moystner said correct.

Gary said even in a ditch.

Art Moystner said incorrect. You are allowed to operate it on the unused portion of a highway if the state right-of-way would be wide enough you could safely do so, but you have to be registered through DNR.

Gary said I was misinformed but thank you.

Tom said how do we get people informed? There, I mean people need, there're golf carts around our, you know, I live in Jackson township, on the county roads all the time out there.

Art Moystner said the best I could do at this point in time is to put it out on social media unless we would ask Director Shaneyfelt to put it out in a, some type of a hyper reach.

Tom said I think we need to both.

Art Moystner said that way it would be a hyper alert. One of the things that I'm working on if I can figure out funding for it is I would like a, they call it a sheriff's app that would go on smart phones that does instant notifications, and I would like to do that in conjunction with Homeland Security, with Shaneyfelt. But, the startup for that is about 15,000. So, I have not been able to find the funds for that. So, if you guys come up with any ideas, I'd entertain those.

Gary said we might.

Art Moystner said I think it would be, one of the things I've noticed with hyper reach, I guess, since you've opened this door a little bit for me, one of the things I've noticed with hyper reach was they sent out a warning, just this past storm, and my son's hyper reach went off and mine didn't set off for 4 full minutes after his went off. I think there's, I think that's a pretty big delay, especially if you get into a tornado situation, which we experienced last year. And one of the comments I heard from a few people, not very many, but I'd heard a few say that they didn't get

their alert until that tornado was hitting Winchester and we'd actually put out an alert when it was on the west side of the county. So, that's a significant delay. And from what I hear with the sheriff's app, those alerts would go out a lot faster.

Gary said yeah, on this one here, my wife, actually, hers went off before mine did. But I was more comfortable with the one that was for hyper reach.

Art Moystner said I think there have been some issues. Those do have an annual fee for those, and if we did an app locally through Homeland and the sheriff's office, your initial startup of 15,000 and then I think it's 4 or 5,000 a year, so it would be comparable to those others. But we could actually use it as an emergency broadcast within Randolph County.

Gary said which in today's day and age, we all carry phones. Why wouldn't we? We can talk about that at another meeting.

Art Moystner said we can do that, absolutely. So, if you guys don't have anything else.

Gary said I do not. Anybody?

Art Moystner said thank you.

Gary said thank you.

Minutes of March 17, 2025

Gary said minutes for the March 17, 2025. Everybody's had a copy of the email, if there're isn't any corrections. Somebody like to make a motion to accept?

Tom made a motion to accept. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$356,727.51

Gary said next is the payroll claims, \$356,727.51. Somebody like to make a motion to approve?

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Regular Claims \$975,538.91

Gary said followed by regular claims, \$975,538.91.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Leap Firewall claim \$30,642.91

Gary said Leap Firewall claim.

Laura said Mike came a couple weeks ago, sat over there and talked to you guys about this. This is just the actual claim.

Gary said so this is the?

Laura said where they updated the firewall for us and.

Gary said okay. Somebody like to make a motion to approve this claim, \$30,642.91?

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Forum of Funders Claim \$20,000

Gary said okay, Forum of Funders Claim for \$20,000.00, 10,000 for the commissioners and 10,000 for the council. How long does this go on?

Laura said this is the last year.

Gary said okay. Somebody like to make a motion to approve this?

Missy said did everyone else get a list of the claims on what they have paid out?

Gary said I don't remember if I did.

Missy said I should have forwarded it to you, or had Laura forward it to you. So, they have paid out some of that funding. So, I'd make a motion we approve. I've got a list of what they have paid out and I should have gotten that to Laura to get to you guys.

Gary said okay. So, you made the motion?

Missy said I did.

Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said on another discussion whether we continue on, we'll talk some.

Tom said yeah.

Missy said yeah.

Butler Fairman & Seufert (airport) Claim \$5,103.25

Gary said okay. Butler Fairman & Seufert airport claim, \$5,103.25. That's for the engineering work on, that's their airport contract.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Butler Fairman & Seufert (Vision Trail) claim \$1,100.00

Gary said and then another Butler Fairman & Seufert claim, that's the vision trail claim. I think that's probably the last claim right now, up to date where we're at, I feel like.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said the vision trail comes up later on down, so, we'll get to that.

