

Randolph County Commissioners

June 5, 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, Gary Friend and Gary Girton. 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

Sherri Thompson, Wendy McDavid – Health Department state funding, grant application request

Mike said first item on the agenda is the Randolph County Health Department, Sherrie Thompson and Wendy McDavid. Morning ladies. I think the first thing we want to talk about is this new potential from the state. We've got some information on it, but, I'd like to hear from the two of you as to how you see it working.

Sherri Thompson said well they did a lot of the work surveys and looking at that, according to the state, I think that we can't really, we don't really have to go by that because we're getting it done. Looking at in the future, we would like to hire a full-time clinic nurse. Tammy, right now, she does the clinic nurse and the school liaison. With this new funding, the school liaison will be one job. And it will become a permanent position, or a full-time position. So, with everything that they've added to that, Tammy just can't do both. So, the other core services that they want us to add or that we are hoping to add, the nurse, the clinic nurse would help pick up some of those services. We also talked a little bit about the environmental services. They've changed and the septic rules at the state level. And, as Eric has got into the job, he's found that some things were lacking, some things were not done at all. One or those, being the pool. They hadn't checked the pools. Of course, you've got to do the tattoo parlors, eyelash extensions, things like that. So, we kind of talked about throwing around maybe a part-time position to help Eric get all of his things done. He did get all of the inspections done last year. But with the new things that they've added to it, possibly a part-time person. But with the things that we talked about adding, I think those are really the only two positions that we've thought about at this point.

Mike said so have you, and I apologize, but I don't know what your levy is, and what your budget is now. So, it's \$232?

Gary Friend said yeah.

Mike said so, and I believe it looks like the minimum that we would receive in 2024 would be \$266,460.00?

Sherri Thompson said uh huh.

Mike said the maximum is \$355,279.

Sherri Thompson said and then in 2025, it raises substantially. Some of that is because now we receive a maintenance grant in the trust, and that would all be included in this I believe.

Mike said right. So, our funding, local funding to the health department would not change for 24 or 25?

Sherri Thompson said yes it would. If you look at 25 at the bottom, it shows.

Mike said I see. There it is.

Sherri Thompson said yeah, it would change significantly.

Mike said that just says it would reduce.

Sherri Thompson said yes, because you'll only be responsible for 20% of the budget.

Mike said so 2024 would remain the same?

Sherri Thompson said yeah, it's basically a three-year average.

Mike said so, have you planned a budget for this to how we're going to spend 60% of these funds on these items that are listed and 40% of these funds on these items that are listed?

Sherri Thompson said we haven't done a complete budget yet. We have to do a health plan. So, with the health plan in the budget, we have until September to get that in, September 1st. But, we hadn't, I guess we didn't want to jump the gun and just assume that you know, we were going to opt in, that the county was going to opt in.

Mike said right.

Sherri Thompson said so, we have not done a complete budget with that yet.

Mike said so what happens if, I mean, obviously, they're going to look at the budget, and then they're going to audit the budget at the end of the year, I presume. What happens if we're off by 5% and they don't approve our offage. I understand you could appeal, and change those numbers, but, have they shared with you what happens? Do they come back and get the money or?

Sherri Thompson said as far as, once we receive the money, the money is ours, so, they won't come back and get the money. Also, with, we now get the money in two separate increments. And this would be all in one at the beginning of the year. And of course, I balance everything monthly. And so far, everything has balanced fine with all of the grants.

Mike said one of these documents I received had a lot of detail about health boards. Is that something new that they're changing?

Sherri Thompson said there is a little bit of change in it, of who the people, who they want on the board.

Mike said they being the state?

Sherri Thompson said yes, the state.

Mike said is there any concern that this is a state grab of control?

Sherri Thompson said they're assuring us it is not.

Mike said I understand that.

Sherri Thompson said yeah, we keep asking that question, keep looking at it. They keep assuring us that it isn't. So, I don't feel like I can answer that.

Mike said well I'm not sure any of us can at this point. I'm glad you guys are concerned about it though. That's important.

Wendy said in the meetings that we've attended together and separately, most of the big push has been since COVID. When COVID hit, you know, it hit everybody like a ton of rocks. And then it determined how understaffed, underpaid and overworked the health departments were. And according to the meetings, that is what's pushing the state to fund the health departments because they know the counties can't afford it. Where you go from there with that, I'm not sure. But that's what we've been told.

Sherri said and right now, as a health department, we basically do the minimum with this funding and the additional staff will be able to do additional things, things with diabetes, smoking sensations, a lot more educational services and things like that that we can't do at this point.

Mike said well I guess from my standpoint, I'm not sure why we would turn it down at this point. I presume the health board is in favor of going forward with the opting in, and Dr. Sowinski is in favor of opting in.

Wendy McDavid said yes. It's just that we can offer so much more, and be able to do so many more things where our hands are tied now that we can't, we can't do.

Sherri Thompson said they also, part of that it says that we can opt in and out at any time. We're not locked in to anything.

Mike said right. Okay, I don't have any other questions.

Gary Friend said Mike had referred to it on these focal points on the 60% levels and the 40% levels, what kind of controls do you put in place to make sure that we meet each one of those benchmarks? Do you have the personnel for that administrative work?

Sherri said yes, we've looked at it to make sure and that we have all you know, talked about how many more employees we would need to cover all of that.

Gary Friend said and you would tell the council that you would only need one more employee? Are you sure?

Sherri Thompson said at this point, I don't want to say 1 1/2 but I know it's a full-time and part-time.

Wendy McDavid said as of right now.

Gary Friend said I think, well I think you could probably can do two, and then I looked at the survey that was done, about 20 people is what they say Randolph County Health Department have.

Wendy McDavid right.

Gary Friend said it is. I mean, I've seen that's not possible. But to go up two people to do all of these here, because I'm with Mike, if we miss these benchmarks, there's going to be an audit that's going to come back.

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Friend said we're going to be somehow accountable for them.

Sherri Thompson said yes, we'd have to do yearly reports with everything.

Gary Friend said and if we do have an issue with underperformance, we will know ahead of time? You will know it?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Friend said I don't see any reason not to do it either Mike. And I see the numbers on it, even when it ramps up and the money that we get, we still have enough levy to cover. One more question, the final question is, in the expenses for the employees, are the PERFs, the health insurance, all of that allowable to be spent out of it, or will that be a, that be part of the 60 or 40% of the totals?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Friend said so if we put two people on, their cost of insurance will be handled through all this?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Friend said PERF, everything, all the fringe benefits?

Wendy said as far as I know yes.

Gary Friend said that's all I wanted.

Mike said Gary, do you have anything?

Gary Girton said no, I, well I've looked at it. I think, I don't see any reason at all period, why we would not opt in. We're lacking in so many areas as you ladies well know. And we've got to try to fill as many as we can, as many as we can justify with our finances. And I think it's just a must that we move forward and try to get what we can. A little concerning down the road that the state continues to fund it, whether they'll do like they have in many programs, start it, and after three or four years, say well you've got this, you've got to maintain it but we're not going to fund it anymore. That, we'll cross the bridge when we get there, but we have to move forward now and opt in and do the best we can for our county.

Mike said our deadline is September 1st. So, I guess from my standpoint, do we want to opt in today or do we want to wait a little bit to see if there's any concerns or issues from the health department as you develop your budget?

Sherri Thompson said and that is, the budget has to be in by September 1st, if you wait until you know, if we wait until the last day to opt in.

Mike said well I don't want to do that. I'm just thinking we've got five meetings between now and September 1st.

Sherri Thompson said right, and I guess my thing is at looking at doing the budget, the quicker you opt in, the better it is for me working on budget.

Gary Friend said are you going to present that budget in August to the council?

Sherri Thompson said it depends on if we opt in today or not.

Mike said you're asking us to opt in today, just to do the budget?

Sherri Thompson said I'm just presenting my thoughts.

Mike said I understand. But if we're going to opt in, you'd like us to do it today, I guess is the question I'm asking.

Wendy McDavid said the sooner the better.

Sherri Thompson said the sooner the better.

Mike said okay. We have a resolution here that 2023-19, a resolution of Randolph County Commissioners accepting state public health funding.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-19
A RESOLUTION OF THE RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ACCEPTING STATE PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, Indiana is the county executive body and authorized by law to adopt ordinances and resolutions for the administration of Randolph County Government;

WHEREAS the Indiana Legislature has passed Senate Enrolled Act 4-2023 and House Enrolled Act 1001-2023, to ensure every Hoosier has access to the core public health services that allow them to achieve their optimal health and well-being;

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, Indiana recognizes the importance of public health to support a healthier community and create a better quality of life for its residents.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DETERMINED, ESTABLISHED, AND RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, Indiana as follows:

1. The Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, Indiana supports initiatives that sustain and maintain core public health services at the county level with local input and flexibility to meet the needs of the community.
2. The Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, Indiana commits to the County's right to self-direct and acknowledges that by opting-in and accepting these funds the county retains authority and control of the county health department otherwise afforded to it under state law or code pursuant to Indiana Code 16-20-1-12(i).

