# Randolph County Commissioners

February 6, 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.

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Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

# Rhoda Davis - Community Corrections Grant

Mike said this is for the annual grant for Community Corrections from the state and we have to internally approve the application and the receipt of this grant. The amount requested from the grant is \$218,700.00 and the grant year is 2024 and it is a passthrough that passes to Community Corrections.

Gary F. made a motion to approve the request. Gary G. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said for those that don't know we lost our Executive Director of Community Corrections and also lost one of our case workers at Community Corrections. Rhoda is picking a lot of extra responsibility. Thank you.

# Debra Johnting & Kari Simpkins-Union Go Dairy Zoning Ordinance change

Mike said this is Ordinance 2023-08 and Ordinance to amend the zoning map of Randolph County Indiana. This was brought before the Area Planning Commission on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January and it was approved by the Area Planning Commission. You are here on behalf of the Area Planning Commission recommending this change for Union Go Dairy go from Agricultural Intensive to M2 Industrial General. Does anybody have any questions?

Gary Friend said I was there and listened to the report and the whole presentation. If this doesn't work out it reverts back to Ag. It doesn't just remain M2.

Mike said is that something that can be done?

Gary said it's already done.

Mike said it's in the zoning ordinance to allow that?

Gary said it's in the minutes that it was presented and I asked Jason Welch if we could approve that. That was approved before it went for the recommendation.

Mike asked how soon do you need this zoning change to be completed.

Kari said we are just now submitting to IDEM. Quite frankly we usually do the counties stuff first because the IDEM engineering is extremely expensive and so we wanted to make sure we could it at the county level. We're looking to break ground this summer. This is part of a six-dairy operation, excuse me 7, ones in Ohio and one of them is already under construction. One of the six.

Mike said there are two ways that we approve ordinances, one is that we take three meetings to approve them. That's the standard way. Another way is that we suspend the rules by unanimous vote and we can approve them all at the same meeting. Typically, we wait at least one meeting to hear if there are any complaints from the community beyond what was presented at the Area Planning Commission. With that being said, do you have any questions Gary?

Gary Girton said no.

Kari said if the Commissioner's would like one of the biggest questions we got was sort of where it was going to be. I do have a set of drawings that I will provide to you that, they are still a draft because they are not approved by IDEM. I brought three sets for you just to give you a decent idea of where the digester area will sit and the area we are talking about is outlined in each one of those. Essentially it's just the boundaries of the digester itself.

Gary F. said didn't I read it was 3000 feet from any residential.

Kari said 2800 I think.

Gary F. said there is one neighbor that has some concerns that you guys talked to and she was okay after.

Kari said yes. I apologize for hijacking your meeting but I felt like she needed, she had questions and it was a good time to answer them.

Mike said if it's a positive recommendation I'm not sure and Gary was there and recommended it as well. I would entertain a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-08.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-08**

#### AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA

WHEREAS, Union Go Dairy, 3518 S 300 W, Winchester, Indiana, Randolph County, Indiana, having heretofore filed a petition with the Area Planning Commission requesting an amendment to the Zoning Map of Randolph County, Indiana;

WHEREAS, the Area Planning Commission of Randolph County, Indiana held on January 18, 2023, pursuant to notice, a public hearing on said petition, as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Randolph County, Indiana have received the Area Planning Commission's report of a Favorable Recommendation of said petition to amend said Zoning Map;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that said Zoning Map (APC2023-4-Z) be, and the same is hereby amended as follows:

<u>Section 1.</u> The following describes a portion, 3.88 acres, (as shown on map) of real estate located in Randolph County, Indiana, which is now zoned A-I (Agricultural, Intensive) shall hereafter be zoned M-2 (Industrial, General). Legal description is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A".

Section 2: Furthermore, the zoning change will remain in effect until such time that the designated use of the property is abandoned (as defined in the UZO). At that time, the portion zoned M-2 will automatically revert back to the zoning designation of A-I.

<u>Section 3.</u> This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage by the RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-08 after the first reading. Gary Friend seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said that motion was unanimous is anyone interested in suspending the rules.

Gary G. made a motion to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance 2023-08 by title only. Gary F. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-08 and Ordinance to amend the zoning map of Randolph County after the second reading by title only.

Gary G. said so moved. Gary F. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said do we suspend the rules again and go to the final reading?

Gary G. said I thought we weren't going to.

Mike said we can wait. If you'd rather wait. I don't mind waiting.

Gary G. said I think it gives the public a chance to speak.

Mike said we've had two readings and it's been approved on both and we'll adopt it hopefully at our next meeting.

Debra said in our office we've had no phone calls and no requests. There was one that attended the meeting with questions.

Gary asked can you explain to the Commissioner's how that works. It's digested, it's made into methane, it's injected into the system.

Kari said the digester will collect the methane from the cows, essentially the digester will intercept at a certain point, take the manure, turn it to methane and take the digestate which is just the dairy manure minus the methane which makes the odor reduce quite a bit and they put it back into the dairy. So, the dairy can operate without the digester and the digester currently could not operated without the dairy, they would have to have the manure. The whole idea is then if something were to happen, the propane market failed it wouldn't affect the dairy. They'd still continue to go on as they were. Then on site the gas that they collect is cleaned up and compressed into trucks and trucked to a central injection point. One of the reasons that you don't see dairies of Union Go's size doing digester projects is quite frankly economically it doesn't work out. You need about 6000 cows to make it happen. So, what this company did is they made a central injection point, they partnered with seven dairies and they will have a smaller digester on each dairy, they truck the manure to a central location and all boats rise with high tides. They actually are producing more methane as a group then they would from any single dairy. It's really an innovative way to reach that middle size dairy in the Midwest and its been very successful. One of the few that's really gotten off the ground and done well. All the air permitting is done at the site and again, we're getting ready to submit the solid waste for the construction of the digester itself storm water plan is submitted and should be approved in the next five or ten days. It's a multistep process.

Mike said is this the only one you have or are there others.

Kari said I am working with all six that are in Indiana. The one in Ohio makes seven. Then they are going to do another cluster. Most of those will be in Ohio with only one in Indiana. Right now, the model is basically they've identified five clusters that they think they can do throughout the Midwest of diaries this size that are interested. It's a great project. I love the way it was explained to me. There's a lot of things that are required. They needed a government subsidy to work on renewable energies, they needed a little bit of backing here and there. One of the guys explained to me it's based on a market. In California, every energy vendor has to has a certain percentage of their energy come from a renewable source so they have to pay a premium for that renewable source.