Tax Refund Claim \$2,580.73

Gary said tax refund claim, 2,580.73. The math didn't add up to me on what they sent to me. I don't know how they came up with \$2,000.00.

Laura said when Tim made this out, he said that the assessment was wrong, apparently.

Gary said yeah, I get all that. It looked like they paid 4,000 and anyway, I didn't come up with 2,000.

Laura said they paid over \$7,000.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randolph County Procurement Policy

Gary said okay, the Randolph County Procurement Policy. This is the Federal grant procurement policy we have to add to our current system controls, right?

Laura said yep.

Gary said everybody had a chance to review it?

Tom said yes.

Missy said yeah.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Leap monthly increase

Gary said okay, the Leap monthly increase.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Copier quotes

Gary said the copier quotes.

Laura said I think I sent you two different quotes.

Gary said I know you did.

Laura said and we don't really have to decide this today. I had requested three quotes but the other company has not submitted. They're actually the first one I asked.

Gary said so, we're okay with,

Laura said yeah, these leases expire in August.

Gary said oh, let's go to the next meeting.

Laura said okay. Move to the next meeting.

Lifestream Authorizing Resolution

Gary said Lifestream Authorization Resolution. I've looked at it. It's the same as.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Right stuff quote

Gary said Right stuff quote.

Laura said these are for new time clocks. We had two in stock.

Gary said clocks themselves or updates?

Laura said actual clocks.

Gary said okay.

Laura said and we had two in stock, and we put one at the highway and I can't remember where the second one was installed. We've installed two. To get the other ten that we need the cost is \$2,500 apiece, which is \$25,000.

Gary said why do we need them?

Laura said well we updated our right stuff system last year. And they said they could make the old time clocks work with it, which they have, but those time clocks have been here since 2012. They're wearing out. People's fingerprints are not working. So, we've installed two new ones, sheriff's department is the other one we installed. And so, to get enough to correct.

Gary said are you recommending this?

Laura said yes.

Gary said okay. \$25,000.00 for ten new time clocks, recommended by the auditor.

Laura said and where do they want to pay for them from?

Gary said County General.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

RCU contract

Gary said RCU contract. We have a new contract. They're aware of the revisions and the changes. We went over closely. And it recognizes the \$35,000.00 cut to, from County Council and it also recognizes the, that that money was paid up to right now at last year's rate, so the rate's been reduced accordingly. So, would someone like to make a motion to approve the new contract for the change in contract for RCU until the end of the EDIT. We have another year after this year. This reflects everything we talked about and went through and changed.

Missy said I thought it did.

Gary said it says the time, this particularly goes through this year and then it picks up and goes into 2026. This year is a little different because they were overpaid because we didn't get the contract changed. They didn't do anything wrong. We just had to adjust it. And the council has not set the \$35,000.00 in the next year reduction. So, it could go back. It may not go back. So, this basically finishes this year accurately. Would that be correct, Meeks?

Meeks said and it reflects what the council. Well, it's subject to the appropriation of the county council for next year.

Gary said right.

Meeks said but it's set that rate of what it was, should have been for this year.

Gary said right. So, if County Council remains at that.

Meeks said remains at the same funding as this year, it reflects it.

Gary said so, we have a motion, we have a second. Everybody understand that?

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks said now, will you get that over there to them? Are you on the board?

Gary said I'm on the board, I can get it to them at the board meeting.

Meeks said that would be great.

Gary said let them know they can pick it up at the auditor's office.

Meeks said either or, just so long that they have it.

Gary said they get it.

Meeks said yeah, they get it and it gets signed.

Vision Trail Discussion

Gary said Vision Trail discussion. I asked Meeks to look into something and he's advised that we pull the minutes and have those minutes read by everybody, and I think we probably need to discuss this in its own session, because the trail plan has changed so much. And then when it was funded, it was funded in a different trail. And it took the council, equal authority, as the commissioners to do that. So, to ask the commissioners just to come up and change it before the council, I don't think is the right thing to do. I think we all ought to look at it again. Meeks, what do you think?

