

Randolph County Commissioners

June 19, 2023

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

Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing – ADA Plan update

Mike said first item on the agenda is a public hearing for our ADA Plan update. Like to call our ADA director up here, Randy Abel, and we'll open the public hearing and I'll see if the attorney has got guidance on how to run this public hearing.

Meeks said well Randy, if you want to sit in the audience for right now, and anybody that wants to come up and speak to the plan.

Mike said we have a new modified ADA Plan update that we're going to act on today, hopefully, after the public hearing, and I would invite anyone in the audience to come up and speak to that ADA Plan update. Hearing none, I would close the public hearing. The public hearing is closed.

County Council update

Mike said next item on the agenda is a county council update, and I do not see anyone from county council this morning.

Randy Abel – Resolution 2023-18 and ADA Plan

Mike said next item is Randy Abel. This is our Resolution 2023-18. Randy come on up now. I apologize for calling you up earlier. This is Resolution 2023-18. It's a resolution to adopt our new ADA plan, which was modified and written by Randy. And I would ask if Randy has anything he wants to speak to regarding the plan?

Randy Abel said basically, want to update the hearing date. The hearing date, I put in here, two weeks ago, and it re-scheduled, so I'll put that in there. And then, I'll get from Laura the public notice that was put in the paper. And all of that will be updated in here, along with the resolution today, which will be included in that as part that goes to the state for their approval. And so, also, we put in here, and we were not aware of this, back in 2014, when it was originally done, that they wanted an update every three years. And so, I don't think anybody realized that. We weren't the only ones that got dinged on that. There were a lot of counties that did not realize that. So, every three years, I think we'll try to make sure that's put-on schedule. It would be my suggestion also, that you might want to have an annual at least, public hearing for anybody that wants to make comments. Obviously, there was nobody today that made the meeting.

Mike said right. Well if we did that, then we would keep it on our tickler to be sure to modify it in three years so we wouldn't lose sight of that.

Randy Abel said yes. I would also ask that by approving this, that there were certain priorities put in that table, I guess if you look through the table, the yellow highlights, most of those yellow highlights, we would like to get them off of this in the next three years at least, if not sooner. And I think if you could approve those minimal costs, I mean obviously, that would go through maintenance, which would be Jake, and as he approaches the council for money, that you would approve those items in there, mostly signage and paint and maintenance. It's pretty minimal updates. But those things can be taken off that table pretty easily. I think that's wise that we could just approve those items that are highlighted.

Mike said is that in the schedules?

Randy Abel said it is on, it's in the table 1 that are highlighted as priorities. And most of those are signage. Some of those may have already been done. Might need to go out and check the airport again for that sidewalk. I think it was redone not too long ago. With Jake being maintenance, he gets around to the buildings a lot, and we can kind of keep tabs on all this pretty easily through him.

Mike said okay. Gary, do you have any questions of Randy?

Gary Friend said I do not.

Mike said as I indicated, this is resolution 2023-18, whereas the board wishes to adopt the ADA plan as presented. Be it resolved that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the American Disability Acts transition plan, which is attached hereto, be it further resolved that the Randolph County Board of commissioners hereby adopt the American Disability Acts grievance procedure, which is attached hereto. Did you want to speak to the grievance position?

Randy Abel said that is the same. Basically, we just pretty much used the old one's template and updated.

Mike said and those are located in your office?

Randy Abel said yes. I think they're on the website too.

Mike said okay. Do you have anything else to add?

Randy Abel said I do not.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to approve Resolution 2023-18.

Resolution 2023-18

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners (Board) find that it would be in the best interest and benefit for the citizens of Randolph County, Indiana, to adopt the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan (ADA Plan).

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to adopt the ADA Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the American with Disabilities Act Transition Plan, which is attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the American with Disabilities Act Grievance Procedures, which is attached hereto.

The Resolution shall be effective upon passage.

Gary Friend made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Jake Donham – Salyer Taylor updated quote

Mike said next item is Jake. Salyer Taylor updated quote on our RCFFO replacement boilers, and they did go up in price it looks like.

Jake Donham said yeah, it went up a little bit from the original quote back in May 1.

Mike said about \$3,000.00?

Jake Donham said yeah, roughly.

Mike said so, \$241,492, our last meeting we agreed to replace the two boilers at a cost of \$238, plus dollars, I believe.

Jake Donham said yeah.

Mike said so if we want to continue with Salyer Taylor to put the high efficiency boilers in there, then we're going to have to amend or just do another motion to approve this amount.

Gary Friend I'd make a motion that we update our commitment to this new number.

Mike said and continue to pay it out of ARPA?

Gary Friend said yes.

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

Jake Donham said when I talked to Phil, he said if we could just get a date and signature on that proposal. He said there's not a natural line for it, but then he could proceed on his end.

Mike said do you have anything else for us this morning Jake?

Jake Donham said I do not.

Mike said okay. Thank you.

Chris Shaneyfelt – Grant request application

Mike said Chris Shaneyfelt. He's not here. He's got an internal grant request here. Looks like we've approved the grant request back in 2019, to update our multi-hazard mitigation plan, and we've done that. And we were awarded \$19,457 to hire a contractor to update the plan. And we hired a contractor to do that at \$18,225. But this grant was different than past grants where a contractor was paid directly, and we have to pay them. And then the grant is reimbursable to us. So, it looks like we need to come up with \$18,225 to pay for the services for updating the mitigation plan and then we will receive that back from Homeland Security.

Gary Friend said you see the 25% in kind?