<u>Joe Copeland - Updated bridge schedule, Bridge 29 historic analysis fee from SJCA, Quote for bridge piling</u>

Joe said I have updated the plan and included the federal aid applications that we have submitted. We have submitted four bridges. We submitted 8 last month for maintenance.

Mike said that was a new opportunity wasn't it.

Joe said yes, that's the first time I've ever seen that. We submitted 8, we got them in. Mike, Jessica and I had a little meeting this morning. We need to sit down and figure out the bottom line. The bottom line is we need funds from other places, rather than cum bridge or motor vehicle highway. So, what we need to do is come up with a spreadsheet on how much we need per year through 2028 is what we'd like to do. Mike's looking at the motor vehicle highway end of it. The bottom line is we need to get this work done. We're working at it, the consultant is working at it. They just finished bridge 173, their moving up to 700 N, the contractor is to work on a large culvert between 200 and 300 west. From there we're looking to go to bridge 183 on 500 S west of 227. I've got to put numbers together. It's a long list that keeps getting bigger. Joe said I did have to give a presentation last month on the four projects that I submitted back in November and it looks like from the discussion I had with the INDOT personnel that we will probably get 3 out of 4 of those projects. I need a historic analysis done on that one structure.

Mike said I'm looking at total net cost for 2023, \$3.2 million.

Joe said yes, net.

Mike said do we have cash right now or have spent right now \$1.57 million. Is that what I'm seeing.

Joe said yes.

Mike said that would tell me we are at a \$1.7 million short fall.

Joe said yes, for this year.

Mike said your looking at cum bridge to pick up some of that. Highway some of that. And other funds we'll have to have some of that if we're to complete 2023 projects.

Joe said correct.

Mike said when do you expect to have your number and Mike expected to have his number.

Joe said at your next meeting.

Mike said your cost because of additional projects and maybe inflation, the cost is probably around \$4 million higher than what it was last year at this time.

Joe said I think your close. Those eight bridges, of course we don't know yet whether they'll approve them but were hoping. If they'll pay 80% of the bill we might as well take advantage of it.

Mike said some of them need replaced.

Joe said a few of those we're going to make jointless bridges.

Gary F. said we have \$1.6 cum bridge right now or are there already appropriations against it.

Joe said bridge 110 is part of that and that was completed last year and we just got the bill. So, we're paying some of this for last year's work.

Gary F. said will that come from cum bridge.

Joe said I'm figuring it will have to.

Gary F. said can you get us for next meeting what's levied against cum bridge already?

Joe said yes.

Gary F. said also can you let us know what the statutory allowance is for using tipping fees on certain bridges. Because there is money growing there.

Joe said Mike brought that up that there's a possibility we can use some of that money on some of these structures.

Gary F. I thought it could be used for most any road usage out in the county. I'd like to know with your report what tipping fees are allowed to contribute to. The road and street funds are part of this equation as well, right.

Joe said not for bridges. That's going to be mostly for road work.

Gary F. we need to know if road and street is allowed.

Joe said Community Crossing can be used out of Lohut as I understanding too. If Mike doesn't need that for roads. I've got to work with Mike to see what he's needing from MVH and Lohut. I've never taken for bridges out of road and street, I'm assuming you can. I'll check the statute.

Gary F. said we've also got wheel tax accounts to use for all this. That's the report I think I would need, what exactly are we using and what's allowable to use. The council will certainly be weighing in on this too.

Joe said yes, I understand that.

Gary F. said those are funds we can use and I also know that MVH actually has reserves in it right now too. I know that can go in a hurry.

Joe said we talked this morning about the idea of having the MVH funds going towards the culverts. Because we've got, the one their working on up on 700 N, that's one of them. There's another one on 100 E, there's three or four of them and their doing the inspection on those structures between 6 foot and 10 foot this year. I'm sure there is going to be more. Hopefully their not as expensive as these larger ones are.

Mike asked are there any other questions on the bridge report.

Joe said piling, I checked our inventory on steel shell piling and we could use some more. This will get us probably through hopefully next year if nothing pops up beforehand. The plan shows structure 68 on there and structure 165 and this should carry us through the 25 piles. The prices went down substantially the last time I ordered them they were up around \$58 a foot now there they're \$34.25 a foot. Big difference. So, the total price is \$34,087.50 to get our piling inventory up. This is the same company we purchased from last time, out of Cincinnati.

Mike said it sounds like we should get them ordered.

Gary F. asked where are you proposing to pay for this out of?

Joe said I'd like to take it out of cum bridge.

Gary F. made a motion to approve this expenditure out of Cum bridge. Gary G. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe said the last item is a proposal to do a historic analysis for structure 29. It's a non-select historic structure and the bridge deck is in bad shape. The substructure foundation is in pretty good shape, it rated 6. So, we need to replace the deck on this structure. But, since it's non-select we can't just go out there and start ripping the existing deck out and replacing it. To keep in good terms with INDOT and the historic preservation people we do this historic analysis first and submit it, get approval and then we can do with it to replace the deck.

Gary F. asked is this on 100?

Joe said 200 W and 700 N. This can come out of your tipping fees is my understanding because it's on 200 W.

Mike said it really makes me struggle to understand why if we're just replacing the deck we have to a historic analysis on the deck. It doesn't make sense.

Joe said we called the environmental people and asked if we could go ahead and replace the deck and they said no. They've got another one that they're doing the same thing on in another county and they said no they want you to submit this analysis. It's still going to be cheaper than replacing the whole structure.

Mike said the analysis is 20% of the cost.

Joe said I'm hoping we can get that on there for \$150,000.00 using our contractor.

Gary F. said this is the Shippa law right. There wanting a historic analysis on actually anything we do. Isn't that what it boils down to.

Joe said pretty much. You don't want to get in a situation where you may lose your federal funding.

Mike said if were going to replace the deck, we're going to have to have this.

Joe said if it was a different kind of deck, I think I could do it myself and get things worked out but I don't know that the historic people would like it.

Gary G. made a motion to take Joe's recommendation and have SJCA do a historic analysis on the bridge. Gary F. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary F. asked are you going to Council tomorrow about the Cum bridge appropriation?

Joe said yes.

Mike said we have already committed the wind farm funds to this list, have we not.

Joe said I believe so, the three bridges that you just signed that agreement for, for bridge deck overlays. I have down as wind farm funds.

Mike said yes, we have already committed wind farm for that and we've committed the ARP fund for the small structure inspections. Those aren't new commitments.

Joe said right.

# Mike Haffner - Truck Bids, Utility agreement

Mike Haffner said we have truck bids.

Meeks said we have one bid form Selking International.

Gary F. asked which truck is this for Mike?

Mike Haffner said it is for two tandems.