Meeks said yeah. When we talked, I meant to email you Laura, but Gary and I talked Friday. So, I didn't get it to you. My thought is to get the minutes to see exactly what was voted on, because I, if it was that specific trail, then they probably need to get an amended, if it's just for trails, just some general, you know, here's money for trails, then probably does not need amended. So, thought it would be a good idea to get the minutes and get it to everybody, then we could look at it.

Gary said so if we get them this week, we'll be able to revisit this at the next commissioners' meeting before it advances to the joint meeting.

Meeks said and then we can get those minutes to the council.

Laura said so, we're going to add it to the agenda for the joint and table it until the next meeting?

Meeks said I'm pretty sure it's specific, but there're was so much discussed at that meeting. I just, probably a better idea to get and read them.

Gary said I think the exact route was in there.

Meeks said I think you are correct.

Gary said yep. But anyway, that's the proper avenue to take. On that same thought, Monroe Central has put out RAZ32 recognition. I called Adrian Moulton, that that recognition should equally go to the Randolph County Council, as that particular fund took the authority of both bodies.

Laura said yeah. He sent me an email to send it to the council and I've already done it.

Substance abuse

Gary said Substance abuse.

Laura said Missy asked to have that added. But I had sent you some information on some grant funding I think.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I can't even remember what I did. I'll have to bring it back up.

Gary said can we move on for now?

Missy said yep, move on.

Resolution 2025-14

Gary said Resolution 2025-14, EMS surplus property. This is about the ambulance we discussed. So, we need to pass resolution 2025-14, a resolution to declare certain personal property of Randolph County, Indiana, as unneeded and to be considered surplus property for disposal.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Additional Appropriations:

CCD-Commissioner

Computer Equipment Repair	\$30,000.00
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Gary said and then on Additional Appropriations, CCD future equipment repair. And this is related to LEAP firewall?

Laura said yes.

Gary said okay.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

CCD-Sheriff

Computer/Video Equipment	\$23,669.25
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Gary said Sheriff computer/video equipment \$23,669.

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Highway 1176

Overtime	\$15,000.00
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Gary said Highway 1176, overtime payout. Is this for a payout?

Laura said no, this is Jay and Nathan

Gary said are going on?

Laura said yeah, to add to their line because they're running out.

Gary said yeah, and then it continued through this weekend. So, we need a motion to add \$15,000.00 to the overtime for highway 1176. It would be out of their surplus funding I would suspect.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

EDIT

Playground Paradise

\$10,000.00

Gary said EDIT, playground, \$10,000.00. We've already threw that in the EDIT board. Somebody like to make a motion for the appropriation?

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Missy said and they did meet that max, is that correct? We know that for sure?

Gary said I don't know about the \$40,000.00 one.

Laura said the \$40,000 is not getting it paid out. It's just putting it there, so if they do meet the match then, we'll have the money to pay them.

Headwaters I

Playground Paradise

\$40,000.00

Gary said this is for the \$40,000. So, this particular appropriation will only be let go once they match, and their match is 80,000 to this 40.

Laura said correct.

Gary said okay. Somebody like to make a motion to approve this appropriation?

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Children's Advocate

Coordinator Fee

\$12,000.00

Gary said Children's Advocate. This is

Laura said yeah, it's for grant money.

Gary said for grant money? Somebody like to make a motion for this appropriation?

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Health Department

Social Security

\$35.00

Medicare

\$ 9.00

Office Supplies

\$24,956.00

Gary said next one is for the Health Department. Which one is this for? Is this Health grant? It doesn't say. It just says Health Department. Usually, it's the grant.

Laura said Sherri is still here. It's the grant she said.

Gary said is that the grant?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary said would you put them on there when you're going that when it's for the grant versus? Thank you.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Gary said any citizens left that would like to comment before we go around? Come on up.

Brian Orr said I actually came in to see Mr. Thornburg. Okay. My name is Brian Orr.

Gary said Brian Orr?

