

Randolph County Commissioners

May 6, 2024

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.

Pledge of Allegiance

Jake Donham – Use of Commissioner’s bldg. Maint. For Community Corrections Bldg. Maint.

Mike said first item on the agenda is facilities’ manager, Jake Donham. Jake, good morning. Need to move some money around?

Jake Donham said my building maintenance line item at community correction probation building, we’ve always ran it pretty light. But, it’s come to the point where we’re going to need more funding, probably yearly. And eventually, some major remodels in the future. But for now, just to get by the rest of this year, I need to pump a little bit more in there.

Mike said would \$10,000 from the building maintenance, the building maintenance community corrections?

Gary Friend said yes. I’ll make a motion to do this.

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

Mike said do you want to talk about the jail?

Jake Donham said we can if you guys want to.

Mike said well, you’re here now. Sheriff, do you want to come up?

Art Moystner said sure.

Mike said we’ve got an agreement from Argo to.

Art Moystner said morning.

Jake Donham said I did talk to Tony this morning just to verify since there wasn’t a signature line on this document here. He said this is the proposal. He said if you want an AIA document or something, he’s more than welcome to. He said this is just to the point now where it’s a yay

or a nay, and if there's any changes you see needs to be done, we can do it now and push forward.

Mike said an estimated total for investigation is roughly a \$110,000.00.

Jake Donham said correct.

Mike said he signed it.

Jake Donham said yeah.

Mike said so, I guess that makes it somewhat firm. And then he's got an estimated total of completion of the job with 16 items, once we get into the repair and improvement of a little over 2 million dollars. Look okay to you sheriff?

Art Moystner said as I stated before, this is not my forte, but yes. I think we definitely need to move forward with something in that building and start looking at updates.

Jake Donham said Tony did say they have been, his electrical engineer and mechanical last week were in looking at prints just trying to wrap their head around it in case they do go through with it. And he also contacted the original architect that built the jail to try to get a set of the prints digitally. He said if they can get ahold of that, he said that's a significant savings instead of having to redraw the entire jail on their own with another architect. So, he's hoping he can get that. If he does, we may need the sheriff or commissioner approval to that company to release it to Tony. I said just let us know one way or the other, if they do have it, that would be awesome.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend said the first \$110,000, does come out of ARPA funding? And then we'll have to look at how we want to fund the rest of this, which I believe we need to do too. Set the building up for another 20, 30 years, at least. So, I will make a motion.

Mike said and our contract with Argo Consulting engineers to complete the engineering?

Gary Friend said yes.

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

Mike said do you want to talk about the old hospital and the caseworker situation? Did you get a meeting with Eldon Solomon to find space for them, for the long-term recovery committee?

Jake Donham said I got an email from you, then Ceann and then a James Frye.

Mike said okay. So, you've not, James Frye, so have you met with James Frye?

Jake Donham said I'm just waiting on somebody to show up. That's going to be the easiest way to have somebody actually see what we have.

Mike said is the small business administration still there?

Jake Donham said no.

Mike said okay, so that space would be available?

Jake Donham said now I did check with Tammy in the Health Department to kind of, I'd like to know what Ball State's schedule is. If they're only going to be here once a month and don't utilize that entire space, it would be nice to tuck another entity in with them, instead of just filling up offices that are only going to be there you know, once a month. So, it would be nice to know if we had a time schedule, you know, how often are they going to use it and that kind of stuff. So, hopefully, I can get a schedule from Ball State to see what they want and then when Frye meets me, we can kind of brain storm what their need are.

Mike said do you need anything from us?

Jake Donham said not that I know of.

Mike said okay. Good.

Jake Donham said I'll just keep putting out fires, or make it look like I am, I guess. I don't know what they need yet, so.

Mike said any questions of Jake?

Gary Girton said no, appreciate your work.

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said okay. Thanks Jake.

Council's Update

Mike said moving back up the agenda, do we have a council update today? I skipped over the council. I apologize Tom. I apologize Missy. If you guys sit in the front row, I wouldn't forget you. But I apologize for skipping over you. No report? Okay. Thank you.

Beth Kreig – Drug Free Randolph County grant request

Mike said Drug Free Randolph County.

Beth said yes. Just going to submit a grant with Drug Free Randolph County again this year to get some funds to help pay for drug testing as I have for several years now.