Meeks said \$128,319.16 per.

Mike Haffner said I will look it over. The utility 5515 S County Road 900 E is basically boring under a pedestal.

Mike asked are you recommending approval of this?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Gary G. made a motion to accept the recommendation for a bore under. Gary F. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner said the truck bid is okay, everything we required is on there.

Mike asked are you recommending we accept it.

Mike Haffner said yes, I am recommending we accept it.

Mike said and you have the funds to pay for it.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Gary F. this is in the budget approved.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Gary F. made a motion to accept the truck bid of \$128,319.16. Gary G. seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner said basically the road should be opened sometime early this week on 400 South on that bridge. I'll let the schools and the sheriff know. Other than that, like Joe said we're accelerating a two to three-year plan on what the highway funds are going to be used for. Keep in mind that he still has several structures that, concrete structures not bridges that was recommended being replaced and then we're trying to find funds within the highway to do all that plus phase two of the small structure inventory. We should have enough money to do our paving and take care of all of our structures and culverts on our side. It's going to be close but the way we're looking at it, we should be okay.

Mike said good. Thanks.

Mike Haffner said the roller is in and the skid steerer is here and their estimating the paver very late in February if not the very first of March. Which definitely fits our time line.

Mike asked is there any opportunity to train before it comes.

Mike Haffner said there's some training that we are going to be doing at their facility in Indianapolis, so we'll send a group down for a day or two. Most the training is going to be, the package we bought is on sight training with their people for however long it takes.

Mike said okay, any other questions of Mike.

Mike Haffner said I will be giving you guys a list hopefully in two weeks, I'll be giving you also a list of what roads we plan on paving and Joe's got some bridges later on that will be hot mix asphalt.

Gary F. said the citizen that had the guardrail concern. Where are we at on that?

Mike Haffner said basically I got Joe involved in it, we've got some concrete slabs that we're going to lay against the wall where it's starting to deteriorate out from the road edge and we're going to, I think there are just two or three spots that's getting close to the road and if we repair those two or three spots and then get Joe's blessing, we probably won't need the guardrail.

Mike said will it be like a retaining wall then, the concrete slabs?

Mike Haffner said basically it was there originally but when they removed all the trees, now it enhances it and you can see it. It's something that probably needed to be fixed all along and we are going to fix that and then reanalyze what's needed.

# Grace Minkis, Amy Kirt, Austin Kertch, Andy Fahl, EDPR – Riverstart IV

Amy said my name is Amy Kirt, I'm the director of development at EDP Renewables at our eastern region in Canada. I oversee all of our project developers, project managers in projects. We have about 11 projects that are under construction in our region right now and another 4 that will be going into construction later this year. That includes both River Start III, which is under construction right now as well as Riverstart IV which we hope to work with you to bring to construction later this year. So, first I will start by thanking you because I know our company has a long-standing relationship with this county and it's important to recognize. We have really had a tremendous experience working with you and the Randolph County team. All the various departments, communities, land owners, foundations and so many others who have worked with us and we are excited to continue that relationship. I'm sorry to see my colleague and our partner Chris Beasley move on to other exciting opportunities but as you just mentioned this morning from your experience as well as is life people move on to other good opportunities and we will move on as well. Grace Minkis you all know is our lead project manager for Riverstart III. Austin Kertch is our project developer who is working on Riverstart IV and then Andy, I'm sure you all know we're excited to have him as part of our team as an outreach consultant working with us as well.

Mike said it's good to have you with us and it's been a good partnership in my opinion for Randolph County as well.

Amy said thank you. I know on the agenda today we have the various agreements, the road use agreement, the decommissioning agreement and economic development agreement all for Riverstart IV. Happy to turn it back to you, happy to talk about those.

Meeks said I have a meeting with our consultants in Indianapolis and I do need some information. The information we need on this to do our analysis, it looks like it is in Stoney Creek and in Union Townships, we need to know the percentage in each of those townships and

the value of the development in each of those. Also, in the past, you folks have done the calculation about the 10-year 100% abatement. Are you planning on doing that again?

Amy said I think what Chris had proposed at the December meeting was for Baker Tilly to get the first iteration and then we would go from there. But, we're happy to do that if that's what you want.

Meeks said Baker Tilly asked me.

Amy said okay.

Meeks said on some of those sections and maybe we just need to have a meeting. There were some numbers in there, the economic development agreement, that looked like they were just dropped in from the last agreement. I didn't know if those were just dropped in from the last agreement or those were things you guys were thinking about. That's on the 3.05 the assessed valuation and 3.03. I did not bring a copy of mine. It looks like they were just dropped in from the last agreement and we just weren't sure. Then who do we need to talk to, is it you Grace to set the meeting, like we've done in the past.

Grace said yes.

Amy said it's changed, we're trying to keep Grace focused on Riverstart III and we have a new project manager that will focus on Riverstart IV.

Meeks said what's the time line on the agreements. When do we need to have these agreements done?

Amy said we are shooting for May.

Meeks said May to have them signed by the County and all done?

Amy said yes.

Gary F. asked do we have the value of the size of the project, isn't this project expanding?

Meeks said it's about 50% bigger than the other project.

Amy said Riverstart III is 100 megawatt, this will be 150 megawatts.

Gary F. said I thought it was going to be bigger than what we talked about in December.

Amy said no, it's the same. And Riverstart I is 200 megawatts.

Meeks said so, if were in May for approval. County Council I suppose will have a meeting, so 30 days before that. We would really need those agreement finalized in March. I can give you a better time line when I get back to the office and look at the calendar.

Amy said the first of May is a Monday.

Meeks said if the first of May is Monday, County Council will meet May 2<sup>nd</sup> and if you have a public hearing then, they might or might not. So, the Commissioner's would not be able to approve it until mid-May. If we have our public hearing the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May the Commissioner's would not be able to approve it until May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Amy said and then as far as the decommissioning agreement, for the study we plan to use the same firm that we used for Riverstart III and I can get that over to you.

Meeks said that's fine, I don't think we have a problem with that.

Mike said are there any other questions.

Amy said do you typically or would you prefer to do all three of these agreements together.

Meeks said we usually do have all of them together. So, we would have the decommissioning, the economic development and then we'd have the road use and then also the tax abatements all at the same time.

Amy said I think there were some minor edits it looked like to the decom and the road use agreement, to just kind of clean up things from our external consult. Were there any questions or comments or concern or anything about those.

Meeks said I can tell you at our meeting we didn't really dive into that.

Mike said we are waiting on our consultants to get back with us and then of course the road use agreement, we rely on the highway department for that, the attorneys and the financial people for the EDA and general agreements.