Mike said it's called in kind, so I presume we did some work on the plan as well, but I don't know that. Chris isn't here.

Gary Friend said it's a recur, year by year.

Mike said do you want to wait until Chris can come in and present this?

Gary Friend said I do. It doesn't have any bearing on costing us to wait.

Laura said well the council has to approve it too, so we can do it the first of July.

Mike said yeah, that's true, so we'll just table that until the July meeting, and request Chris to be here.

Gary Friend said okay.

Mike Haffner – Utility agreements, request for Highway credit card

Mike said Mike Haffner. Utility agreements and request for a highway credit card.

Mike Haffner said I've got three utilities, two from Frontier, one from Charter. The two from Frontier is just easy drops for residential, 7345 South, 200 West down by Lynn, and one over at Farmland, 605 South Plum Street, which is in our area. And then Charter, this is kind of an extension to a permit that signed earlier on a larger scale. They want to do basically, about 2 ½ more miles. This is mostly aerial along 1100 South between 6532 East and 8852 East. They're just basically, extending that area.

Mike said you say it's mostly above ground?

Mike Haffner said yeah, it's mostly above ground with one section that is going to be bored because there's no aerial, it's across the other side. To keep it on the same side, they're going to do a little bit of boring, but most of it is all aerial. It's just an extension of the permit that was earlier done.

Mike said are you recommending these?

Mike Haffner said I'm recommending all three of them.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion to accept the recommendations. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Friend said also Mike, I did speak with Mike about him signing these completed agreements right away when they're, and he said he could easily do that, and know the difference between the ones that should come to the commissioners or not. I'll make a motion to allow that to happen.

Mike said I'll second that motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said and you want this Frontier one to have no restrictions?

Mike Haffner said yeah.

Mike said Highway credit card.

Mike Haffner said kind of let Jess explain what we're into. I know we've been using my private credit card several times. And I think there's a better way of doing this.

Jessica Olson said so what we ran into just recently, ITI, which is county drug testing place. They also do our driver qualification files that we have to have at the highway department, if the DOT would come in. And, so that just consists of, it keeps our updated CDL, their medical, if they do an annual driving record check, and all that kind of stuff. I did not know this at the time, but they go through a company that's set up and called Clearing House, and that's where they get all their information. Well you have to have, they run queries, and apparently, we're responsible to purchase those queries from the Clearing House. I believe Jessica Cheeseman must have done it, because we had queries, but we ran out. And so, the only way that you can pay that, they won't do, I tried to get it, see if they would do a, where Danita could like direct deposit it, but it's, they're not going to do that. So, we had to use a credit card to do that. And I don't know how, I tried to ask the drug testing company, he said they probably would run three queries per employee per a year. So, we purchased a 100.

Mike said you purchase those in advance?

Jessica Olson said yeah, you have to purchase them in advance so that ITI can use them when they go in to do the audit. So, like when a new employee starts, they start the file. And that's your first charge. And that's when they run the first query. And then for all existing employees, they run those annual checks for us, and then we just go into the portal and print them out, and keep them in our CDL file.

Mike said so how much is a query?

Jessica Olson said \$1.25 each.

Mike said and you only need a credit card to buy a 100 of them? I guess a low limit credit card is what we need.

Mike Haffner said like I said, we've used mine a few times before, I mean, on line training stuff. But, we've used it for a few other things as well. I mean, travelling to the road school or commissioner conference, don't have a problem there, because I'm involved. But, some of this other business-related credit card, because that puts me in a bind, because then I've got to check my receipts and make sure I get reimbursed.

Gary Friend said I agree with Mike that's not a good practice. I don't have a problem with a credit card out there for you, but I don't want it to be you decide what to use it for. I think the commissioners have to say what categories you can it for because we have, every employee of Randolph County would want a credit card likely for traveling to pay for expenses and we don't do that. So, if we were to say, if I were to say yes for the credit card, maybe put a \$5,000 limit on one, say you can use it for queries, doing the things that you personally have to use yours for business-wise, but for any kind of personal expenses for employees on the road because that would open us up to every employee would want that.

Meeks said I think there's a policy about that, may be a credit card policy. I can tell you that, I do know, don't we Laura?

Laura said nobody has a credit card except the sheriff's department.

Meeks said I still think we have a policy on it. I'd have to look.

Laura said we've had issues in the past with credit cards where people don't turn in the receipts, and they want the bills paid, they're turning in the credit card bills late, and we're getting late fees, so we just done away with them. I think the only department that has them as this point is the sheriff's department.

Gray Friend said well I think the highway should have one so you don't have to use your personal credit card for Randolph County business. But I would want to be very cautious of its use for certain practices only.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said is that a motion?

Gary Friend said it is a motion, yes.

Mike said so do you want Jessica and Mike to apply for the credit card after they supply us with their categories of purchases that they are going to use this credit card for?

Gary Friend said I think at the next meeting they should have a list of categories, and then once we approve those, they can apply for a credit card.

Mike said we might propose a limit on that card as well. Does that work for you guys?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said I'll second that. Anything else on that credit card?

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gray Friend said before Mike goes, can he give us an update exactly the difference between pug and hot mix and why we're using it?

Mike said yeah, he can do that.