Gary Girton made motion to approve the motion to approve Resolution 2023-19. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said the health department has a grant request for \$30,223.76, which is reimbursable to the budget but no county match. The explanation is this will help us fund our immunization clinics to keep our primary services compliant. Is this a competitive grant or do you, is this one we get every year?

Wendy McDavid said we've done it before.

Mike said okay.

Wendy McDavid just so we can do it, figure immunization clinics.

Mike said this is one we approve, and then council approves so we have a local record of it. Someone want to move approval of this grant request?

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

Jake Donham – RCFFO Boilers

Mike said Jake, RCFFO building, boilers, excuse me.

Jake Donham said the last meeting we were discussing the difference in the boilers, the 80% efficiency and 90s, and there were a lot of questions. This is Phil Ostrowski with Salyer Taylor. He was nice enough to come and if anyone has any questions, kind of give you an idea of what we're looking at on the boilers. We had the pricing on the high efficiencies, and then we had a price on the 80s from the other company. Phil can run the numbers on it, if that's the way you guys want to go. I thought we were just wanting to know the difference between the two options, and I know there was concern about what kind of returns are we going to see on investment. And it's hard to figure that with the other gas items we have in that building, because the rooftop units all have gas fire too. And so like, they're going to be firing today where the boilers aren't. So, I mean, you're pretty much looking at 80% versus 95%, boilers.

Phil said the cast sectionals, they're like 82% efficient, at best. And the literature, the other company's quoting, those boilers right there, that's the literature for those boilers, the dark covered one. And it tells you efficiencies, what they'll do. The problem with cast iron boilers, you have to maintain a minimum of 140 degree to them, because you can either thermal shock them, and they don't like low temperature water. The high-efficient boilers, the condensing boilers, they can run 110-degree water all day long. They don't care. It doesn't bother that boiler. Actually, the lower it goes, your efficiency even climbs up to like 99% on those if you were running like say 120 degree out of them. The building, these boilers are in usually runs the way Honeywell has it set up, they run 140-degree water all the time, at minimum, up to 180 in the middle of winter.

Gary Friend said so they're getting their efficiency numbers by just lowering the water temperature?

Phil said it's what, they call them a condensing boiler. That's why the cost is expensive with those condensing units because of the flu. I have to have a stainless-steel flu. The steel flu would rot out in line two years. So, I can't reuse the existing flu. We'd have to run a new flu for both those boilers all the way up and out of the mechanical room. So, what they do, by that condensing action, that's where they get all the extra efficiency out of those boilers.

Gary Friend said other than the efficiency, because efficiency, if you compared the cost over 15 or 20 years. If you just took everything in there, you're looking at a 15% gain of about \$3,000.00 a year of fuel at the current price if nothing changes? So, is the difference between the cast iron boilers and the efficiency boilers more than \$70,000.00?

Phil said it's, the flu piping is the most expensive thing on my quote that I gave you guys. That raises the price, like our cost is like \$50,000.00 for a flu, to put the flu in. So, there's a big chunk right there of the original proposal.

Gary Friend said so, I guess my question is, what else comes with the high efficiency boilers that is a benefit to us?

Phil said well we can redo the reset. I would have to play with it, but we could run lower water temperatures in the cooler like moderately cool days and still be able to heat your building.

We'd have to see how that worked because I can pick numbers to do that with, but we might be able to run like a 120, like on a day like, well they actually shut down. I think, well above 55 degrees, they shut the boilers down at that building, which in some ways, is good, it might not be good because there're times when some of those rooms need heat. So, even if it calls for heat, there's no hot water to reheat the rooms, the unit ventilators in the rooms. So, right now, at 55 and above, they're shutting the heating system down. We could maintain you know, 110, 120-degree water and still provide heat with the condensing boilers. And we can scale that based on outside air until you get to like zero, and then run like a 180-degree water what the building was designed for, what those unit ventilators were designed for.

Gary Friend said so it's burn efficiency would be better but it's static heat temperatures will be easier to come so there would be more than 15% savings? If you run water at 140 degrees you're going to drop it way down?

Phil said yeah, we could run the water, I could run the water like on a day like today, 120 in the building, so you would gain extra efficiency by doing that.

Gary Friend said on moderate climate days?

Phil Ostrowski said yeah, uh huh.

Gary Friend said so why else would we want those boilers in there? What do they bring to Jake?

Phil said well the, we have two of these in this building right now. The two boilers there in the courthouse are that exact boiler. Those, they are Cleaver Brooks condensing boilers. Control-wise, they can communicate to each other, so they try to run the most efficient way. So, like one boiler would run up to say, 60% and then once it hit that, say I can't carry the building, it brings the other boiler. But then both boilers drop down like say 20, 30% and just idle there to maintain the building. Their controls are self-contained. That's what we would do. And the other building where we're planning to put these in, we would run a communication, the boilers would self, maintain themselves. They wouldn't be really inner wired with the control system. They can be, but they would be basically run, stand-alone from the rest of the system, except to call to make heat.

Gary Friend said your experience with them boilers, do you like them?

Jake Donham said the boilers we have in this building, I have no issues with at all. Knock on wood, since they've been put in, they've run flawlessly. And they are quiet. Like Phil said, it's nice that they're running at lower temps because like on today, this building is actually pushing heat where it needs it. We looked at the other building, it was 55.7, so the boilers were off line,

and there were a few areas that dropped below set point, and they were switching over to heat, which it's not going to heat. It's just going to flow whatever temperature water is in that.

Gary Friend said did you say we'd go from 3 to 2?

Jake Donham said yeah, two boilers, yes, because they're 3 of them now out there, burn boilers. Then these two Cleaver Brooks would replace those 3.

Phil said they'd have equal capacity with two.

Gary Friend said are cast iron boilers totally antiquated now?

Phil said no they're still there, I mean, you can still buy them and stuff. The problem is the thermal shock problem. You can't, they like to have at least 140-degree water being returned to them, so you have to run higher temperature waters out, because if you start dropping that down, the cast actually starts to sweat like a condensing block. And it deteriorates the boiler. The boilers in that building are 19 years old.

Gary Friend said how long will these new ones go? What's the life expectancy?

Phil said they, in that literature, they're mentioning 20 plus years. So, there's a warranty on the heat exchangers.

Jake Donham said 10 and a 20 on the warranty on that.

Phil said yeah.

Gary Friend said to rebuild, if you have to get in and rebuild it, is it less labor-intensive as the cast iron ones?

Phil Ostrowski said yeah, it would be because basically, you just replace the heat exchanger in it. A 20-year warranty against thermal stress and 10 against burner-side corrosion, which means where the burner side is, that's the warranty on Cleaver Brooks.

Jake Donham said the Burnum boilers we looked up, it's not in these spec sheets here, but we looked it up on line, and their warranty was a 10-year warranty, but it had a couple asterisks next to it. And when you read what the asterisks intended, or what they mentioned, it says that they have all rights to change their specs on their products any given time without notice.

Phil said so basically, they change them and if the water wasn't right in the system and you plugged the boiler up, they void the warranty.

Gary Friend said if you were to make a recommendation to us Jake, which would you want?

Jake Donham said I would have to lean towards Phil's decision on this. I mean, he's definitely more of an expert on this than I am. And we have them in this building. I like the cast iron

because they're simpler. There's not much going on with them as far as keeping them going versus these, but these, so far, have proven themselves in this building.

Gary Friend said this building is a good test for them too.

Jake Donham said sure.

Phil said and we have them in other buildings too and we don't have any problems with them.

Mike said the flue, the stainless-steel flu, you just pull out the old flue and put in a new Flu?

Phil Ostrowski said we were going to re-route it through, there's like a back hallway behind the mechanical room. We were going to come out into that hallway and run out to the front of the building, and then up. We could take it through the far side, except for there's a basketball court and I didn't want people beating our flues up. So, we were going to take it to the front of the building, then run them up above the roofline. That stuff is very expensive and that's where a lot of that cost difference is. If I could tie these right to the old flue, yeah, it would have been cheaper.

Mike said Gary (Girton), do you have any thoughts?

Gary Girton said well I'm not familiar with them the two different companies, but I'm just saying the thing that impresses me is the fact that you have these units here in this facility, and have a couple of years of experience with them. We know what they're doing. We know what they have done we know what they can do potentially. And it looks to me like we might as well stick with that knowledge and go forward rather than try to jump ship, so-to-speak, and put this, I agree. I'm familiar the case iron and residential boilers, and they're an issue. In fact, I've got a couple of properties that we own. But I think, in my perspective, my feelings, I think we should go with the ones that we have here in this building and go forward with that. I understand what you're saying about the replacement and expense of stainless-steel flu. I've done a little bit of that. To me, that's the way to go. I understand the cost is more, but cost isn't everything. And I think the cost, from my perspective, we can justify with the fact that we have two years' experience.

Phil said they'll fit right in there, in through the other building.

Gary Friend said how long before they go in if we were to choose to go, how much time do you need to get them in before the install.