Meeks asked are you guys using the same attorneys over in Indianapolis.

Amy said yes.

Grace asked should we attend your March meeting just to continue the conversation.

Mike said that might not be a bad idea.

Grace said moving on from Riverstart IV. I just wanted to give the Commissioner's and the Council tomorrow updates on how Riverstart III is going. We have completed the lay down yard and construction, slowly filling up the lot with deliveries and employees coming in and out. We are mostly working in the northern part of the project. So, everything north of 700 and just south of the landfill, in that square mile area. Currently it is mostly civil work, we are driving piles and implementing access roads as well. The substation construction should begin around March and that's just east of highway 1, south of 700. There were some comments on speeding on highway

1, that's where are entrance and exit to the lay down yard is. So, we worked with state and local deputies, we have locally hired deputies about 16 hours a week, just monitoring the area and then we also requested state police to kind of up their patrol in that region as well. So far our site team has said that their presents is helping with the speeding on highway 1. Just more on getting the community together I send out newsletters via email, I believe some of you are on the email chain. Just to keep the folks in the area aware of what the construction is going to be looking like that month.

Andy Fahl said I wanted to give you an update on the fiber optic conduit. On page one of the map, you'll see where I marked 15 and 16 are hard no's and parcels 35 through 46 are pending.

Gary asked what is a hard no?

Andy said parcel's 15 & 16 and if you refer back to the second page, you'll see the names associated with those parcels. So, I'm pretty much done with this and just monitor it on out. Parcel's 35 through 46 are pending and can work with Meeks office, he's fully aware of that. Also, NLBC is fully aware of the hard no's on 15 and 16 and they will do a work around.

Mike said the pending, 80%, yes.

Meeks said I would say from 40 to 46, he told me he'd sign. I talked him through the change he wanted and I don't have a problem with the change.

Andy said I'll answer parcel's 35 through 39, that's about a 70% yes.

Meeks said I made the change on the other one and he's supposed to pick it up, I don't think he's picked it up yet from my office.

Mike said 15 and 16, there's an opportunity to work around that?

Andy said NLBC indicated to me that they would just have to do a work around. I'm pretty well done with it and I've got those pending's directed to Meeks.

#### Daniel Baker -RCU, Winchester Speedway project

Daniel said you should have received a packet about the Winchester Speedway project, Fox Sports back in July of 2022 came in and did a documentary on the Speedway and their asking us to do some community led efforts as well and their going to come in and film those efforts. So, we thought it was a great opportunity to showcase Randolph County as a whole. The Tourism Commission has pulled a team together, we have local elected officials, my staff, the RCU team, local experts in the design and marketing field, obviously the speedway team as well and Winchester main street, we have pulled them in. We are here today to ask for support for one of the biggest pieces of this project is a sign that we are actually looking at putting out at the speedway. In the packet you will see there's a quote for one of the signs. We have gone after three or four different quotes, this one we considered to be the highest one that we thought was a really good opportunity. It all showcases to improve the county by overall having a digital sign out there that looks like what's on page five of the packet. Just to give you some contacts,

unfortunately Bill Armored who is the Fox producer, wasn't able to be here because of flight issues. I was hoping he could talk a little bit more about why it's such an impactful thing. But, in the packet on page two it mentions the time slot that this documentary will be airing. First it will be airing on June 15th on the race hub and it is a FS1 time slot which is Fox Sport 1, it's a national time slot ad it is a rating of 1-1.5. I had to ask the question of what does that rating mean. That means that 1 to 1.5% of all house hold in the country. So, you've got about 115 to 120 million households in the country at a high level and so your talking about some where between 1.2 to 1.5 million households will be viewing this documentary. That's a pretty significant opportunity for Randolph County. It's a way that we can showcase who we are in the county. That's why we thought it was a great opportunity to show community led support. There are other phases of the project as well, we are also doing a couple mural projects, working with the designers and working with the five schools in the area. We are going to try to bring the students to actually be a part of that. We're going to find some professional muralist and bring the students from the school districts that have an interest in helping out. We really want to tie the students to the race track, it's been around for 108 years. It's always been a staple of Randolph County. So, far we have from the Tourism commission, the Tourism Commission has approved \$50,000.00 towards this sign. If you look at their overall pocket of money that's about ½ of what they have. Larry has also committed \$25,000.00 to it, he's also putting an additional \$75,000.00 of improvements to the speedway itself this year. There's also some ongoing costs that the speedway will incur as this sign is put up. Additionally, we have already talked to INDOT. As long as we are out of their right of way, they won't even be involved in any zoning or permitting requirements. We do have a permitting variance meeting set up on the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month to get some variance because right now the speedway is zoned ag but we're going to ask for a variance under the commercial sign zoning ordinance. This is what Debra Johnting has requested we do and not ask for commercial zoning because there is a lot more that goes into it but she considered it grandfathering in. Obviously we have to take it in front of the zoning board and make sure that's what they also approve. INDOT is not concerned with the project and we believe that the variance will be approved according to what we have been provided. Are there any questions so far?

Mike said if you would just introduce your group.

Daniel said with us we have Jim Martin, he is the Executive Director of Main Street, he has been involved in Main Street here for a while. We have Charlie Shaw, I think everybody knows Charlie, he used to own Astral, that was sold, now he owns the speedway. Then we have Larry Boos, Speedway Manager.

Gary Friend asked do you have to go to the BZA?

Daniel said yes.

Gary Friend asked is there a plan if the BZA doesn't approve. They just made a sign ordinance, so this is not about the sign ordinance?

Daniel said it's about, in the sign ordinance we would be considered under the ag version, where the sign, it's a lot smaller sign.

Mike said Debra Johnting is with us.

Debra said so, an electronic sign that they would like to have would not be allowed anywhere. They want to potentially show videos, have changing copy, have a lot more movement then what the sign ordinance would allow. It's not that it's never allowed, it's allowed with a variance. So, the difference between the commercial table and the manufacturing table and the ag table. Ag is for ag signs and their in ag. The one suggestion in the beginning was, you could rezone the entire property to commercial but that would give you a whole lot of headaches that you really don't need. It belongs in ag, the speedway is fine in ag, they just want use the height, the size, the change of copy that would have been allowed if they were commercial. So, not rezoning but use the table as if they were commercial. In addition, they would be able to show the videos and have the movement that would generally would not be allowed if you were downtown, if you were in a neighborhood, like a church next to a subdivision or something.

Mike said so, this sign design meets the commercial standard. It doesn't meet the ag standard.

Debra said yes, it meet commercial accept for you wanted to videos.