Mike Haffner said yes. I can give you an update. Basically, an update on our paving project, we mixed 6000 ton of pug, which is basically, if anybody knows cold mix for patching, it's something very similar. It can be mixed by bringing a portable mill locally, and it is cheaper than hot mix. There's pros and cons. The roads that we're using this material on are roads that had significant base problems that are unstable, and if anybody looks at our windmill roads, the hot mix that was used, held up pretty nicely, but if you drive over those roads today, they're not going to make it 7 years. There're major cracks in them. Hot mix is a super hard material, something like concrete, and whenever the road flexes, cracks develop, and then in the freezing and thawing of winter, water can get down in the cracks, freeze and pop it out. So, we're going to have to pretty much, within the next three years, chip and seal, pretty much every paved road in the county, because the pavement is just not holding up lifetime like the old hot mix used to. I've talked to Milestone and everything, and the restrictions that are on hot mix today is not like it used to be. The pug, it stays a little bit more pliable. It takes longer to set up, but it will flex under the conditions. It is definitely not what you would want to put on major thorough roads, but these agricultural-based travelled roads. There're several counties in the state that's switching over to pug just for the same reason, because they're seeing substantially heavy traffic. It is cheaper, and it's, quite frankly, with us being newly into the paving, it's very user friendly. For instance, hot mix, you buy it, and if it rains, you still take delivery. If your paver breaks down, or if your trucks break down, you still have to pay for it and take delivery. Where this pug, we had a situation where we had a driver had his truck bed up in the air, and took out an electric line, and it fell across. Nobody was hurt or anything, but it stopped the process, and we still had three trucks we didn't get done. So, we just waited until the next day, and put it right through the paver.

Gary Friend said I just found out about the electrical line last Friday. I think something that significant ought to have an incident report that the commissioners get.

Mike Haffner said pardon?

Gary Friend said we need to know. When something like that happens, I think there should be an incident report that comes to the commissioners, because I didn't know that we had an electrical line hit by a truck. That's a serious issue.

Mike Haffner said well we did do an incident report.

Gary Friend said you did?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Jessica Olson said I could email it to you guys.

Gary Friend said okay. I would like to know if something like that happens. Did you have training issues involved with that?

Mike Haffner said yeah.

Gary Friend said how would that happen? I mean, how did that happen?

Mike Haffner said well basically, it wasn't on the paver. He was emptying, when you come out of the paver, whether it's hot mix or anything else, they'll pull around and then, when they get in front of the other trucks, they'll tip the truck up, and the latches on the tailgate sometimes have material in there, and they take and you know, scrape that off. And this gentleman, basically, was pulling forward and didn't notice he was driving under an electric line. He was a new employee and yes, we've had a talk, and we had an incident report and everything. Then we had a talk with all of the other drivers as well. But, as far as the pug, it's great for wedge and levelling to get that base coat, so it can be given a strong base that's flexible and pliable. As we get into better training and being able to lay down that top finish surface, then we'll switch over to hot mix.

Mike said so is pug cold mix?

Mike Haffner said pug is basically cold mix. It's, the mixture is slightly different. Cold mix is more, it stays more pliable in the real cold winter conditions, and that's what people use to fix pot holes year around. The pug, it can, it's not for wintertime, it's not that pliable for wintertime. So, it's very similar, and the fear fact that it's just outside temperature, and the hot mix goes through a heated process, and it's delivered as heated and you've got a small window of time to get that material on the surface and roll it in.

Mike said and I guess, you indicated that the cold mix would not be good for a thorough fare, but yet, the hot mix on our windfarm roads are not holding up. So, I don't quite understand that logic.

Mike Haffner said if you're only putting a very thin, inch, inch and a half, a lot of times, when the state highways mill and grind, they only put down about an inch and a half. Well, a lot of the state highways are, got a base that can handle it. Seems like our windmill roads, there are sections that are pretty good. I think the original one that was all cement stabilized, they're holding up better, but the later ones that weren't cement stabilized, were starting to develop cracks in those roads.

Mike said so, I guess what I've read, the cold mix is, it's for patching as well as pot holes and things of that nature, so, wouldn't that work in the wintertime? What I read was the hot mix isn't good in the wintertime, that the cold mix is better in the wintertime.

Mike Haffner said the cold mix is definitely better in the wintertime. First of all, the colder the weather, if you're using hot mix, the hot, you know, evaporates out and then it's, you've got, your window is even smaller. But this pug, we can, you know, lay a lot longer in the season when asphalt plants close. But the bridge deck that you're only going to be putting this material maybe an inch deep or so, this pug really needs about two inches. It doesn't flow underneath your paver near as much as hot mix. And it is courser aggregate, so if you get much thinner than two inches, it doesn't lay near as nice. So, like 800 East, that Greenville Pike, some of those major thorough roads, that you're just going to be re-surfacing, hot mix, I wish we could get the old stuff they used 25 years ago, but that's, I don't want to put 2 1/2, 3 inches on top of Greenville Pike and have that big of drop off on the shoulders. Some of these roads that we've been doing are the roads that had several soft spots, and I mean 500 West was almost a gravel road, you know, and quite frankly, the edges of the road were taller than the road. So, by the time I build it up, we've got a few spots that're a little taller now that we'll put a stone shoulder on.

Mike said so that's cold mix out there?

Mike Haffner said that's cold mix out there.

Mike said are you going to come back and put a layer of finish on top of it?

Mike Haffner said we're going to let that set for a year to get really hard, and just evaluate it. If that is holding up good, then we'll probably just come back with another thinner, you know, with another layer of pug on top of it.

Gary Friend said it's going to get another coat either way?