Phil said it depends if they have them or not. If they, at the time when I quoted, they were available at that time. I would have to check with the lead time how long to get them if they don't have them. You are probably talking at least a couple months to get them if they're not already manufactured, and people have them in stock. So, you'd be looking towards the end of summer.

Gary Girton said what's your installation time?

Phil said about a month.

Gary Girton said for both of them?

Phil Ostrowski said uh huh.

Jake Donham said the boilers that are in there now actually have to be taken apart piece-by-piece, and then chain hoisted out of the pit, just removal of the old one is going to be big.

Phil said then I have to remove all three of them to get these two-back in.

Mike said did you bring that quote?

Jake Donham said yeah, the quotes from last go around. The proposal was \$238,617.

Gary Friend said for these two boilers?

Jake Donham said for the Cleaver Brooks high efficiencies, yes.

Mike said install?

Jake Donham said uh huh.

Phil said yep, \$238,617. That's totally installed.

Gary Friend said I think we have the funding to do it, and we should do it.

Phil said I do have to check though, because when this quote was written on May 1st, I gave you 30 days to decide. I have, if the price of the boilers did not change, to me, from our supplier, then yeah, the quote's good. There's nothing else I would have changed.

Gary Friend said so if it had then you'll only the rest of the price difference, not the margins?

Phil said yeah. I mean if my supplier will hold their price to me, the quote is good.

Gary Girton said well I think with the time frame involved and with getting them ready to go by winter, I think we need to move today. And I'll move that we approve the purchase of these two units, and I think like Gary said, I think we can come up with funding of some sorts, because we need it and we've got to go with it. The last thing we want to do is for one of those units to go down next winter.

Phil yeah one's down already and we were to lose one of the other ones, we'd have problems.

Gary Friend said we need to spend our ARPA funding down. So, just for you to think about in your motion.

Gary Gitton said well you can go ahead and make a motion whatever with the funding, but I think we, in my perspective, I think we need to move forward.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion that we move forward with that pricing unless it has changed for the cost of the boilers.

Phil Ostrowski said I'll know that tomorrow.

Gary Friend said we can fund this out of ARPA funding.

Mike said I have a motion to purchase and to have Salyer Taylor install the clarifier condensing boilers, Cleaver Brooks, for \$238,617, payable out of ARPA funding. Do I have a second?

Gary Gitton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Darin James – Morgue Storage

Mike said next item on the agenda is Darin James. We got your plan and we've got your equipment expenses. Now we've got to decide what we're going to do about it. And I suppose the first thing we should do is seek an appointment with the hospital and sit down and talk to the hospital. That would be my suggestion.

Gary Friend said mine too.

Mike said so I think Darin should be there and one of us should be there.

Gary Friend said Darin can let us know when he can set it up and if I'm available, I'll certainly go. I'll do what I can to be available.

Darin James said okay. I can get that set up.

Mike said so do you want to take the lead on that?

Gary Friend said yeah. I guess when you set up the meeting too, we're looking at a longer-term situation, where we can remodel a little bit of that building into what satisfies your needs. Let them know up front why we're coming.

Darin James said yeah, the CEO, he's aware of our situation. I've been in kind of close contact with him all the time, anyway. So, one of my deputies also works out there.

Gary Friend said can you make that meeting in the later afternoon, that would be great.

Darin James said sure.

Mike said and your cost estimate for, I guess I'd call it heavy equipment, is not that bad, I didn't think.

Gary Friend said not at all.

Darin James said the coolers are the biggest expense, which we already knew that, other than the remodeling-type part.

Mike said that cooler would be a turnkey. It's for the box and the compressor.

Darin James said yeah. It's a single compressor. You go with a double, that's where you'll start getting, I did quote a double compressor that basically it would do each one separately. It was right around \$12,000.00 more. I didn't know that that was actually worth it. From the research I did, I didn't see the benefit of it.

Mike said okay. Any other questions for Darin?

Gary Girton said well I just think we've got to move forward.

Mike said okay. Thank you for coming.

Joe Copeland – SJCA Task order 21, Bridge 308 funding \$113,363.00

Mike said Joe Copeland, SJCA task order 21, Bridge 308 funding. That's our federal grant bridge, Short Street.

Joe Copeland said we had discussed this to some extent last meeting. And this is for the additional for the PE or design for that bridge on Short Street. We're paying a local amount for the PE, but the rest of it is federal aid, including utility relocation if necessary.

Mike said the federal aid covers utility relocation or we pay it?

Joe Copeland said we put some money in there to do that, yes.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said I plan on going, if you approve it, I plan on going to the council tomorrow morning. Asking them for Wind. The remainder of that PE is being paid out of Wind. This is an additional because it's federal aid.

Gary Friend said is this what we discussed last meeting, the additional is, the price is still the same?

Joe Copeland said yes, yes.

Mike said \$113,363 out of Windfarm? We've already accepted the federal bid, so if we're going to repair that bridge, we better pay for the design fee.

Joe Copeland said correct. Yeah, we had put \$650,000.00 in utility relocation.

Mike said okay. You want to pay this out of Wind?

Gary Girton said I think so. We've got to get these bridges cared for. So, we've got to keep moving forward as rapidly as possible. You say this one then will move into 27, 28?

Joe Copeland said 28.

Gary Friend said the first engineering, our portion before the add on, what do we pay that out of?

Joe Copeland said Wind.

Gary Friend said Wind. This has been a Wind project from the start?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Mike said someone want to make a motion?

Gary Friend makes motion to approve.

Mike said I have a motion to pay the SJCA task order number 21, the design fee for bridge 308 funding of \$113,363, out of Windfarm funds. Do I have a second?

Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland said one more item. We have a bridge on 800 South, bridge 231, and we started to repair the deck and put an overlay on it. And there was asphalt on the bridge deck, so we took the asphalt off and discovered that the bridge deck was bad. It would have been almost impossible to repair it. They say when they put an excavator buck on it, concrete fell right through. It was discolored, the concrete was, that's a sure sign you've got problems.

Gary Friend said is this the one you and I talked about?

Joe Copeland said yes sir.

Gary Friend and in that discussion, don't you have funding available?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary Friend said that's already categorized for bridges?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary Friend said you don't need action.

Joe Copeland said yeah, I just need you if you would approve the proposal from E&H is all I need.

Gary Friend said you've got funding already set up for this?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Joe Copeland said yes. We, since the deck was bad, there were some steel beams there that was the main part of the structure. There was steel that needed to be painted. But by the time you paint those beams and do all that, I just went ahead and got a quote for replacing the entire superstructure. The substructure foundation was in pretty good shape actually. So, we're going to replace it with steel beams and a steel grid deck.

Gary Friend said so, this \$96,328 fixes the bridge entirely?

Joe Copeland said yeah, that's the material yeah, that's the material for the superstructure. And then the contractor will be on top of that. There'll be some rebar and some concrete and some stone, and a little rip rap.

Mike said okay. You need our approval on this?

Joe Copeland said yes sir.

Mike said someone want to move approval to purchase the material to repair bridge 231?

Gary Girton said where is the bridge that sets on 800?

Joe Copeland said it's, 36, if you get off 36 there as you're going around the curve, it's west of 1000 West, the bridge is. There's a cemetery there. It's just east of the cemetery.

Gary Girton said okay, okay. Alright, thank you.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. As a reminder, what fund is that coming from? or?

Mike Haffner said it's 73.

Mike said do I have a second? I'll second that. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland said update the bridge on 500 South west of 227, is bridge 183, they're working on it. The superstructure components will be delivered Wednesday and Thursday. So, we should be finishing that up, hopefully, a week and a half, two weeks.

Mike Haffner - Paving

Mike Haffner said just inform you about the paving. Basically, 250 West north of Ridgeville to the county line is complete. And then on 500 West, we're doing three miles there. We're

probably about a third of a mile short, so hopefully, by the end of this week, we'll have that project done.

Mike said I was at an event Saturday morning and received a compliment about 500 West. So, I guess for my benefit, I appreciate that.

Mike Haffner said we've got some places, and mind you, this 500 West is just the first layer, and there's some thin spots, and there's some rough spots that I'm going to be tweaking until the 2nd layer gets back. So, you know, we're far from being finished on 500. And there's one spot on 250 East that we'll tweak. But, we're learning, it's going well. We did lose two more employees this week. I was able to hire two, so we're still basically, four short.

Gary Friend said what positions are four short, truck drivers and laborers?

Mike Haffner said truck drivers, laborer and I've got one operator position that I have not filled yet. A lot of it is due to money. There're better opportunities elsewhere. But, we're doing the best we can.

Arlinda Hardwick & Jeff Doss, Request for windfarm funds (water tower)

Mike said Arlinda Hardwick, town of Ridgeville.

Arlinda Hardwick said good morning. Thank you for seeing us.

Mike said request for windfarm funds.

Gary Friend said for reference, Jeff Doss, the town president.