Larry said during the race season, the race events, show the videos of the race cars going around the track, nothing like a 30-second-long video, just little clips.

Gary Friend asked what's the setback going to be? The current sign right now is on the right of way.

Daniel said I have a message from INDOT if you want to see it, but they basically said the same thing.

Gary Friend said we have our own setbacks.

Daniel said yes, 100 feet from?

Debra said from the center of the road. It's 15 feet of the right of way, even in commercial.

Gary Friend said okay.

Daniel said the variance that we will request may be bringing it a little bit closer, maybe 10 to 15 feet away from INDOT's right of way.

Debra said the height is taller in commercial, it would only be 15 feet for ag and the size of the sign would be smaller in ag.

Mike said you don't need a variance for height if it's commercial.

Debra said right. Twenty-five feet is the height for commercial. Ag is 15 feet.

Mike asked where would the speedway fall in a commercial zone? If we were talking about commercial.

Debra said we didn't really find a place for it in the commercial. We're actually working on the zoning ordinance for more up to date uses, agritourism, speedway, different things.

Mike said I understand.

Debra said for the size required for parking, for getting people in and out, it really belongs in ag.

Gary said is there a minimum amount of seconds of video that's allowed to make sure it don't distract to much?

Debra said no video is allowed without a variance.

Daniel said if we have the variance, he's saying how long could the video be.

Debra said they could impose that.

Mike said that's up to the BZA.

Larry said I will look at the state or national standard to see what it is and go along with that.

Mike said I'm looking at the sign in your graphic picture, it talks about six-inch round poles holding this sign up. The quote from Greenfield Signs and Lighting it talks about 8-inch steel poles.

Larry said yes, so we are going back to them and getting a solidified quote, we have been working with four different agencies, trying to make sure that we have it all together. But what they had said even if we increased to 8-inches, it really doesn't increase the cost that much.

Mike said but we don't know whether we need eight or six.

Larry said we don't know yet.

Gary Friend said Charlie you own the track, where are you at with all of this?

Charlie said I have a hearing issue.

Gary Friend said I just wonder as owner of the track, what's your thoughts of this whole project?

Charlie said of course I retired from Astral, I wanted the place so it would stay active here in the county. I was born and raised here, by grandfather was sheriff when I was born and was later a state representative, state senator out of Randolph County. So, I've got a few ties here and the race track, of course I was into racing, that's kind of what got me into the track but this track is pretty famous over the things that was done before I was involved in it, with Indy car drivers and

so forth when they went to rear ended the cars, then they went to a new ground for access to drivers because of the rear-ended Indy cars being different than the sprint cars and thing that we were running. At that time, we lost running Indy car drivers and so forth, so that hurt that and then Nascar come along and some guys like Ken Schrader and Jeff Gordon and so forth pioneered, raced out here a lot. Since that on any given day Nascar race at least half the drivers raced at Winchester. So, it has value and I think it adds value to the county. I think we're probably the biggest tourist draw in the county and as far as the value of it for other business's and things, there is some. For instance, Brady Bacon who was from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma won a sprint care race and ended up marrying the Baker girl, now their back here, he's got a business started. I had some health issues, I realized I needed to get out Astral. It took me a couple of years to get that settled up and then my next mission was to make the race track selfsufficient, so it would stay here and be here after I'm gone. That's my mission right now. The Covid thing hit us after that. Now we got Larry on board and that's working out well. We got this Fox Sports wanting to do a show on how communities and race tracks get together for Fox Sports. So, I thought that's great, we need to get in on that. We are their candidate now for this. Anyhow I want to try to do what we need to do to make that happen. Of course, I want everybody who loves Randolph County to be involved in that. We've got a lot of support. That's kind of where I am. I'll do what I need to do. I've made a commitment of money to the race track for this year. We've got a lot of projects to do and there's several for this. This sign is the single biggest project I think that we've got to do. I'm okay with whatever it takes to finish it or whatever but we also need to do some work somewhere else. I feel like we're off to a good start here if we can make things work.

Mike said I think the report we've seen is 24,500 people come to the race over a season. That's a lot of people coming into the community.

Charlie said one of the things we want to do Mike is we want to expand the schedule, try to get another big race going, get six or eight events anyway. That should draw people in. We kind of slipped backwards. We're getting some cup drivers here for the 400 and even on Labor day weekend they were coming and practicing and so forth. We got that built up, we got more campers. We kind of slipped backwards for a couple three years, like I said the Covid thing hit us and the Delaware disaster. I feel like we're going well and seem to have a lot of support.

Mike said from a speedway standpoint the sign, it's a big sign and it will be quite an attraction out there for the track. It looks like it has a  $5 \times 10$  LED digital board. Is it something the speedway is going to offer for advertising for the community or for businesses in the community?

Larry said the sign now is being used. It all ties into the community aspect of what the Fox project is about. Working together. The community lending it's support to the speedway, the speedway in turn lend it's support to the community for a lot of the tourism activities and things like that.

Mike said I understand that. Once the Fox is done, I think it will be a high-quality video. The documentary, I don't have a question about that but long term. Do you see the speedway offering the sign as a billboard for businesses in the community? It's going to return you

something in the long run, which that's a good thing. Having an attractive sign out there. I think you use your board now for community events and private advertising.

Charlie said it's not a very good representative, we'd like to put on a better display.

Mike said its historic Charlie.

Larry said we're also looking at using that sign as one of the mural pieces in back of the bleachers. There are some concerns about the advertising, it is not zoned commercial but we will work through.

Mike asked is a sign taxable to the property owner?

Larry said I've been trying to ask that question.

Meeks said it increases your assessed valuation.

Mike said does it increase your assessed valuation on an agricultural property?

Meeks said I would assume.

Mike said okay, it would be taxable. I'm kind of wrestling with the idea and I think Daniel knows this because I was in a meeting. By far to me it's a tremendous tourist draw and it does draw tourism and that helps every business in the County or community to an extent. But, most fans come in and they don't stay and they don't build houses and they don't go to our schools and they don't employ people other than the speedway employee's. So, I was really happy to see that the tourism commission put in 50% of basically their outstanding funds of \$50,000.00. That's a big contribution which I think has only been done one other time by the tourism commission and that's for south of the courthouse. I'm trying to get it to where it gets within funds that this body controls which are ARP funds or EDIT funds. We do have a say in windfarm funds and that has to go along with the council. For me I think I would be willing to apply EDIT funds for this sign. But I don't see me reaching the \$72,000.00 balance that the worksheet shows. I would be in favor of paying the same as tourism paid of \$50,000.00 for this project is where I would be on this. I would say that would come from EDIT. If this board agrees with that then Council could decide tomorrow that they want to spend some windfarm money for it. That could be brought back to us to determine whether or not we would want to make up the balance in windfarm. At this point in time I would be in favor the \$50,000.00 which is not quite half the sign cost itself but it's about 1/3 of the total project.