Mike Haffner said yeah, 500 West is definitely going to get another coat. You can only, people that drive that road, well it didn't turn out the best, it's a little bouncy, well that, if anybody has drove that road before, you can't correct everything in one lift. And we're getting better. We had about a mile on 500 North between 500 West and 400 West that we had enough material and we had several soft spots, kind of like 500 West, so we went ahead and paved that section. And

that section actually, the road came out a lot nicer than 500. First of all, it wasn't near as bad, and we made changes on the paver and got better.

Mike said so cold mix is cheaper than hot mix to buy?

Mike Haffner said yes, it's a little cheaper. We're paying \$70 a ton. I think hot mix, I think Mr. Copeland said that Henry County is paying like 79 or 80 bucks a ton. The quote I've got was a little higher than that. But, in relationship, it's a little cheaper per ton.

Mike said does one last longer than the other?

Mike Haffner said well first of all, we'll find out, but counties like Grant county that's been doing this for 30 years on pug, they're seeing longer lasting pug roads than their hard surface hot mix roads. It might not be quite as smooth as the hot mix roads, but they're seeing it, and what Dave White told me, he said you can expect a good four to five years longer out of your pug than you can hot mix.

Mike said who told you that?

Mike Haffner said Dave White. He's the superintendent out of Grant county. He's, and we're using the exact same mixture and everything that he uses. And he's got a CAT paver pretty much the same as ours. So, I get a lot of my information out of Grant county, simply because they've been doing it for years. Jennings county, I forget the superintendent's name, I'd know him. But, they've been doing it for a good 20, 25 years.

Mike said so is the cold mix harder to clean up or does it affect the equipment negatively over hot mix?

Mike Haffner said no, it's relatively about the same on cleanup. Good thing, it doesn't stay quite as hard, at the window cleanup, you can go all week and it's still, you're still going to be able to take a scraper. Hot mix, if you don't get it by you know, 12 hours, you're in there with a chisel.

Mike said so really the cold mix is easier, from an equipment standpoint.

Mike Haffner said cold mix is definitely easier on the equipment.

Gary Friend said some of the expense too, cold mix is made at Ridgeville?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Gary Friend said the other is made in Richmond?

Mike Haffner said yes, and right now, there's been days where I've even had to hop in a truck and help out because we've only had four to five trucks going to a paver. And that's enough if we're at Ridgeville, but if we had to go to Richmond, I'd need ten. So, manpower-wise, it makes

more sense to go to Ridgeville. Now, if we're pugging or paving down at Lynn, maybe Richmond wouldn't be so far.

Gary Friend said could you do just one, I'd like to know, not today or tomorrow, but, email all of us what it cost us to do 500, which is what, 3 miles of road?

Mike Haffner said uh huh.

Gary Friend said ourselves with pug, versus what it would cost to a contractor.

Mike Haffner said I can get you the exact numbers, but we're about \$81,000 a mile.

Gary Friend, less for us? \$81,000 a mile for us or?

Mike Haffner said yeah.

Gary Friend said and what would it cost to have contracted?

Mike Haffner said for doing what they did, I think you, Joe would, a minimum a 150 to 180,000 a mile.

Gary Friend said and you substantiate that. I believe you.

Mike Haffner said yeah.

Mike said well that one was worth it.

Mike Haffner said yeah, the savings just in a three-mile stretch is significant. And we're getting it done on our time schedule.

Mike said okay. That's all the questions I have on pug.

Mike Haffner said but we'll get you a detailed breakdown.

Gary Friend said I read everything, I read up on it this weekend too. You've got a pretty good handle on it. I had to get my mind to think a thoroughfare is not 500 West, even though there's a lot of traffic, it's nothing like any highway, so there is a difference between major thoroughfare and that road.

John Greene, NLBC – Fiber conduit lease

Mike said John, come on up. We've got a conduit lease and a maintenance agreement for our conduit that we've, are paying the easement for 98% of it.

John Greene said we're getting closer. By the way, I want to say really quick, we had a meeting last week with Mike on a bunch of different questions, including the approval to let him do the

drops and the minor projects, and I really appreciate it. It was a great meeting. We had good conversation, so I think we're going to work very well in the future.

Mike said when we can, we want to keep you within your time frame.

John Greene said we want to keep hooking people up.

Mike said that brings us to the lease.

John Greene said yes.

Mike said and I've been advised that the lease agreement, although it's somewhat appropriate, I'm still wrestling with a 50-year lease. I'll probably be dead in 20. But I still kind of wrestle with that.

John Greene said I'm kind of with you on that one.

Mike said but the other issues are the hoops we have to jump through in order to sign a lease of this nature. That is, we have to advertise it, and take proposals. That's your territory, I suspect we won't get any other proposals, but we still have to jump through those hoops.

John Greene said sure, sure.

Mike said and once we do that, then we have to approve it and we have to give it to council to approve. And once we've done that, then we have a lease.

John Greene said well let's address the 50-year. Right now, we're looking at 30 years as a typical life span for fiber optic cable. So, the cable itself, we're looking at least 30 years. Conduit probably is somewhere in that 30 to 50-year range as far as it's useable life span. Could we go lower than that, absolutely. That's your call. I would not suggest going less than 30 because you don't want to have it to where the conduit lease is going to be less than the useable life of the fiber cable. But I'm flexible on that.

Mike said my only thought on it, and I want to be cooperative, but if we shorten the term, and the county chose not to renew it, then the lessee would have the opportunity to appraise and buy it would be my alternative to that. The 50 is just me. I'm not, I don't know how Gary or Gary feels about it.

Gary Friend said I think 50 is too long too. I don't think it should go any beyond state of life.