Arlinda Hardwick said I was going to recognize, introduce him. We're here because we need help, obviously, or we wouldn't be here. Our water tower is in dire need of work done on it. We are not in the process of working on the sewage plant. We're bonded at a 1.2-million-dollar grant, bond actually. The whole project is 3.2, which we got money from the SRF and OCRA to do that. But, the previous two council members had raised the utility rate 73%, which has helped this project some. But, we definitely need some work on the water tower. It's extremely important. We have a \$100,000 that we can put toward what needs to be done to the tower. The gentleman is coming next Tuesday, prior to our council meeting, to let the council know exactly all is involved. We no longer have a certified full-time superintendent for either of the utilities. So, we've had to sub-contract that out, which is really, we have to move forward. There's a lot that we could say but we aren't able to say because it's still under investigation from IDEM. So, we can't go into all that, but we definitely would need some help with the tower. I'm going to ask for \$150,000 from the Windfarm if at all possible. And we will put a \$100,000 towards that. And just for the short inspection from what he had told Jeff, \$100,000 wouldn't even cover the top of the tower.

Jeff Doss said he can't give us a definite quote of what it would cost to do everything right now because we don't know what we can pay for. But maintenance is the main thing. He said the inside of the tank looks good. What it needs inside the tank is like an aerator, something to stir

it, keep it stirred. That was the main thing on the inside. The outside, we've got overflows where the walls are broke, just hanging, aviation lights just hanging by the conduit, ladders that's not in OSHA compliance, a lot of maintenance. And he's asked me what I would do, and I said well you wouldn't want to paint a house if your window sills are rotted. You know, you want to fix the window sills before you paint. But, the whole kit caboodle on the tower on the outside, it does need repainted, but he said it also needs sandblasted. And he said that's the big expense. But I'm not worried. Personally, the outside looks of it, I don't care right now. My main thing is getting it where it's not broke, the maintenance.

Mike said so you want, you're estimating \$250,000. You don't know what it's going to cost?

Arlinda Hardwick said no. We borrowed from our EDIT plan and of course, I know you all have it, but that won't be paid back until 2030.

Mike said right.

Arlinda Hardwick said and I personally hate to borrow more when you still already owe frankly, in my opinion.

Mike said well the Federal Government does that.

Arlinda Hardwick said I know, all the time. And for me personally, this is my last year, my last term, and we're under the gun. We've got a lot. We have to move forward. We can't look back. What's done is done. We can't change that. Mr. Girton has been to several of our meetings. He's aware of some of our situations. And because it's still kind of under investigation, we can't go into a lot of it as far as utilities are concerned. So, we're moving forward.

Mike said you were one of the first communities we helped with the Windfarm funds back in 14.

Arlinda Hardwick said I know. Yes.

Mike said and we didn't help you to the extent that we've helped other communities.

Gary Girton said so you're saying then if you put the 150 with the 100 you have, that's not going to include painting it?

Jeff Doss said I would say no, but I can't answer a 100%. He said, I told him we had a \$100,000 that we have right now. He just kind of snickered and said that probably wouldn't even touch it with what's all wrong on the outside. Some of the stuff seems trivial in the fact that when I do something, just like the overflow, the splash, he wants a splash pad put so it's not washing away. It makes sense, we've got rip rap there but it's apparently not working. And that's going to wash out underneath south of the tower.

Arlinda Hardwick said the leg of the tower.

Jeff Doss said which later on could cause real problems. But \$100,000 he just said that wouldn't even begin to touch it.

Mike said when is he supposed to have a firm price for you?

Jeff Doss said it would be more towards next week.

Mike said would it not make sense to wait until you have that and we look at this in July?
Meaning Windfarm takes commissioners and council.

Arlinda Hardwick said yes, I know it does.

Mike said and if we say yes and it cost \$300,000, what's going to happen then?

Arlinda Hardwick said well, sticker shock, after we pick ourselves up off the floor because it's probably going to be at least that, if not more. I've been there a long time, and I kind of know what's coming down the path, but it's a start. At least if the contractor that we've got commissioned to come do this, which he did at no charge to the town, is looking at giving us a maintenance contract. We put so much down and then he comes back and fixes. And that's what Farmland does now. And I had called around when the gentleman came before with the previous to the board members, and wanted me to call Portland, and they didn't recommend that we go to a maintenance program. But Farmland gets along fine with it. I don't know about Lynn. I haven't call Lynn or Parker. In fact, Farmland superintendent is taking care of Ridgeville right now. He's come over to help us because he's a certified operator. So, we would have had to hire a gentleman out of Redkey, to do the sewage utility, plus we're training somebody. And that's a burden on us because that's costing us about four grand a month to do that. It's whatever you three think.

Gary Friend said on what Mike was referring to if the need is larger and we have the ability to do more, it's a lot easier to come once.

Arlinda Hardwick said oh, that would be great, yeah.

Gary Friend said what I see is Ridgeville has raised its water rate 74%.

Arlinda Hardwick said yes.

Gary Friend said is that a 3.2-million-dollar project going on that, it's not that you're not doing all you can do.

Arlinda Hardwick said yes.

Gary Friend said what is the low, what is the minimum utility rate in Ridgeville now? What are people paying as a minimum?

Arlinda Hardwick said about 80 bucks.

Gary Friend said how many people are at minimum? What's the average water bill in Ridgeville?

Arlinda Hardwick said \$80. We have 326 active users as of right now. We've lost a lot. When I came in in 84, we had 386. We have 326 now. But, that's about the average water bill.

Jeff Doss said just for me and my wife, it runs anywhere from 98 to 101.

Arlinda Hardwick said yeah, for Ron and I, it's 92, 98. And I'm conservative, I'm sure he is too. You know, some aren't.

Gary Friend said well I guess what I'm getting at is, to try to get Ridgeville to repopulate, it can't be over \$100 water bill the standard. You've got to overcome that to get people to move into town.

Arlinda Hardwick said I know.

Gary Friend said so you, and if you bond, if we don't help, you have to just raise the water rates higher.

Arlinda Hardwick said I know.

Gary Friend said and the fact that you already did 74% is pretty significant.

Arlinda Hardwick said well in looking at the payment that I'm making back now, I make \$8300 every month back on the sewage bond, right now. That started last January. Last year, it was \$6,000. This year, it's \$8,000. But the amortization schedule doesn't go up. It stays that. But, honestly, truthfully, from my experience, by the end of the year or the first, they'll have to raise the rates again. They will. There's no way we can buy the chemicals that are needed for the plant, pay a person to work there, pay the utility because our light bill runs over two grand. Yeah, they won't have a choice. There won't, you have to raise the pay for people for them to come. You know, you can't just pay them minimum wage or pay them what I make an hour. But, yeah, it's a burden for a small community. It is truly, which you all know that. You guys know that.

Gary Friend said well I think what Mike was getting at is we'd be better positioned to see what we could do to help you if we knew what the project was.

Arlinda Hardwick said okay.

Gary Friend said and if we wait until July, the first meeting in July with the council right behind us the next day, well it will be two days later because I think July 4th is a Tuesday. Anyway, in that time frame, is it going to do any damage to the town? Are you going to be able to continue on?

Jeff Doss said on no. The water fill in the tank and everything is fine.

Arlinda Hardwick said yeah, it's tested every day.

Jeff Doss said it's just the maintenance of stuff falling apart on it. But, just like anything, you've got a vehicle, you've got to maintain it. It just needs a lot of maintenance done to it.

Gary Friend said what kind of impact is not getting a proper budget have on your funding? Do you have a dollar on that?

Arlinda Hardwick said no, I had to, of course, you all know I, we didn't get it.

Gary Friend said it's wasn't your fault.

Arlinda Hardwick said no I understand that. It wasn't. I was there. They just didn't show up. So, for whatever reason, we just went with last year's budget. Bringing back the police department like it was prior has put a burden because you have to pay people to do, and do all that. But, that's been, the community has appreciated that part of it you know, that we've got full time police officers now. And they're 24, you know, not 7 days a week, better than we had prior. Better than we had prior.

Gary Friend said last question, what project are you doing in the sewer plant for 3 million dollars?

Jeff Doss said well were actually, a whole new lab, going away from chlorine gas to liquid chlorine. There all new piping system all through the drains. Every bit of the piping has been torn out, replaced, all new blowers. A couple of things I don't even know what they are, that automatically checks the water as it goes through. It's just like, a little robot deal. Drying beds area all going to be new. Managed to get \$35,000 cut off of that, which is miniscule for the amount of money that's there. But they were wanting to put a roof over the drying bed, which I thought was about as crazy as you can get. And the engineer didn't think so, and called everybody else that has one and said that's the biggest pigeon coop you can build so, we're not getting that. That saved \$35,000 but there's still, that's just a drop in the bucket. But basically, running all new stuff.

Arlinda Hardwick said the whole new system. Well you'd like us to wait until next month then?

Mike said well I guess you'll know and we'll know what this project is going to cost.

Arlinda Hardwick said that's true.

Mike said and I hope it's not sticker shock.