Daniel said I would also add that the project I'm working on from the Economic Development side to improve our industrial sites in the area from a marketing standpoint to market them out to the nation. When I get that up and running in the next four or five months as this goes out the door and we get the 1.5 million households we're also going to make sure that marketing is off of everything for Randolph County to show search capabilities.

Gary Friend said I agree with Mike's assessment of where the funding should come from, I'm in for \$50,000 too. I guess I would ask, where is the chamber of commerce at? How much are they going to contribute. This is a huge benefit to chamber of commerce. Not only are you going to be soliciting for individual businesses but is the chamber of commerce going to have a payment into this?

Daniel said that we be in front of our board on the 21st.

Gary Friend asked how much do you think that might be?

Daniel said I don't want to give a number off the top of my head.

Gary Friend said that's fair.

Mike asked do you have a capital balance off the top of your head?

Daniel said we've got around \$52,000.00 in capital.

Gary Friend said this is definitely economic development, it's definitely tourism and it's definitely chamber of commerce.

Daniel said I agree.

Gary Girton said I think there are others in the county that will benefit from the sign. That could contribute to it. The more we get involved in the contribution to this, the better off we are. I will go along with Mike on the \$50,000.00. I think that's a fair contribution and it's definitely an EDIT money.

Mike said that leaves you \$22,422.00 short unless some of this is reduce, that's a pretty good chunk for electricity to the sign.

Daniel said we are working through those as well.

Gary Friend said I would think the track is looking for some sponsorships to help pay the electric bill out there every month, because it's going to have one. Do you need a motion Mike?

Mike said unless there's any other discussion.

Charlie said I am going to do what it takes to make that thing work. I appreciate all the support I can get. I think the Fox show will be good for the town of Winchester and Randolph County as well as the speedway. I really feel like that a win for all that we got. That's what they want to write about is how much the town and the county is helping the track and how well we are working together.

Mike asked what do you expect the time line to be on this sign?

Daniel said we need 50% to order the sign by March 1<sup>st</sup>. We are hoping to have it ordered by March 1<sup>st</sup>. It's about an eight to twelve-week lead time. It depends on which company we go with. We're hoping to have it up by May.

Gary Girton said I will make a motion to take \$50,000.00 from EDIT funds for the sign. Gary Friend seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

# Bob McCoy - Willow Ridge 3 project funding

Mike said next is Bob McCoy with the Willow Ridge project funding. This is the tabled for \$115,007.66 for the burying of electricity. Is there anyone here representing Willow Ridge 3? I don't think there is. Bob is not well. I thought we were ready to go on this and I think I was mistaken on it in that Gary (Friend) has pointed out to me that the contract has a payback provision in it to the owner of the project for this expense. I think we need some more discussion on that if were going to fund this project to bury the lines. There is a customer refund on here that basically reads, if the same line extension within 6 years from the completion of the extension. Refunds will be made for each additional permanent customer equal to 2 ½ times the estimated annual revenue, less the estimated cost of service drop or laterals and metering equipment required to serve the new permanent customers.

Gary Friend said the lateral metering equipment shouldn't be taken away from a reimbursement because that is the normal expense for a home owner. The kilowatt usage on this is 15.2, that's probably going to be about 1000 kilowatts per month. Your looking at \$4,500.00 per property built returned to the owners for 6 years.

Mike said does that include the existing lots out there now or is that additional lots.

Gary Friend said existing as well.

Gary Girton said that wasn't discussed prior.

Mike said it's not been discussed.

Gary Friend said I asked Dave Lenkensdofer our Council president who is familiar with the development in Union City and that whole entire electrical project is between the developer and I&M. I think we really have to take a close look at how far we get into this or we will probably be asked to support that one. I know Tom Chalfant is trying to put homes in east of Parker City. We got to be careful about paying so much electrical structure. Another thing in this contract too, this doesn't talk about the cable and telephone or any other easement/right away.

Mike said I think Gary is recommending we table this. So, we'll table this until two weeks from today and hope we have some answers.

# Dave Lenkensdofer, Council

Mike asked Dave do you have anything to share with us today?

Dave said I do have a little information. I will be attending the state legislation conference tomorrow. I happen to be the co-chair of the legislative committee for the state of Indiana County Council's Association. Our roll has always been to determine which bills that are presented affect's counties. We started this about 12 months ago, we're up to 32 now that directly affects counties. A lot of those affects money for counties.

Mike is there anything to do away with historic bridges recommendation.

Dave said I don't think so.

### Other Business:

# Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Art said I sent an email out last week about some drainage issues that we're dealing with at the jail. As you can see I'm not in uniform today because I've been in this morning, we are continuing to deal with those drainage issues. I think I had talked to Gary Friend and I think he was coming over today to look at some of that, that I've been talking about. I think it's something we are going to have to address because I think over the last week what I've done is basically put band aids on a little bit larger problem. We now have a 30-year-old building that had some designs that were done then and I think there are some things that we could do to make working on some of these issues a little easier. I want to get a game plan in order but I want to keep you informed of what I'm looking at, what's going on. I'll have him come over today and look at that to explain what I'm thinking and try to get a solution for this. Right now, we have to keep the conditions livable for inmates, which is what we are working on currently this morning to try to get some of the problems resolved so we can at least get everything working until we can figure out what exactly the major problem is that we need to fix.

Gary Friend said I will call you, we have solid waste at 1:00 pm. So, it's going to be after that.

Art said as long as we get to it today. I've got two different companies in there working now, that I'm going to get back to when the meeting is over.

Gary Friend said I'd like for you to maybe spends some time and talk to our bridge engineer, just to maybe get you on the right path. We have serious 30-year-old plumbing issues in the jail we might be looking at a mechanical engineer to fix it. If it needs to go that route we need to be prepared.

# Minutes of December 19 and 29, 2022 & January 3, 2023

Mike asked are there any questions, additions, corrections or deletions to these minutes? Hearing none I'd entertain a motion.

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

# Payroll Claims \$251,397.76 & \$247,074.14

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

# Payroll Expense Claims \$364,785.07 & \$287,313.02

Gary Friend asked why is there a differences. What's a payroll claim and what's a payroll expense claim?

Laura said our software prints the report for payroll claims the first way, State Board of Accounts is requiring us to have a signature from Commissioner's on the employer portion of payroll tax and the payroll together. They do check that during our audit's. So, now I'm doing it two separate ways.