Mike said so you would say 30?

Gary Friend said I would say 30.

John Greene said okay. And like I say, I'm good with 30. As long as it at least is equal to the normal life of fiber optic cable, which is around 30 years.

Mike said so with that change then, I believe we don't need to approve it now.

Meeks said well I have the statute here. If the event is a public hearing or meeting concerning, okay, here we go, for any matter not specifically mentioned under the other sections, I think we have to publish this one time, at least 10 days prior to our meeting. So, it's either two times, seven days apart, or one time, whichever one of those two it is, it will be at our second meeting in July, because we would not have enough time to advertise it before your first July meeting.

Mike said so it would be our second, but then we could approve it in August?

Meeks said yes. Well you can approve it right then, I mean.

Mike said but council would meet in August unless they had a special meeting to.

Meek said the IC code requires anything over three years for council approval.

John Greene said so what would be the meeting that I would need to be at, the next meeting?

Meeks said I would think we would have these requests for, or you would need to, you know, and your request for proposal could be the conduit lease. I mean, I don't really know what you guys would do, but you would need to give us a proposal, which could be the lease, and I would think it would be at our second meeting in July.

Mike said so, that's why we would review the proposals, which would be, is that the 17th of July?

John Greene said if it's the 17th, I'm good.

Meeks said third Monday in July.

John Greene said that would be the 17th. So, Monday the 17th, 9:00 a.m.

Meeks said it would be the 17th.

Mike said and that's when we would review proposals, and again, I'm not sure if you've got the federal rights to that area to expand internet, then I don't imagine anybody else is going to come in.

John Greene said I would assume that, although, you never know.

Mike said as Meeks said, we changed this term to 30 years. If you submit that as your proposal, that would be appropriate for me.

John Greene said yep, we can make that change. The other thing Meeks, is I didn't realize that we didn't have all the signatures on the dotted line. The last time I talked to Andy Fahl, he was

working it for EDPR and this was several months ago, and he told me he had everything taken care of. So, miscommunication there.

Meeks said all but one. We've had the one holdout for a while. We've sent that out, I sent that out on Friday. So, hopefully, those people will sign it and get it back to me.

Mike said okay. So, we'll advertise for proposals.

Laura said will you do that

Meeks said I'll get something to you Laura. I'll tell you when you have to put it in the paper too.

Laura said okay. Thank you.

John Greene said and then the, the change would be the 50 year to 30 year. Okay. Do you want me to go ahead and make that change?

Meeks said if you want to make it and send it to us, that would be great. You'll have to do a proposal anyway, so you might as well.

John Greene said and then that will be our proposal.

Meeks said yeah, just put that in an email, that's your proposal.

John Greene said okay. And in the meantime, we're continuing to work, I think the engineering has been completed on everything west of State Route 1, Mike will probably see the permits, may even have the permits before the 17th coming in for approval. That will be tapping off of that because we don't want to slow down waiting on the notification and everything. We've got to keep the wheels moving.

Mike said okay, very good.

John Greene said okay thanks folks. Appreciate it.

Daniel Baker

Mike said Daniel Baker. Randolph County United. You have an update for us or anything you want to share with us this morning?

Daniel Baker said quick update. I hope everybody got to watch the Rust to Revival last week, the Fox Sports documentary. Well if you didn't it was great. Gary can attest. Also, wanted to mention that we have a county-wide READI 2.0 workshop on Wednesday, June 21st from 1 to 2:30. You should have received an invite to that as well. Make My Move has been a remote workshop, July 12th is a tentative date right now. We are going to invite all county, city and town officials to that program. Housing Symposium, we're getting that planned right now. So, that is through the housing resource hub the county has supported. We received an update that they are doing a good job. Cultivating communities, August through October, we're going to be

bringing all those communities back together that had come out cultivating communities about a year and a half, two years. And also, we have a comprehensive plan for Parker City and Winchester. That's tomorrow evening. Those are the updates I have right now.

Gary Friend said I would like to have the housing resource hub report. I just want to read the numbers.

Daniel Baker said okay.

Gary Friend said I know Mike has it. We can talk a little bit.

Mike said I can send it to you.

Daniel Baker said yeah, I'll just forward it to you.

Mike said thank you.

Jim Nunez – Committee thank you
Mike said Jim Nunez, committee thank you.

Jim Nunez said on behalf of the Wicks committee car show. I'd like to thank the commissioners publicly. We had a record breaking at this last car show. Last year, we had a 105 cars, this year we had 244 and we had to turn down 10 because they came so late, and we already started judging. And a lot of the people that came here, they haven't been to Winchester. And some that came to Winchester didn't know some of the growth that we had already coming in. And it was a good eye-opening to a lot of the people. And we had a lot of fun, and God was good to us because we had good weather. And we just had a lot of fun. And of course, Commissioner Mike had so much fun, he had to go get some more pies. But, oh yeah, it was just, it was just phenomenal. And next year, of course, we're going to be shooting for 250, but we ran out of real estate. Cars had to be parked in different places that we didn't schedule, but people were, businesses were so polite, that, just park over here, just park over here. And it was just so incredible. And of course, we shared the real estate with the first opening days of the Farmers' Market, and it was great, it was great. And, but, it just kind of like put Winchester on the map a little bit again. But, things happen when you do it as a team.

Mike said appreciate your help on that Jim. At the end of the agenda we have the Fountain Park Cemetery request for funds. We've tabled since you've provided us your letter. Since then, we found out from the city that they supported Fountain Park Cemetery to the tune of \$2,000 out of their EDIT funds. I presume you have no other public contributions, all of them are private contributions.