Arlinda Hardwick said and I know it takes the council. Yeah. Okay.

Gary Girton said I agree with that also.

Mike said and if another month is not going to hurt you.

Arlinda Hardwick said no.

Jeff Doss said no.

Gary Girton said it's better to know everything and let us all have sticker shock.

Gary Friend said any chance you can stay on the councils' agenda to just brief them to what's going on, so they're ready for it in a month?

Arlinda Hardwick said if you think we should do that, then we will. We will be here.

Mike said well again, I think I'm going to council tomorrow. I could brief them on your presentation this morning unless you just want to come back. But, I'll be here for council in the morning.

Arlinda Hardwick said okay. If you'll do it for me that's fine. I appreciate that. I always get kind of get kind of nervous. I know we're in for the northern part of the county, but we are part of Randolph and so, we appreciate you listening to us.

Gary Friend said how many years at Clerk Treasurer?

Arlinda Hardwick said 39. This is it.

Whose coming behind you?

Arlinda Hardwick said well there's only been one person that signed up so far, so I really don't know. Hopefully, we'll get two other good board members, so, time will tell. These last few years have been rough on this old lady, I must say. Well thank you gentlemen. Laura will you put us on for next month?

Laura Martin said I will.

Arlinda Hartwick said okay. Thank you.

John Greene, NLBC – fiber conduit lease

Mike said John Greene, NLBC fiber conduit lease.

John Greene said I'm going to rely heavily on Meeks today to keep me honest. So, we have been negotiating, I don't know, I guess that's the best word, Meeks.

Meeks said I don't know. I sent you an email and I haven't ever got a response from you.

John Greene said yeah, back and forth on stuff, actually, I thought I had responded, but maybe I didn't.

Meeks said I think the response was you wanted to have a meeting.

John Greene said yeah, the last go around that we had, there was only one, I think one sticking point, if you will, on the contract. I think we were in agreement, Meeks with all the changes you made.

Meeks said well you hadn't told me that if you were.

John Greene said okay. Other than the reimbursement for relocation, I think was the only thing we hadn't really come to an agreement on. And there were some questions along those lines.

Meeks said literally, I haven't had anything from you guys.

Mike said well I guess the last email I saw from Meeks, and he raised the issue that in section 1 of the lease that you proposed, section 3, the county would be obligated to 50% of the maintenance cost. And the question was, are there estimates on the monthly cost. And then section 6, what specifically what would require rights that would need to be obtained by the county. We didn't quite understand that. And I raised the issue, and Meeks did too, that we would want to be obligated to pay the cost of relocation unless it was reimbursed for those costs. And I'm not sure why we would want to do that. And then it has us bare the risk of loss. And we have to check our insurance carrier to see if we could even be indemnified against that risk. And then section 16, I'm not sure what it is.

John Greene said so we must have missed on something there Meeks because I thought we got back on all of this.

Mike said there's a lot of

Meeks said well on May 1st I had sent an email.

John Greene said right.

Meeks said on May 2nd, you asked, you were out of town. Is there, also our meeting on May 29th, and then we went back and forth on when the meetings could be.

John Greene said right.

Meeks said so my, the question for those 8 points I asked, I have never had a response to those.

John Greene said okay. Well I'll apologize for that because I thought that either Jeremy or I one, or both had responded to that. I think again, going to what Jeremy, Jeremy is our attorney, he didn't have any issues with any of it other than the maintenance and relocation part of it. And I think there was question that you had about well what does the relocation entail. It's all

contained within the county, so the only relocation requirements would be if something happened and the county rebuilt a road and we had to relocate something because of that rebuilding. There's nothing that's involved in the state, so there wouldn't be any state road projects that would.

Mike said well I was going to say, that's section 9. As long as it's spelled out that way that if we're causing the required relocation, then I would think we would be responsible for that. If we're not, and somebody else is, then, and I'm not sure it was spelled out in the lease that way.

John Greene said it's all within county right-of-way. There's none of it in state right-of-way.

Mike said I guess maybe the best thing to do would, can you draw up a lease and send it back to them?

Meeks said I guess, I'd like to have a response from them about those 8 items first Mike.

Mike said okay, and then based on their response.

Meeks said we can get, we can get language together, yes.

John Greene said yeah, we can take care of that. Like I say, I thought, I thought Jeremy had responded directly back to you Meeks. I apologize. I, that was a mis-step on our part.

Mike said okay. Well I think there's no question John, that we want you to have access to that conduit.

John Greene said sure, absolutely.

Mike said and we kind of talked around this for a long time. We're finally getting to a point where you can have access.

John Greene said yes, we are.

Mike said I don't think we want hang this up any longer. So, we ought to be able to get this resolved in the next couple of weeks and have a lease signed by mid-June.

John Greene said yep, I think so. Like I said, that was the only issue that we wanted to discuss, was just the relocation part.

Meeks said well I think it's whoever gets reimbursed for that relocation. Sometimes there'll be reimbursements. That whoever paid for it, should get that reimbursement. If it's the state or if it's another utility that's going to be doing that.

John Greene said right. And typically, all that means is you know, it's almost always a road widening project where it's going to encumber one of the handholds that has to be relocated, and because you're within the county right-of-way in this case, there would be no reimbursement

from the county road department on something like that. We'd have to do that on our own nickel if we owned it. So, it's normally on the owner of the conduit and the handholds that that is the party that has to do the reimbursement or that's the party that has to pay for the relocation. So, that was the reason that came up. Most of the time, when we have these IRUs for leased conduit or leased cable, then you know, the party that actually owns the infrastructure is the one that has to do the relocation and has to pay. But, again, I think we had even talked about hey, we'll split the cost if there's a cost to relocate.

Mike said so, you want an answer from John?

Meeks said I think we need an answer to it, then we can get the lease together.

John Greene said I will make sure you get that Meeks this week, absolutely.

Mike said do you want to put it on the agenda for two weeks? Think we can get her done?

Meeks said I'll have my end done if

John Greene said let me see.

Mike said the 19th.

John Greene said I may not be able to make the 19th, but I can have Barnes here in my stead if that would work? Steve Barnes should be.

Meeks said I don't have a problem with that.

John Greene said as long as Meeks and I've got all the details worked out, we should be fine.

Mike said okay.

John Greene said one other quick question. One thing we might want to have a discussion of at that same meeting, is county road requirements for permitting. We ran into a couple of different issues and I'm hearing some rumors about some things, and I'd like to have a more lengthy discussion. I don't know if that's, if this is the right venue for that, or if we just need to sit down and have a meeting with Mike about that.

Mike said probably should sit down and have a meeting with Mike.

John Greene said because we've got some very restrictive requirements from the federal government on how long we can take to do installations. It's a ten-day period. And we can't get a permit approved in ten days right now. So, that's going to cause problems, not only for us, but.

Mike said is that an easement permit?

John Greene said well any time we have to cross the right-of-way, say we're on the left-hand side of the road and we have to get to the right, we have to have a permit for a drop.

Mike said so, do you have a map of those where you're going to do that?

John Greene said well we will once we get the engineering completed. And normally, what we try to do is pre-engineer as much as we can. But let's say it's a year later, and we've already built the main line, which we've obviously got permit for that, but a lot of times, people don't always hook up you know, as soon as cable goes in. It could be a year or two or three years later. We're still under the obligation of the federal government to do that within ten days. And that's not just us.

Mike said that would be restriction we're putting on him because he gets, those are approved by us. So, I'm not sure how we would handle that.

John Greene said that's why I say I wanted to mention that.

Mike said do you know if we could give him the authority to approve those? I mean, they're pretty much rubber stamped. He comes in and recommends them, but it takes, depending on when it falls, it would take more than 10 days.

John Greene said this wouldn't be for main line cable. This would just be for drops

Mike said well that's, even for the drops, that's the way they work.

John Greene said right. Yeah, that's something that anybody that's got federal money.

Meeks said I don't know.

Mike said I would think, I would think, well I would hope we could give him authority to approve those.

Meeks said yeah, I'd have to look it up.

Mike said do you want to do that?

Meeks said well they'd have to send me the stuff. I would need to see the federal regulations and stuff.

Mike said do you want to reach out to Mike and see if he'll be willing to do that if we can give him the authority to do that? And then he can, you could come to him, unless there's a real issue, he's not going to tell us not to do it.

John Greene said that doesn't just affect us.

Mike said well it does,

John Greene said a lot of people involved in that.

Mike said so Gary is going to reach out to Mike and you might touch base with him, and just tell him what you need, and show him why you need it.

John Greene said yeah.

Mike said the federal government. And we'll see if we can give him the authority to do that, then we'll do that.

John Greene said okay. And Meeks, I'll take care of that and get that to you here in the next day or so.

Mike said alright and we ought to be able to deal with that at our next meeting as well.

John Greene said sounds good. Sorry for the confusion folks.

Mike said okay. Thanks John.

James Strong – Camp Slingshot Lease

Mike said James Strong, camp slingshot lease. He must be out working at the camp.

Meeks said I sent it to him.