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

# **Regular Claims \$887,701.27**

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

## Housing Resource Hub Claim \$14,000.00

Mike said our Housing Resource Hub claim is our first claim which includes the \$10,000.00 to get it going and then \$2,000.00 each for January and February.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve the Housing Resource Hub claim as presented. Gary Friend seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

# Achieva Resources Claim \$5,000.00

Mike said the next item is the Achieva Resources claim. This is an EDIT that was approve a few months back. This is for a group that seeks a supreme court grant to help vets.

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

## J&K Communications Claim \$5,000.00

Mike asked do we have any update on this Gary (Girton)?

Gary said no, I'm waiting on Chris to give me the okay. I'll call him this week.

Mike said okay. We will table that one.

# **Resolution 2023-03 Union City Extension**

Mike said the next item is Resolution 2023-03 which is a resolution to extend Union City's payment schedule by one year. We loaned Union City \$350,000.00 at 0% interest. They were to make their first payment in January. In return for them participating in the housing resource hub they've requested that, that January payment be delayed for a year and each payment there after be delayed for a year. Still paying out the loan in 7-years. I think we discussed this and approved this. This is a resolution to do so.

RESOLUTION No. 2023-03

# RESOLUTION A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOLPH COUNTY INDIANA, AUTHORIZING LOANS TO THE CITY OF UNION CITY FOR THE UNION CITY HOUSING PROJECT AND RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, Randolph County, Indiana (the "County") recognizes the need to assist with the funding of the Union City Housing Project for the City of Union City, Indiana ("Union City"); and

WHEREAS, the County desires to provide an interest-free loan in the amount of \$350,000 (the "Union City Loan") to Union City to assistance with a portion of the funding for the Union City Housing Project which is estimated to be approximately \$1.7 million (the "Union City Project").

WHEREAS, the County signed Resolution 2022-10 loaning the funds to Union City with the first payment to be made on or before January, 2023. Union City has requested from the County that the first payment be made on or before January, 2024 and the County has agreed to extend the loan and accept the first payment on or before January, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commissioners and the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana that:

- 1. The County approves the Union City Loan in the amount of \$350,000 at 0.00% interest. The repayment terms of the Union City Loan are that Union City shall repay \$50,000.00 per year from its Economic Development Income Tax funds for a period of 7 years, to be repaid by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year there is money still owed beginning in 2024.
- 2. The President of the Commissioners, County Council and/or the Auditor of the County is authorized to execute and administer any documents related to the Union City Loan, as may be applicable.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-03. Gary Girton seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said this resolution needs to go to County Council for final approval.

# **Board of Finance minutes and investment policy**

Mike said that brings us to our Board of Finance minutes and investment policy. We had that meeting at our last meeting. These are the minutes attached which we received a copy of.

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

Mike said we also received the report of investments for the year 2022 which is attached to that as well as our investment policy which we need to sign off on. We did adopt it on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023.

## Microvote Annual Maintenance agreement

Mike said this is or Infinity voting system annual maintenance agreement with Microvote General Corporation. This is a three-year agreement and the cost to the county is \$13,000.00 a year.

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

# **BIS Digital Quote**

Mike said BIS digital quote.

Laura said I talked to you a while back about getting a quote on a new recording system and we asked them to quote doing a couple camera's in here too. So, this is the quote from that. Based off of what I'm looking at, it doesn't include any electrical. If you decide you want to move forward with it then I will get Jake involved and have him get an electrician in to give us a quote on what that would take.

Mike asked is our system working now.

Laura said it does work. We have had some issues, I thought it was that microphone right there because it's usually who ever is sitting here. Sometimes we have trouble hearing it when we replay it. But, it's not the microphone. He says that, that equipment back there is really old. I wouldn't thing it was more than 12 years old, since we moved back in here in 2012. Anyway, they came and looked at our equipment and said we needed to upgrade it. It is working, it is not like we have to have it.

Mike said \$7,800.00 of this is for service and support and onsite setup, installation and training. That's a substantial sum. I'm in favor of if it's working, don't replace it.

Gary Friend said does our IT company that we hire?

Laura said they don't work on it.

Gary said they don't do an assessment on our electronics?

Laura said no. We have a maintenance contract with BIS. Basically, they dial in to do what needs done. If they come on site we have to pay them additional.

Mike said what does BIS say we need to replace?

Laura said the recording system. They came in and they looked at the system in that closet back there. I now my first year in here, somebody messed with the controls on it and messed my

recordings up. We got that resolved and Fred locked that down. I don't know how but it got unlocked because when I brought the guy up to look at it, it was unlocked.

Mike said it would be interesting to know what the recording system cost.

Laura said just the recording system.

Mike said just what we need to replace.

Gary Friend asked where is that \$7,800.00 at Mike?

Mike said on site setup, installation and training \$5,400.00 and onsite service and support \$2,400.00. And gooseneck microphones \$4,050.00.

Meeks said it's hard to hear in here.

Laura said that's part of it, is them being able to here. I know there's been some complaints out there.

Meeks said I do thing we need some sort of recording device, camera's in the corners or something.

Laura said that quote includes two camera's.

Gary Friend said Jake might be adding two more desk, we might need another microphone, that might be part of it.

Mike asked someone sitting in back of room can you hear me?

He said yes.

Laura said I don't know at this point that it's a total necessity. I just know that we've had some issues understanding when we're typing but we can figure it out.

Mike asked is Council going to see this tomorrow.

Laura said I didn't put it on their agenda. I can.

Mike said they use this room as well and I'd like to hear their opinion whether they need cameras or want cameras. We heard from the attorney. It's not without merit. It's just a lot of money to spend for that. We can agree to table that and see about an alternative quote just to bring our system up to date to what we have.

# Hartman and Williams engagement letter

Mike said the next item is the Hartman and Williams engagement letter. We tabled that at the last meeting.

Laura said this is a State Board of Accounts requirement that we do this. Last year it cost us about \$5,000.00 and they completely did our capital assets list and did the amortization on it. Basically, this year they will take that and Danita keeps it up to date. She'll add any assets that have been added this year and then they will do the annual amortization. So, I would think it would be a lot less than what it was last year but this is all they gave me as far as pricing, so it's hourly.

Mike said that's good to know, I wasn't aware of all that. The amortization?

Laura said that's what State Board of Accounts is requiring us to do now.

Mike said they are requiring us to do that by an outside firm?

Laura said if we had an inside firm but my office cannot do it.

Mike said I think we seen this contract and proposal. If we have to do it, I'm in favor of it. I think we should have a discussion with Hartman and Williams before they start as to how many hours do you think this is going to take.