Jim Nunez said uh, yes.

Mike said I did talk to Susie, White River Trustee, and she indicated that she is not allowed to participate in support of the cemetery for the project you have going on, that the cemetery can't meet their operations, they can support them but can't for a capital project like that. Having said

all that, Jim, Gary Girtton is not here this morning, and I think we, before we act on Fountain Park Cemetery's request, we should have all three of us sitting up here. I just wanted to let you know, I'm going to request we table that until our next meeting when Gary's here.

Jim Nunez and that's another thing I'm proud of. I've been on the board for almost ten years and we've improved a lot, not just me, because here again, it's a team effort out there. We have so many comments and so many, and we've been videoed out there, we've been, here again, a team effort, and county uses us and school uses out there. People come out there and just, we try to keep it as proud as you can for those people that's out there. And we, a lot of people just use that out there. We try to make sure that everybody out there is, it's done with dignity. And we appreciate everybody's donation.

Mike said thank you Jim.

Jim Martin – Christmas lights on the monument

Mike said Jim Martin, Christmas lights on the monument.

Jim Martin said I came before you last year, asking permission to possibly put lights on the monument. You wanted me to do pre-information. And so, what I had done is just basically, done a grass roots investigation research to try to find out if this is something the community actually wants. And I've reached out to individual business owners. I've reached out to city officials, I've reached out to all the veterans I can think of, and have had overwhelming support of it. And not just a yes, go ahead and do that type of support, a lot of them want to know how they can get involved to support this project. One of the unicorns that came into play was apparently, back in the 80s or 70s, I can't determine, but I did find a picture to where back then, it was lit up at that time. And so, we're just wanting to recreate that and do a little bit bigger. I don't think they had lifts back then, so they couldn't get it to the very top of the monument, but that's what we plan on doing. These are just mock ups of what we hope that the monument would look like. The first picture is Indianapolis, and they have the tallest soldiers' and sailors' monument, and with us having the second tallest, we want to just basically duplicate what they had done. The different lights, there's either the first one or I'm sorry, the middle picture, is kind of a drapery of lights and then the third one is more larger light bulbs that we could be using. So, out of that, my next step is talking to professionals. And so, that's where I've invited Falcon Industries, a student-based design and fabricating business here at Randolph Central School corporation, and they were beyond excited to get involved with this project, because not only can they do it, but they can actually give the students something to come back to years and years again. When they grow up and have kids themselves, they can show the monument, give them the history of the monument, what it is, what it was for, and just tell them how much they've been involved with it. And then also, Madelyn from Winter Land, Winter Land is a nation business. It's based in Marion, Indiana. So, some of the biggest Christmas light displays, they have actually given the resources to do that, knowledge and so forth. And so, my next step is taking it from the grass roots that I have done, to professionals, but without your permission or consent, I don't want to go forward because quite frankly, I don't want to get them involved if it's something that we can't move forward on. The last picture there, you can actually see, that's the fire department here in Winchester took me up two times to get dimensions on the base of the soldier, the top of the granite rock, and that way we can use that as the foundation of the base to

attach the lights to. And that's where Falcon Industries, they did have a preliminary design. They were hoping to get it to us today, so that we could present it to you, but that is something that I can email you when they get that drawn.

Mike said so, based upon the second diagram, you would be bringing it down from the, I guess the second to the top ledge?

Jim Martin said the very top ledge.

Mike said very top ledge. Okay.

Jim Martin said yeah, in a sense, we're going to, the design is like an L shaped circular bracket that we can affix around the base of the soldier. That seems like it's, I talked to Bill Yost, which was the fire chief back in the 90s. When this was proposed back then, it was shut down. From what I understand, one veteran had an extremely hard time with this project, and so he rounded up a lot of adversary about that and so it got shut down. But Bill Yost was the fire chief then, and he said when they took that soldier off, that base plate is, it just basically, surrounds a rock, and so that would be the most substantial and easiest to mount something to hold all these lights up.

Mike said so do you have a picture of the 80s decorations? I'm not aware of that.

Jim Martin said I do.

Mike said I guess I didn't see that.

Jim Martin said I do, if I can get the internet going. I don't know if it was lighted because that was the daytime. Missy Williams was very confident that it was lights during the nighttime.

Mike said so have you talked to the mayor about the design fitting in with the mayor's decorations along the streets?

Jim Martin said he would like us to pursue it, but he definitely says with it being that kind of a project he would like if his guys wasn't involved because of all the time-consuming decorations around the square. But he is definitely in favor of it.

Mike said I'm just, my thought there is, I think the mayor uses white lights all throughout.

Jim Martin said correct, yes. And that's what something, it could be, LEDs that we could change the lights, light colors too, it could be heavy duty commercial bulbs, that it's one color or we could change the different colors. And so, that's kind of our next step.

Mike said so, my other concern, and I trust what you've told us here Jim, but I also, I've spoken, the only veteran that has approached me about lights on the monument said she can't do that, don't do that.

Jim Martin said don't do that, okay. I would love to talk to them to get their feedback.

Mike said so I guess, I don't know how many veterans you've talked to, but I would have more comfort if we had a document that says we're in favor of this.

Jim Martin said okay. I'm not good with names, but one of them was Mr. Root that served, I think he's 80 or 90 years old, he came into the lawnmower shop and just talked to him about it. And he was in favor of it. I talked to John Finley. He was in favor of it. He was part of, he led the national guard here in Winchester.