Mike said I know, and I think I saw him Friday or so. They are out there busy getting it ready. They're planning to rent it. I guess, I'm not sure what we do now.

Meeks said pass the lease and see if they sign it. You could do that.

Mike said yeah, you're right. It does have some blanks.

Meeks said I didn't know what the address was out there.

Gary Friend said and the cost.

Meeks said and the cost.

Gary Friend said which we said that we'd probably forgive the cost for their upkeep.

Meeks said my feeling is you put the \$2500 in do something with EDIT and it comes back.

Mike said say that again?

Meeks said I would charge them the rental and then if you want to give them EDIT funds or whatever, or those funds back, that would be up to you.

Mike said so, it's a pretty straight forward lease. They're willing to maintain it, which I think Jake's left, so we don't have to worry about the mowing contract anymore. They're going to repair the water heaters and they're going to keep it nice. Anything they change is going to be able to be removeable, structure-wise. And it's a term for June 5th, which is today, to November 1st, 2023. And the lessor has rent, agrees to pay lessor's rent for the leased premises the sum of blank.

Meeks said I will tell you that we can do this because the lease provisions in the statute does not require if you lease it to a charitable, religious, or some other type of charitable purpose. And they told me there are a not-for-profit. And I asked them for that information.

Mike said he shared it.

Meeks said yeah. So, you don't have to do the bidding basically, the required bidding, and you can rent it for whatever you want to rent it for.

Mike said well we talked \$2500, but then we also talked that if they were going to maintain it and that would reduce or expense out there, and they're going to spend the expenses to get it up and going, we also talked about forgiving that \$2500 and just renting it at no fees.

Gary Girtton said I thought for this first year, that was going to be very applicable because it'll cut down on our mowing cost.

Meeks said you can do that. I guess that's what I was trying to say.

Gary Friend said and they've got to get the water recertified by the State.

Gary Girtton said right. I'll make that in the form of a motion.

Mike said I have a motion to rent the Camp Slingshot for the previously stated to the Open Arms House of Worship Church for the term price of zero dollars and other considerations. Do I have a second?

Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said and this calls for just my signature. Is that okay?

Gary Friend said it is.

Mike said is that part of your motion?

Gary Girtton said yes.

Mike said part of your second?

Gary Friend said it is.

Meeks said may I ask for those documentations showing that they are not-for-profit? Although, I did look it up and on the state web site, it said not-for-profit. So, I just wanted to let you guys know about it.

Mike said well you sent us that.

Chris Burton, Ertel – Health Insurance renewal

Mike said okay. Next item, Chris Burton. This is our health insurance renewal.

Chris Burton said so we had a, talked to the insurance committee. We've had a year, claims were up a little bit this year from the past year, but as far as renewal goes, with Sunlife which is a re-insure, that's where the bulk of the cost is. We got it down from 11% down to about 7.4. So, this first document in here is, has the 7.4% increase. You can see that there in that renewal option number 1. So, that's how that worked out, we felt pretty good about that. The only caveat to the 7.4% increase, they want us to offer a couple voluntary products for the Sunlife for no cost to the county, an accident policy, and a critical illness, so we're going to do that for the employees. That, enable them to lower the renewal from 11 to 7. So, the page behind the middle sheet there, I kind of just broke down the cost for the employees' cost, the county's cost, and how we kind of came in. If you look kind of towards the middle of the page, last years cost, the first in blue there was like a little under \$2.4 million. Actual cost projection, again, we're projecting because this goes through in July. We're coming in at about 2.5 with, we get some pretty good rebates from the prescription company, which is Truescripts, about almost \$87,000 back to the county. So, we're coming in just about 2.5. It's about 5% higher than expected this year. But, it didn't hurt us on the renewal cost. If you look at the numbers below that, looking at the total down here as far as total cost of just about \$2,387,000 county cost is about \$2.2 million. Employee cost, we just kept that the same. We did not change the employee cost. We're not changing the benefits. So, all-in-all, everything being said, and we talked about it in the past, you have that \$60,000 specific stop loss protection on large claims. We had, I think we had close to \$400,000 in claims about \$60,000. So, that's really kept our cost pretty stable, you know. So, we've not increased that level. Reinsurance has kept it there for us, which is great. On the left side of your packet, you don't need to go through it right now, but I do have a list of all the large claims that was on the county this past year that are listed there for your review. The other document I have in there, I thought was important because, believe it or not, we've been working on this for in the past 10 years, to kind of show you per year that the average for the county for that 10-year period has been a little over 6%. So, we're beating the odds, you know. We've been able to keep costs pretty stable with the county, which we feel good about. The change from Anthem to United Health care and UMR, I think has been a good one. We're getting good discounts. So anyway, all-in-all, it's been pretty good. I mean, we, medical trends still in that 10 to 12% range. We're much better in that trend in the last ten years. So, that's kind of in a nutshell what's happened in the past year. Again, we feel pretty good about the increase. We feel, I was, quite frankly, the county is running as far as a mass liability about 88% loss ratio, which is higher than normal. It might end up getting better the last couple of months. But what I liked about Sunlife kind of looked at the whole picture here and still gave us a good renewal. We have a good partnership with them.

Meeks said did we have any change in benefits, I'm going to be asked?

Chris Burton said yeah, we've not changed benefits. And last year we did have, we had some people move from the HSA plan to the PPO plan. So, but you know, you still have \$4,000.00 deductible, the county is still putting in the HSA. Put in the HSA contribution, about \$83,000.00 you're putting in the employees' HSA account which is very generous. So, I mean, when I talked to the employees every year, yeah, we would like the deductible to be lower you know, but 4,000 with you guys putting in a \$1,000 for the employee, that brings it down to \$3,000, so the max out of pocket is really low, compared to if they have that large claim. And the average out of pocket in Indiana is between 6 and \$8,000. So, now we're talking down out of pocket in the 3 or 4,000 range, so you are a lot better there. On the PPO plan, it's a good option for people who want to have an office co-pay, they want to have a prescription drug card. That plan has that, so and the fact you guys are paying most of the cost for the employees. I mean, I know it's an expensive benefit for the county. We try to stress to the employees that most employers aren't paying this much for the employees' insurance cost as you guys are doing. You've not raised your costs for awhile now. I know it's tough to keep employees and the benefit plan is a big part of it. So, I think the time they walk out of the meeting, they feel, they have an understanding, because we have a lot of clients across the state, and I can tell you, what you guys pay for the employees, the benefit plans that are offered, you guys are in the top tier of our clients. I mean you really are.

Mike said so renewal option two and renewal option three, would there be an opportunity if we wanted to roll the dice and have lesser number of maximum claims, we would save on that, although it shows to costing more if we had lesser maximum claims, we would reduce our overall cost. So, it would be a roll of the dice.

Chris Burton said you would reduce your fixed cost for this. And you can see the claim cost goes up because you're taking on a little more liability. And so, that's why on that one page where I show you all the large claims, I mean even if it's for a long time, it's not dice I would want to roll. I mean because if I thought we were going to have lesser large claims, if we have a couple years in a row of that, then maybe we think about going from a \$60,000 to a 70. But right now, that \$60,000 is helping out the county.

Gary Friend said that's still a 3 million-dollar aggregate in total?

Chris Burton said oh yeah, as far as total liability, yeah. I think the max, actually, the max, the max liability is 2 point, yeah, 2 point, a little under that. We've never.

Mike said is that the total estimated health fund plan cost, 2.84?

Chris Burton said that's, yes. And know on wood, we've never, we've never hit the, come close to hitting the max liability point, you know. And again, what's helping us there is the, having that \$60,000 Specific. And we have employers that have 100,000 in the Specific.

Mike said I hope the Ertel bus is helping us too.

Chris Burton said the Ertel bus is helping a lot.

Gary Girton said I think it helped a lot. You can see these numbers from the time we started where I think the first go around was you have ten clients or 15 maybe, very few, and now we're up to what, 80 plus?

Chris Burton said it's been a blessing.

Gary Girton said it's obvious that has been a factor in reducing our expenses on claims.

Chris Burton said like I said, the only way to really control, because it's claim cost is what drives up cost, right. So, if we get a healthier employee base, common sense. That's what we try to do, and I can tell you the medical team, they love coming down here. And they've helped a lot of people I can tell you for sure.

Gary Friend said so the monthly renewal goes from \$157,504 to \$163,759? That's the impact on the family right now, about where were at?

Chris Burton said right.

Gary Friend said okay.

Chris Burton said and we did, and by the way, we did check with another company. There's a self-funded trust called Jefferson Health Plan. Laura knows, we talked, we did go to them for a quote. Actually, their numbers came higher than United Health Care, so we did not. We'll look at it again next year. Then trust is really big in Ohio. Just came to Indiana last year, they have a few counties. So, we'll look at it again next year. But service-wise and everything that I think UMR has done for the county, they've done a good job.

Mike said this renews July 1st?

Chris Burton said July 1st.

Mike said any reason not to go ahead and renew it today?

Gary Friend said no.