Laura said I can ask them.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to approve the agreement with Hartman and Williams LLC to bring our capital assets up to date.

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

### HireRight BGC information

Laura said I asked Shannon to look into this, right now we do background checks through Mycase which only covers Indiana. It's really hard to determine if the case is for the person you are trying to find because mycase doesn't give us drivers license numbers, birthdates and that such of thing. So, we are not really doing a good background check, so I asked her to look into some pricing and that's the best deal she found. For what we need it would be \$27.63 per background check.

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

# Forum of Funders appointment

Mike said we are all aware that we did commit \$10,000.00 per year for three years to forum of funders for the Commissioner's and the Council. We need to make an appointment to the Forum of Funders.

Gary Friend nominated Mike Wickersham to be the Commissioner's representative on the Forum of Funders. Gary Girton seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Set EDIT Meeting**

Mike said we approved \$50,000.00 for the Speedway sign, so we probably should set an EDIT meeting.

Meeks said after the 21st.

Mike said Wednesday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm.

# **Additional Appropriations:**

**Assessor** \$31,832.00

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

**EDIT** 

Housing Resource Hub \$34,000.00

Façade matching grant – Lash \$20,000.00

RC Promise \$10,000.00

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

Achieva Resources \$5,000.00

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

Highway

Cum Bridge \$776,500.00

Cum Bridge \$697,200.00

**Secretary** \$36,400.00

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

Randolph Drug Free

Prevention Education	\$1831.29
Treatment	\$1831.27
Criminal Justice	\$1831.27
Discretionary Fund	\$1831.28

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

# **Health Department**

Coordinator Registrar	\$5,000.00
Public Health Nurse	\$5,000.00

Clinic Nurse	\$5,000.00
Clinic Nurse/School Liaison	\$15,000.00
Social Security	\$2,195.00
Perf	\$4,130.00
Group Insurance	\$10,805.00
Medicare	\$520.00
Contracted Work	\$26,000.00
Other	\$36,350.00

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

#### **ARPA**

Taser's (additional funds) \$4,209.31

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

## Laura Martin – Farmers market, AEP utility project maps

Laura said I received an email regarding the Farmers Market. They want to use the west side of the courthouse again, every Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. They also want permission to put a porta pot along side the courthouse, locking it during the week and only opening it during the market like they did last summer.

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

Laura said I sent you maps from AEP regarding a utility from Chey Barr. I forwarded that email to you. I asked her if she had an agreement to go along with it and she said she has asked several times what the county policy is.

Mike said it was just mapping. Mike (Haffner) have you seen this I&M construction.

Mike Haffner said no.

Mike said it looks like it is east 500 South crossing 27. Replace 2487 foot of line, 16 poles.

Mike Haffner asked is it overhead?

Mike said it looks like it. It's going to involve 16 poles.

Mike Haffner said as long as it isn't in an intersection I wouldn't be opposed.

Mike said we need to have them sign an agreement. We need to get them an agreement and attach this document to that agreement.

Laura said that is what I told her when I responded to her.

Gary Girton said Mike needs to approve it before it comes to us.

Mike said yes, Mike (Haffner) needs to approve it. I received it but didn't know what to do with it, we usually have agreements. You can forward it to Mike (Haffner) along with her contact information, the Mike can forward an agreement to her for her to sign and then you can take a look at it.

Laura asked do you have agreements you can send. Usually the utility company includes their agreement with the maps.

Mike said yes, they have always made their own. I can give them a sample.

Laura said I will forward it to them and you can contact her.

# Meeks - Old Highway barn, DCS lease

Meeks said did you get my email on the old highway barn. I guess we will find out what's going on.

Mike said yes.

Meeks said also I haven't heard anything from DCS.

Mike said okay.

# Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Mike said please come forward and state your name for the record.

Ricki Duff this is in regards the Cardinal Ethanol plant. In order to get the carbon dioxide, we received this a month ago, they are wanting to give us \$25.00 a month for 20 years. Basically, I will not be able to, my home is being robbed from me for \$6,000.00.

Mike said you don't have to agree to that do you?

Ricki said no but they said they have the 70% agreement. The letter is kind of deceitful. Basically, when I went to talk to the guy he told me that we are going to be an experiment and we're getting paid for it, \$25.00 a month. Mississippi, they suffocated. We're within that 10,000 square acres that could possibly suffocate if there's a leak. There less than two miles from the river. The last contract is ½ mile from the river. You cannot control which way this is going to go when it's condensed down to the level that their condensing, it becomes unstable. I cannot live there in a clear conscience with my family. I bought my home. If this goes through I cannot live there and they've took everything I've worked for away for \$6,000.00.

Mike said I understand your concern. What we have here is a company that is interested in coming to town and they did make a presentation to us but they've not really asked anything of the county to my knowledge.

Ricki said in the ethanol magazine, they released January 31<sup>st</sup> that they are seeking a permit. I think that our small community of 20 house that's a mile away from there should have proof that they got 70% of the service.

Mike said I think the permit that they will be seeking is a permit from the Area Planning Commission.

Ricki said they are pumping it into the ground.

Mike said I understand that but if they need anything from the county it's going to come from the Area Planning Commission unless they come to us and ask for financial support.

Ricki said so, who do I go see next?

Mike said if I were in your shoes, I would go see an attorney next.

Ricki said we have seeked an attorney but nobody wants to take on the ethanol plant. So I get robbed by a Canadian company for an experiment that I wish not to participate in.

Mike said that's where an attorney can help you and if they do need permitting from Area Planning and Zoning they need to file and give you notice of that before they do that. The only other thing in my opinion that would involve this board or the county Council or county government as a whole would be if they came to us and asked for an abatement of taxes or any financial help build their project and to my knowledge they've not asked for that and they don't intend to ask for that.

Ricki said so, you guys are okay with them pumping this less than two miles from White River that goes through about every county in Indiana.

Mike said we don't have any control over White River, that's a state issue. I can't really say that we're okay with it. I can say that we really don't have any control over it.

Ricki said Union City sent me to you. So, do I go to Area Plan next.

Mike said it would be the Area Planning Commission. Again, if they need permitting done, that's the office it's going to be done in and you would get formal notice of any requirement from that.

Ricki said this guy made it sound like it is going, they done got the signatures and everything. Everyone that I talked to in that four-mile radius, they are not agreeing to it right, for 15 more jobs. I'm not saying that we don't need jobs but their pushing more families out.

Mike said we're not. We received a presentation from them. I wish we could help you more.

#### Adjournment

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

Reviewed and signed this 6 day of March, 2023.
RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Mays Z.
ATTEST: Daura / Month
Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County