Brian Orr said yes. And I have, I've been having a problem. I've lived in my house for 20 years and I've had a flooding issue in my back yard forever. And this past Wednesday, from Wednesday until Saturday or Sunday, my back yard is flooded, my basement has got, or not my basement, I don't have a basement. My garage has got 5 inches of water in it, and I normally put sump pumps out in my yard. And I run the hoses out to the street, or the hose out to the street. My concern was that if I leave it out all night long and somebody walking down the sidewalk, we have no lights on our street. Somebody trips over that, I'm going to be in a lawsuit. And so, I don't know what to do. I came last year to see Mr. Thornburg and he wasn't in. So, I don't know what to do.

Gary said I don't either. I'll be honest.

Meeks said where do you live?

Brian Orr said Western Avenue, right across the street from the cemetery. We got hit by the tornado.

Meeks said do you live in the city of Winchester?

Brian Orr said yes, I do.

Missy said you need to take that to the city.

Meeks said you'll want to talk to the, talk to Ed, but talk to the Wastewater Superintendent, Chris Martin.

Brian Orr said okay, because that was my biggest concern.

Meeks said the city would not, the county doesn't have any jurisdiction.

Brian Orr said okay. I don't know what I'm here for. I know I just came to see him. This is my first time.

Gary said it's a good start, now you do.

Missy said you've got to start somewhere.

Meeks said Ed would have that information. So, you need to talk to him.

Brian Orr said I'll wait on him, okay.

Gary said anything else?

Brian Orr said thank you.

Gary said thank you for coming. Anybody else? Missy?

Missy Williams-State Fire Marshal complaint and Camp Yale visit

Missy said nope. Well, yeah, I do. Yeah, I do. Received some information the state fire marshal. Since we don't have code enforcement, that falls back to the commissioners and didn't know if that's something we want to discuss today or?

Gary said I informed Meeks about it. It's a maintenance issue.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said we have an inspector. Randy is an inspector. We don't have a line item, nor the personnel for enforcement. Meeks, you want to?

Meeks said it sounded like to me from what I read it is a landlord/tenant issue. And they wanted us to get involved in that. But certainly, what the complaint, from what I read, those people have, you know, you can go to court and things and enforce that through there. But we, at this point, I'm not sure if we, we really don't have anything. The county would have to probably, you know, spend money on an enforcement officer, and then, is that an unincorporated part in Albany?

Gary said Lynn, I think it was.

Meeks said oh, I thought it was Albany.

Gary said well, that was the first part of that letter that didn't mean anything. That was at Redkey.

Meeks said oh, Redkey.

Laura said I highlighted the part that pertained to us.

Meeks said I kept reading the Redkey stuff. I, well, I'll have to re-read it then. Is that in Lynn?
Gary said it's the same in Lynn. It's about a short in a switch.

Laura said it's an apartment building in Lynn.

Meeks said in Lynn. So, that would go to the Lynn city. The city of Lynn can have, you know, I know Union City does, I know Winchester has certain building codes.

Gary said I think the commissioners, we are responsible when there needs to be an enforcement, but I don't believe we need to be down when it's a landlord won't do. A switch can fail. That's just equipment failure. That is not a failure of code, right off the bat.

Meeks said and that would go to Lynn anyway. You have to look at the Lynn ordinance and go with that.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said but as far as the inspector though, that's unified.

Meeks said Lynn could have their own inspector.

Gary said oh, yeah, like Union City does.

Laura said so, do I need to forward that information to Lynn or?

Meeks said I would.

Laura said forward it to Lynn?

Meeks said yeah, I would.

Gary said to get a code enforcement officer, would take a line set up, enforcement funds put in it.

Meeks said and that wouldn't, and they wouldn't be enforcing code within the cities. It would be just within the county. The unincorporated parts of the county.

Gary said good point. Anything else on that thought?

Missy said just really quick. I was, I kind of have been doing some research on this, and I was instructed by somebody from the state that we probably should have somebody within Randolph County or the City, however we work this together. We know there are buildings, houses that are not safe, and perhaps the tenants complain and say they won't do anything. Then what's your recourse? You know, we don't have a code enforcement. I don't know if that's something we could add into a responsibility?

Gary said I don't know. They do have some recourse in court, right?