Gary Girton made motion to approve the renewal of our health insurance. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks said one more question. Do we know when the meetings are going to be held?

Chris Burton said I'm going to get those scheduled right now.

Max Jennings- Antique Club amended lease

Mike said Max Jennings.

Mike said Max want to come up? We've moved you up in the agenda. We've all seen a copy of the lease and I guess the question would be are you and your group in agreement to the lease?

Max said yes.

Mike said okay. Any questions for Max?

Gary Girton said no I don't have any.

Mike said does someone want to move approval of this lease?

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

Meeks said Max, Laura will have a copy of the signed one.

Max said so it needs to come to her office to sign it?

Mike said or you can sign it right now.

Meeks said you can sign it now or do you have to get approval?

Max said I want the president to sign it.

Meeks said yeah, take it up to Laura when you get the president to sign it. We'll just need a signed copy.

Max said okay. So, I can pick it up from her?

Mike said who is the president?

Max said Brian Hazelbaker. He works for Indiana American Water in Muncie.

Mike said okay.

Meeks said if you give it to me, I'll just go make a copy and give it to Max he can get it signed. He won't have to come back.

Mike said okay. Thanks for your patience, and thanks for working with us.

Max said I appreciate you working with me.

County Council update

Mike said I'll go to council. Anyone, Bev, you're here and Missy was here. She's gone. Bev do you have anything for us this morning?

Bev Fields said I do not.

Bob McCoy, Winchester update

Mike said okay. Mayor Bob, Bob McCoy?

Bob McCoy said splashpad construction has finally started. Looks like probably a September completion date. So, I guess if it's warm in September, people will be able to cool off, if it's not, then maybe next year.

Gary Friend said is that tank setting out in front of the pool, is that part of that?

Bob McCoy said yeah.

Gary Friend said okay.

Mike said okay, thank you.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Mike said that brings us to our other business. Art Moystner, sheriff. Want to introduce your deputies here with you?

Art said I have Josh Geesy and Jordan Alfrey with me. They're here inquiring minds and learning how the process works. That's a good thing. The only thing I have today is the additional appropriations. If there's any explanation needed for some of those, I can provide that. If not, I don't think I have anything else for you today.

Mike said well we had a hand gun quote from you.

Art said yes sir.

Mike said and I guess I'm not seeing it all right now.

Laura said that's all on it.

Art said that's what they had said. It brings it down by a single item so the top two are a, either or, instead of a one each. And then just add on to it what we would get, and we selected the items off that list and came up with the total of \$17,680. With the trade-ins we have. Our total is \$14,680.

Mike said the trade-ins are over ten years old? You indicated you tried to do it every ten years I think.

Art said I think a lot of agencies do it earlier than that. A lot of them are anywhere from four to seven years. And I would point out that this is for the hand guns that we use. We are still testing rifles.

Mike said do you want to wait and do the rifle with the hand gun and do it all at once we?

Art said no, because it would be separate companies.

Mike said okay.

Art said plus, I f we do them separate, it gives us opportunity to transition one, then transition the other.

Mike said and how many guns are there total?

Art Moystner said do you remember the total Josh?

Josh said I think we quoted 18.

Art Moystner said yeah, it was either 18 or 20.

Mike said are we going to act on this today?

Gary Girton said maybe we can take the sheriff's recommendation act on this hand gun with the trade-ins in the amount of \$14,680.

Gary Girton said that was for 18?

Art Moystner said it's either 18 or 20. I don't have that exact figure. I apologize.

Gary Girton said alright. That's my motion then.

Mike said do you want to just let him pay for it out of his budget?

Gary Friend said that's where it's at right now.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Art Moystner said the only other I think, is the sheriff's equipment that was an ARPA request and a building maintenance.

Mike said yeah, we've already approved those.

Art Moystner said okay. Perfect. Do you guys have any questions?

Mike said I don't have any questions.

Minutes of April 27, 2023 Joint meeting

Mike said next item on our agenda is our Minutes of our April 27th joint meeting with council. We received a copy of this via email, and I trust we've reviewed it. Any additions, corrections or deletions to these minutes? Hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to approve.

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

Payroll Claims \$293,511.81

Mike said next item, our payroll claims in the amount of \$293,511.81 that are at our place. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

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

Regular Claims \$1,812,458.50

Mike said now we received a copy of our regular claims in the amount of \$1,812,458.50 via email. And I'll entertain a motion to approve the regular claims as presented.

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

J&K Claim \$5,000.00

Mike said that brings us to our J&K claim in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Gary Girton said Chris just left. I think it's time now. I think, they're warranting their equipment. It's under warranty. And they've been down here, they're still working on some little things. I think they're going to continue to do that. So, I think we just as well pay the \$5,000 and have it off the books.

Mike said I have a motion to pay the final retainage to J&K. Do I have a second?

Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Girton said there are fire departments and different ones that's trying to get grants to get new equipment. That's still in the process.

James Strong

Mike said okay. I'm going to interrupt our claims thing. It seems James has shown up. James, we approved your lease at zero rent for an initial period from June 5th today, to November 1st.

James Strong said okay.

Mike said so we signed the lease. Laura has it.

Meeks said I can send it to Laura then you can come in and sign it. Can you come in to the auditor's office and sign it?

James Strong said yes.

BNY Mellon RCFFO HVAC Bond Claim \$211,000.00

BNY Mellon Communications Bond Claim \$43,200.00

BNY Mellon Highway Bond Claim \$154,500.00

Mike said that brings us to three BNY Mellon claims and these are for bonds for the HVAC, communications bond and the highway bond claim. These are, I'd entertain a motion to approve these three claims all at once.

Gary Friend made motion to approve all three claims. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Lash Legacy LLC Matching grant claim \$20,000.00

Mike said the next claim is an EDIT claim for \$20,000.00. This was our match for the Lash Legacy LLC outside of their building at the Davis building. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

Settlement spring 2023 Claim \$19,429,612.05

Mike said next item is the settlement spring 2023 claim in the amount of \$19,429,612.05.

Gary Friend said what's all in that Laura?

Laura said I emailed it to you, but it's all the towns and the cities and schools, everybody that gets part of the tax money.

Mike said okay. I'd entertain a motion to approve the spring settlement 2023.

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

Desk for Commissioner/Council Room

Mike said that brings us to the end of our claims. Desk for commissioner/council room.

Gary Friend said I said it didn't matter to us. It kind of matters to me. We have EDIT meetings where people are sitting in the crowd. We have meetings where people have to crowd in here. I think we need it, but I would not stand for just one. So, me personally, I would like to see us

upgrade this room, have both desks put in accordingly, where we could have all those people when necessary. But I believe that the council ought to pay for it out of general.

Mike said You're suggesting that?

Gary Friend said I'm suggesting that we do it and the council fund it.

Mike said two desks?

Gary Friend said two desks to extend out.

Laura said so two matching?

Gary Friend said two matching, so this whole thing matches. I even went to the courts and everything in there matches, it's far more furniture than exist in here. It's not asking too much for the long haul. It's not asking too much for the professionalism in Randolph County.

Mike said is that a motion?

Gary Friend said it's a motion, a motion that we do it providing the council funds it out of General. Another reason too, is during the budget last year, as you presented to council, we cut the commissioner Cum Cap way back in order to have the funding we needed at the time. So, this is not a too big of an ask. I think we went from 250 to 50, didn't we? On the Cum Cap in the commissioners?

Mike said do I have a second to that motion?

Mike said well I'll second the motion. We do have EDIT meetings up here where the EDIT board sits in the audience. I've been at the EDIT board meetings.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I'll report that to the council tomorrow.

Fountain Park Cemetery Information (Tabled from 5/15)

Mike said Fountain Park Cemetery Information. I don't see anyone here from Fountain Park so, I'd say we, again, what they provided us did not really meet what I requested in a sense of have they received, obviously, I know they receive support from their property owners and other private individuals in the community. But I was curious whether they'd asked any township or any city for funding.

Meeks said they asked the city of Winchester.

Mike said did they ask the city of Winchester?

Bob McCoy said the City provided, was it \$3,000 Meeks, maybe three?

Meeks said yes.

Bob McCoy said I think we provided \$3,000 out of EDIT to assist them with paving. I'm not sure.

Mike said can you confirm that for us by next meeting?

Bob McCoy said yeah.

Meeks said I can send you an email. It's in the EDIT

Bob McCoy said in the EDIT

Mike said okay if you can send us an email then we'll table it until next meeting, and we weren't aware of that, and I'll see if they've asked White River Township.

Gary Friend said right. I think that's important because there's other cemeteries.

Mike said there're lots of other cemeteries in the county.

Gary Friend said you've got the cities, township, all together, then it's different, yeah.

Mike said is that okay with you Gary?

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said we'll table that until our next meeting on the 19th.

Downtown Customer Block party – Use of Southside Courthouse lawn

Mike said downtown customer block party requesting use of the courthouse lawn. This is from Cheryl Fisher, who has Matchett & Ward Insurance on Wednesday, June 14th at 1:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Evidently, the city is going to close Franklin Street from Main to Meridian, and to be free food, entertainment south on the courthouse in order to allow business set up displays for those businesses that do not have a store front on that side of the square. I think this is probably an appropriate use of the south side of the courthouse.