Mike said right, I know John.

Jim Martin said and then Michael Kennedy. He was a gentleman that he's definitely in favor.

Mike said you can reach out to the son. He just separated from the air force.

Jim Martin said okay.

Mike said unfortunately, or fortunately, is living with me right now.

Jim Martin said yeah. It's not just, the proposal is not just necessarily lighting up the monument, but it does bring awareness to the veterans. If people are driving down the street and the kids.

Mike said that's a good way to look at it. So, I guess I'm not saying I'm opposed to it, but I guess if I could have a little more evidence of the support of the veterans, I would be more comfortable in making that decision. I didn't think it had ever been made, but evidently, it may have been made in the mid-80s, I don't know.

Gary Friend said I think we should get documented support from the veterans. And our veterans service officer can help, The Journey Home can help. I'd also like to know the color scheme. How long would they be up?

Jim Martin said Thanksgiving to Christmas, probably the week after Christmas.

Gary Friend said we wouldn't get into a situation where it would be mid-February or March before you finally get the time to get them down? You see that from time-to-time in the cities.

Jim Martin said correct.

Gary Friend said I kind of like when you're doing something like on a veterans' monument, it's specific, it's up and it's down.

Jim Martin said yes and we can do that.

Gary Friend said actually I would sign it because I am a veteran. I agree with it.

Mike said and your renditions here are not real exciting.

Jim Martin said I understand.

Gary Friend said the third one, I'd just get it off of there.

Jim Martin said okay.

Gary Friend said what's the next step I guess is what do you need to pursue?

Jim Martin said well, next step as far as what I'm hearing is going around and getting documents and letters and signatures of veterans.

Mike said one letter with all the signatures would be just fine.

Jim Martin said okay. I can do that.

Gary Friend said I'd also like to ask when it's mounted to the monument, you're not going to drill, tap or bolt anything on that structure, right?

Jim Martin said no, not at all, not at all.

Gary Friend said you're going to have the collar is going to be wrapped so it doesn't sit there and grind on the granite up there?

Jim Martin said correct, no, yes, even so far as putting a fire hose, which is the toughest fabric that we can find, talking to Mr. Goodman, he's going to provide some fire hose that we can put around the base and around the soldier.

Mike have you done monuments of this nature?

Madelyn said we sold the lights to Indianapolis to do their monument, and then we worked with cities and towns across mainly, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio. That's the wheelhouse for this type of business. But then we do this across the nation, so, from Maine to California.

Gary Friend said one last question. What's the financial impact for the county here? What are you going to be needing? Are you going to need anything?

Jim Martin said as far as, unless it comes up to a million dollars, we're definitely wanting this to be community fund raised, so that way, the community can be involved. As far as now, no financial responsibility from the county.

Mike said okay. Well do you want to just meet in two weeks?

Jim Martin said two weeks, sounds great.

Mike said the 3rd of July.

Jim Martin said 3rd of July, sounds great. Thank you very much.

Cody Zigler – Vacate an alley

Mike said vacate an alley is not presenting this morning.

Bob McCoy – Winchester update

Mike said Mayor Bob McCoy.

Bob McCoy said I think they're going to try to work around the square, ADA was brought up, the Beachler corner, all that brick, that's all coming up, going to be done in concrete, get ADA ramps correctly made. And it's a big trip hazard down there. We've had a couple people trip and fall. Also have additional handicap parking along the Beachler Apartments due to, I think they said they had at least 7 or 8 people there handicapped that live at the Beachler Apartments and the majority of the people living there come from the Journey Home and are veterans. So, trying to get that taken care of. And then slowly work our way around the square and make sure all the sidewalks on the square are safe and ADA. So, that's one of our goals this year. Really, that's about it. You know, the movie from Fox Sports, I encourage everybody to watch it. I think that really shines a light on Winchester and our community, and I think we need to push things forward and keep going on that, you know, use that to our advantage.

Mike said okay. I appreciate that. Do you have anything, comments?

Gary Friend said I'd say it was good for Winchester and Randolph County.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Mike said so that brings us to other business. Sheriff, Art Moystner, do you have anything to share with us this morning?

Art Moystner said I do not.

Minutes of May 1, 2023

Mike said next item are our minutes of our May 1st, 2023 meeting. We received a copy via email. Do we have any additions, corrections or deletions for those minutes?

Gary Friend said no.

Gary Friend made motion to accept the minutes. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$285,515.45

Mike said that brings us to our payroll claims in the amount of \$285,515.45. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claim as presented.

Gary Friend made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Regular Claims \$1,979,053.20

Mike said that brings us to our regular claims in the amount of \$1,979,053.20. We received a copy of these via email. I'd entertain a motion to approve the claim.

Gary Friend made motion to approve. Gary seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randolph County United Claim \$18,467.74

Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$2,365.66

Mike said that brings us to our Randolph County United claim and the Tourism claim, one in the amount of \$18,467.74, and the Tourism claim in the amount of \$2,365.66. I'd entertain a motion to approve these two claims.

Gary Friend made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Housing Resource Hub Claim \$2,000.00

Mike said next claim is the Housing Resource Hub claim for \$2,000.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

Gary made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Fountain Park Cemetery request for funds (tabled from 6/5/23)

Mike said and we tabled the Fountain Park Cemetery request. That brings us to the end of our agenda. Laura, do you have anything for us this morning?

Laura said permanent minutes.

Mike said permanent minutes, is that it?

Laura said yes.

Mike said Meeks, do you have anything for us?