Missy said right.

Tom said Union City will do inspections.

Meeks said Union City is doing it right now.

Tom said they are doing it right now.

Missy said who is doing that, Tom?

Tom said they have somebody within the city and I don't know if they call him an ordinance officer or whatever.

Missy said I was told there is some instruction you can get to learn what the programming is, and then I've heard of the city can come up with their own.

Tom said Union City requires when you change the water bill over on, for a tenant, before they hook the water up or switch over to somebody's name, that they inspect it if it's a rental. That's how they do it.

Meeks said and a change in ownership, right?

Tom said probably a change in ownership too.

Meeks said both of those.

Gary said we do have to have a fall back if something really does get to that level.

Missy said yeah, yeah. And just very quickly, I was invited to come out to Camp Yale, it's been a couple of weeks ago now with a teacher from Deerfield. She wanted to do, basically, a girls on the run program, but they're not doing that because it's pretty expensive. They just do their own and it's the same thing. And I was very pleasantly surprised. If you haven't gone out.

Gary said I've been out.

Missy said it's they're doing some really great things out there. I mean, they've got a lot of work to do in the woods because that, you know that just takes a lot of upkeep. But, I was really impressed with the facilities and the buildings. And the old pavilion, they have walled that in, whatever you want to call it, constructed walls around it. It's got beds, bunk beds for their camp, the girls that will stay in there. Take a look at it. I'm really pleasantly surprised with, not surprised because I just knew it was a lot of work. But I'm really pleasantly.

Gary said anything else?

Missy said nope, that's it.

Tom Kerns – Union City EMS Contract

Gary said Tom?

Tom said the only thing I have is the EMS contracts. I sent you guys information and I will ask Eric to come back next meeting for hopefully the EMS contract.

Gary said I forwarded to Meeks the one you gave to me.

Tom said okay.

Meeks said my comment on that was they have people for Union City, and then people for the two townships, and then the total. And they charged the county for the total. That's their service in Union City, so we shouldn't be paying for that.

Tom said correct.

Meeks said so it would just be the two townships.

Tom said correct, which is probably an acceptable number for the two townships.

Meeks said yeah. It seems reasonable.

Tom said they have a letter Meeks for Union City for their services.

Meeks said yeah, they already are, you know. Okay.

Laura said Eric, Eric who?

Tom said Hiatt is the fire chief.

Gary said anything else, Tom?

Tom said nope.

Gary said Meeks?

Meeks said no.

Gar Friend – Farmland EMS building issues

Gary said anybody have anything more for the Farmland EMS, the already involved in, to get it taken care of? Anything extra? The one thing I seen extra, which is not on the builder, is there needs to be a wainscot put down the wall where the recliners are at. Theres a scar on the wall right off the bat. It's not on the builder, but I think we should have Brad find a contractor that would wainscot that and just fill it so it will save that wall.

Tom said okay.

Gary said did you hear that Brad?

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

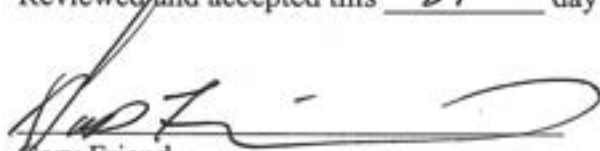
Gary said and I will get with Thor Construction. The other stuff is a pretty simple little fix, the rock, we're going to have a long talk about seeing, basically it's going to have to pass the board of commissioners. It's not acceptable as it is. And I don't know they can get it there without, they can save the rock, but they've got to get it off, scrape that mortar off and put it back on. That's what they need to do. That's why the gaps are there. The mortar on top of mortar, it's just not working. It's not damaging the building these people been telling me because nothing can get in. There's cement board behind it. None the less, it needs to be right. I think that's all I have that hasn't already been covered. Before we adjourn, once again, anybody that's left remaining, have anything to bring to the commissioner?

Adjournment


Gary said hearing nothing, somebody like to make a motion to adjourn?

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned.

Reviewed and accepted this 21 day of April, 2025


Gary Friend


Tom Kerns


Missy Williams

ATTESTED: 
Laura J Martin, Auditor