Gary Friend said I'm in agreement. This is not the first time, this is continuing isn't it?

Laura said we did it last year.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ridgeville Public Library Board appointment

Mike said a couple of library appointments, one being the Ridgeville Public Library board appointment. They're appointing Roberta Scheel beginning the first day of July, ending the 30th day of June, 2027.

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

Winchester Library Board appointment

Mike said and this is for the Library Board of Winchester community, which they're requesting the appointment of Stacy White from the 1st of July to the end of June of 2027 for a four-year term.

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

Additional Appropriations:

Sheriff

Equipment \$14,680.00

Mike said brings us to our Additional Appropriations, the first one being for the sheriff for equipment which is the guns we just approved in the amount of \$14, 680.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this additional appropriation.

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

General

Building Admin

\$4,544.88

Mike said next appropriation is from General for building administration. This is to pay out the facility manager, Jake Donham's comp time, 174 hours, payout of \$4,544.88. I'd entertain a motion to approve this additional appropriation.

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

Local Emergency Plan

Equipment \$3,500.00

Mike said next item is local emergency plan for equipment. This is local emergency planning equipment, committee, for equipment. I'd entertain a motion to approve this additional appropriation.

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

ARPA

Sheriff Equipment

\$10,000.00

Sheriff Building Maintenance \$35,118.00

EMS Ambulance \$316,427.00

Mike said the next three are from ARPA. One is for sheriff equipment in the amount of \$10,000.00. This is new optics for rifles. And the other sheriff is for building maintenance in the amount of \$35,118.00. This is for the jail kitchen grease trap and the jail sewer line. And then we have one for the Emergency Medical Services for the new ambulance, the 2023 Ford ambulance we purchased with graphics in the amount of \$316,427.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve all three of these additional appropriations.

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

Mike said that brings us to the end of our agenda. And I guess I would ask Laura if she has anything for us this morning.

Laura Martin – update on Old Hwy Barn amended lease through July 1st

Laura said just a couple things. I have permanent minutes. And I just wanted to bring to your attention that Ben from the old highway barn has never come in to sign the amended lease agreement that went through up to July 1st, and the last payment was April.

Mike said and he's still there?

Laura said as far as I know.

Gary Friend said he's getting out. I spoke to him.

Mike said oh he did?

Gary Friend said he asked me for permission to put auction signs in the state right-of-way. I said no. That's your option to put his signs where he wants to put his signs, and we're not in that.

Laura said I don't know let him know that this was here for him to sign, but it's been laying on our desks for a couple of months, and he's never.

Gary Friend said I didn't know he hadn't paid since then.

Meeks said do you want to talk to him Gary?

Gary Friend said yeah.

Mike said you say you do?

Gary Friend said I'll talk to him.

Mike said okay. Anything else?

Laura said that's it.

Mike said Meeks, do you have anything for us?

Meeks Cockerill – Winchester's grant to Fountain Park Cemetery

Meeks said it was the grant of \$2,000.00 for Fountain Park cemetery for paving.

Mike said okay.

Meeks said I don't have anything else.

Mike said okay. Gary, do you have anything for us, Gary Friend?

Gary Friend – Farmland ambulance building update

Gary Friend said yeah. I got a quote, tentative quote, without a complete plan back from Building and it's \$350,000. It could go a little less, go a little more, depends on the indefinite print. The print had two bays, 14' sidewalls of 30 x 50 which is their standard engineered building, a firewall, to make a dayroom, two bathrooms, a full bath and a half bath, a kitchenette, and then a cross wall to the rear so the utilities could go on the back side behind the day room. Then I called Danny Huston. He has not got back to me. Tom gave me the number, Tom Chalfant. So, that's where we're at. To have it built, by Briner Building, is, he said between 3 and \$400,000.00. His best estimate without a firm print is 350.

Mike said and that's a complete building?

Gary Friend said complete building. Two overhead doors, 14-foot walls.

Mike said well that would enhance our emergency medical services in the western part of the county a lot. That's for sure.

Gary Friend said it would also allow us possibly in the future to get contracts from Delaware county's eastern region possibly to help fund it. But we're not there yet.

Mike said how big a building would that lot over there take?

Gary Friend said I think it will take a 38 or 39 by 70, something like that, but we'd have to move a little bit to the west because of flood water. So, that'll take that building easily. And I talked to Briner and said I would let them know as time progressed on this.

Mike said would it hurt us to get a quote from, a firm quote from them at this point?

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said have them to put one together for us?

Gary Friend said yeah, all they're waiting for, I asked Duane, I talked to Duane Friday about it, had a print from him that he likes. But that's all we need to get firmed up.

Mike said okay so were going to go ahead and do that?

Gary Friend said I can do that.

Mike said is that okay with you Gary?

Gary Girton said yes. Keep proceeding with it.

Gary Friend said and when Danny Huston gets back with me, I'll forward that information.

Mike said okay. Gary Girton, do you have anything for us?

Gary Girton said not today.

Mike Wickersham – Randolph United trails committee

Mike said okay. I have one item that I think, it's not on the agenda, you may not know, but Randolph United has a trails committee. It's a sub-committee of Randolph United, and it's coming out of the cultivating communities, which we supported. And I'm a member of that trails committee, and we are looking at developing a trail from the Henry County Line to Modoc, which would cross Cardinal Greenway, which is one of the longest trails, the longest trail in Indiana. Cross Cardinal Greenway through Losantville, and then move on into Modoc. And the goal is to follow the old railroad right-of-way, which is owned by about that distance of Henry County to Modoc, I don't know the miles right now, but it entails about 9 property owners. And one of the things we've talked to an engineering firm, and SJCA has volunteered their time to date, and they're kind of putting a map together for us. But SJCA cannot, they don't have any trails department right now. So, they recommended we use Butler Fairman which represents the airport. So, we may enlist their services. There's going to be some expense in the beginning. I suspect it's going to be very little because they're just going to estimate what it's going to cost us to build that trail, so we can put the funds or put that amount in a grant application that the trail committee is going to pursue through the Indiana Trails Grant Program, which was just released. It has, I think, 7 ½ million dollars for local trails and 35 million dollars for regional trails, which we kind of think we qualify for regional since we're connecting Henry County to Randolph County. There would be some grant money, match money that will need to be pursued. And then that grant is going to be used to build the, what I would call the short trail from Losantville west to Henry County. And the goal of Henry County that Henry County is working on the Wilbur Wright Trail, which will come up to and try to connect with Cardinal Greenway as well. And then the eastern portion of the grant, which would be Losantville Cardinal Greenway to Modoc, as well as beyond, Randolph United I think, are going to pursue a READI grant for that part of the grant. So, I bring all this to you today just to show what's been happening. But, in order to map this property, there's been a request of Ed from SJCA for our Shape file and table exports, exports of parcel owners. And I've provided them the parcel owners of the right-of-way, and I think they want parcel owners beyond the right-of-way to the surrounding property owners, so in the event you have a public hearing or a public meeting about the trail, then you

can alert other people involved. And they're wanting to, since it is a county project, they are hoping they can get those shape files and tables without cost. So, I'm here to request a waiver of the \$1,200.00 fee for those shape files.

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

Mike said and with that being said, that's all I have.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Mike said brings us to our citizen comments. Do we have any citizens here that would like to make a comment?

Mike said Dan do you want me to put you on the list every meeting Dan? I can add you to the list every meeting.

Dan Baker from Randolph County United. So, Mike, just updating you on the trails stole my thunder a little bit. That's okay. But with that, we are also going to be requesting EDIT to a comprehensive plan, to go after these grants. So, probably next meeting, I'll get on the agenda, we'll send it to you guys, just the trail section of the comprehensive plan, so that it can actually align with what the grant we're going after. There is a READI 2.0 workshop that's going to happen on June 21st from 1:00 to 2:30. You'll all get invites, just in case you can make it. It'll be in the community room down here, just across the street. And then, just an update on the speedway sign. It did not come in time like we were hoping, because material backlog. It should be here the third week of June. So, what you see out there right now, the black sign is a fake side that Fox Sports needed to be able to do some preproduction things for the documentary on June 15th. I don't have the exact air time for that, but June 15th is the airing of the Fox Sports documentary for the speedway. So, other than that, any questions for me?

Mike said no. I will say, you had asked me about when you should have your budget done so your budget could be included in our EDIT plan that we're going to approve at the end of the year. And I didn't think you needed that done before the 1st of November or November, and I thought that would, that's what I recall, that's about the time they came in and requested that. So, I don't know if that's okay with everybody. Okay. Thanks Dan. Anyone else here with a citizen comment?

Adjournment

Mike said hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

Gary Friend made motion to adjourn. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Reviewed and signed this 3 day of July, 2023.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

M. D. [Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

Laura J. Martin

ATTEST: Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County