Meeks said I do not.

Mike said this is permanent minutes for a joint meeting?

Meeks – fiber optic lease

Laura said yes. Meeks, we have the fiber optic easement agreement that you sent me.

Meeks said that is, well, we can approve that, if you'd like. Gary is not here and we're still waiting for the signed one back from the Wolfs. But, if you guys would like to approve it today, then I get those back from them this week, we can get those recorded.

Mike said this is a standard to all the others we agreed to.

Meeks said well it's a little bit different, just a very slight difference. It's the one you talked about. They asked for those three changes. One of them is to go 60 inches, the other one was if we broke something, we fix it.

Mike said do we need to approve it today?

Meeks said no. But if you did and I got those signed back, I could record them or I can record it when I get them signed at our next meeting. It doesn't matter either way.

Gary Friend said they didn't answer anything.

Meeks said maybe a little clarification.

Gary Friend said yeah, that's all,

Mike said well I'd say let's give approval.

Gary Friend made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said is that all you have Meeks?

Meeks said that's all.

Gary Friend – Morgue Storage update, Old highway barn tenant, Farmland ambulance facility

Gary Friend said I met with the hospital, Rob and Darrin, and the hospital is favorable to making the long-term lease to us for like a dollar a year, nearly nothing. The only thing that we have in it is the county would pay for the upgrades, which is, I don't see to be a problem. So, we're looking at from the end wall to the bricks, I don't mean bricks, but from the end wall to the overhead door, adding a firewall in there and building out close to what Darrin presented to us. So, Darrin is going to be working with their maintenance manager, and then Rob is going get his attorney to get something together for us with our attorney. And, then it'll go from there.

Mike said okay. And they'll take charge of the construction? We'll just pay for it?

Gary said I'm not sure on that.

Mike said it would be a lot cleaner if we did it that way I think. Would it not Meeks?

Meeks said the, every time we've ever had dealings with the hospital, they'll want to do it in a particular way, and we don't have an awful lot of say in that.

Mike said it is there building.

Meeks said it is their building, and even with the easements that we've gotten when we, to Greenville, it was very particular. So, like what I told Gary was, they'll get us a contract and it'll be very professional. There won't be a problem. So, however they want to go with it.

Mike said they won't have to jump through all those hoops that we'd have to jump through.

Meeks said oh, I think they have to jump through a lot of those.

Gary Friend said they did say not to expect it to be a real fast endeavor. They did offer the white house where the clinic was as well, but Darrin thought that was too close to the road for the type of activities, and I would agree with him. Then I spoke with Ben Beiler of the highway. He had me come out and look at it Thursday before the auction on Friday. Basically, I told him what we were looking for was to put it back in the state to which he got it. Put the windows back in, get the paint off the windows. The plumbing froze under their control. Some lights were destroyed, inadvertently, but they are, under their control. We need the lights back where they were, drop them back down. So, I asked him to remove the paint they put on the front of it. We didn't need it. And the fence was all painted erratically, to either paint it again or remove the strips, whatever. I just told him we were not looking for anything extraordinary, we did want it cleaned up, and there was not to be any fires to do it. Then, I believe he told me he was paid up to date, when I was out there. Is that correct?

Laura said I think he came in and paid through April.

Gary said through April?

Laura said let me check, but I think they told me he paid through April.

Gary said I did mention to him that we would like to be paid for it.

Mike said he has until July?

Laura said July 1st.

Gary said I asked him how he was going to pull that off. He said they would get it together. And then, I sent everybody an email on the plans. These are as rough as rough can get. Of course, this building here, the day room would be going up front. We'd probably have to drop the roof. If not, you could build a mezzanine, put the heating equipment up above. I'm also going to meet with Danny Huston Friday Morning to let him see stuff like this to see if this is something we could work with and put together along the lines of what he had originally thought about, just to see where that might go.

Mike said this will fit on the lot?

Gary said oh, absolutely.

Mike said okay.

Gary said it's a 30 by 50 and it's just a simple bay room with a whole bath and half bath, you can see here. Duane had a good point there, and then of course, storage room and a mechanical room.

Mike said okay.

Gary said we'll see where it goes. Right now, this plan is probably in the \$350,000 range like I said. That's all I have Mike.

Mike said okay. I don't have anything for us this morning.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Mike said have any citizens here this morning that would like to share?

Bob McCoy said 27 should be opened back up. It was closed over the weekend.

Mike said what was that detour?

Bob said I think there was a culvert running underneath the highway and they said either shut it down for a whole week and do one lane traffic or get it done on the weekend.

Mike said they took you east for the detour.

Bob said yeah, I don't know.

Mike said I was hoping they didn't take them on county roads out there.

Ed said that went to Union City.

Mike said they took you over to Union City?

Mike said 28? Yeah, okay. I didn't want to drive that far to find it. Any other comments?

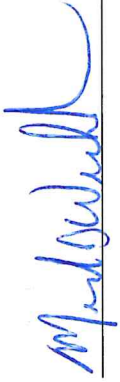
Adjournment

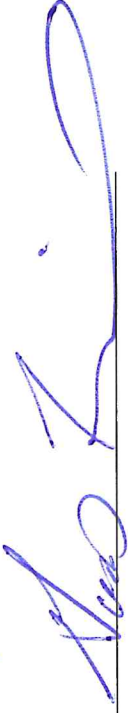
Mike said very good. I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

Gary Friend made a motion to adjourn. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned.

Reviewed and signed this 3 day of July, 2023.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS







ATTEST: 

Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County