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

Mike said is that all you have for us today Beth?

Beth said that's all I got. Thank you.

Randy Abel –discussion amending building permit fees

Mike said Randy Abel.

Randy Abel said good morning.

Mike said so, you want to amend the building code ordinance, or change the building code ordinance?

Randy Abel said fee schedule.

Mike said to approach building permits based upon a pretty much, depending on what they're building, a fixed cost, plus a square foot value, base it on square foot.

Randy Abel said yeah. We've had issues in the past. We've had questions on the cost of projects, and this kind of eliminates that. Makes it a little easier in writing the permits.

Mike said what does it do for the citizens with respect to obtaining a building permit?

Randy Abel said really there's not going to be much change at all. I mean the permit process will be just the same. It's just a different way of calculating the cost. And the way we did this is we took cost in the past, and basically, what I tried to sort out was ones where I thought that the cost they gave us reflected the actual cost. And then did some back math on that, and tried to make it so we could translate that into square footage.

Gary Friend said so you don't have to confront anybody about this. You just can't bill for that?

Randy Abel said yeah, I mean if somebody comes in with a house for \$50.00 a square foot, it's a little awkward to say that's a lie. I mean, just a little, oh we're doing the work and we got this free, and you know, somebody just dumped this lumber in our yard.

Gary Friend said well looking through this, one part I seen is, I thought was out of balance a little bit is, it's \$400.00 to start a residential?

Randy Abel said yes.

Gary Friend said but it's only \$50.00 for a living unit for multi-family? Why would that be?

Randy Abel said so, which one are we looking at?

Gary Friend said somewhere down there. Look at the multi-family, I'll have to find it here.

Mike said here we go, \$50.00 a unit for apartment, townhouse and condominiums.

Randy Abel said yeah.

Gary Friend said thank you. But yet, it's \$400.00 for a residential. Why is it such a difference between the two?

Randy Abel said that will get ate up really quick with the 15 cents a square foot. And truthfully, we don't have anything to compare this on. We don't have, we haven't had any condominiums or apartment buildings built.

Gary Friend said do duplexes fall into that?

Randy Abel said no. Duplexes are up above in the one or two-family dwellings. And so those start on the 400 with the square footage. So, I think you'll find that as large as apartments are, the 15 cents a square foot really is an extremely high cost, and then you're adding \$50.00 a unit on top of that.

Mike said so, but the first 10,000 square foot are included in that \$50.00, are they not?

Randy Abel said yeah.

Mike said so if you build a tri-plex each of them 3300 square feet, that would be a \$150.00 permit?

Randy Abel said yeah, if you're talking about a townhouse with just three in it.

Mike said yeah.

Randy Abel said for the first 10,000 square feet is 15 cents a square foot.

Mike said okay. So, that's not included in the \$50.00?

Randy Abel said no, no, no.

Mike said so it would be a 150 plus.

Randy Abel said plus the \$50.00.

Gary Friend said which is another 150.

Randy Abel said which is another 150.

Gary Friend said and we're still underneath

Randy Abel said still talking 300.

Gary Friend said I don't think.

Randy Abel said for the square footage, it's going to be way over 10,000, right?

Mike said not if each one is 3300 square feet. That would be 10,000.

Randy Abel said yeah.

Mike said I mean that's a pretty good-sized condominium.

Randy Abel said yeah, exactly.

Mike said more likely, they're going to be 1800 square feet.

Randy Abel said like I said, we didn't really have anything to compare this item, line item to. I just took that off of some other fee schedules.

Mike said is the square foot, is it livable square foot or is it total square foot?

Randy Abel said it doesn't include porches, but it includes basements and garages.

Gary Friend said finished basements or just basements?

Randy Abel said we've been including all basements because eventually, most of them are going to be finished.

Mike said is that defined in here or someplace else in here?

Randy Abel said I'm not sure that's defined in here. That's more underneath the policies of the department I guess.

Mike said should it be defined in the ordinance?

Meeks said it probably is. It probably says something, all square footage. I would assume it does. I have the ordinance here.

Mike said well I'm looking at the ordinance and I'm not seeing that. It didn't matter in the previous ordinance because it was based on dollars. And I understand the concept of getting away from a dollar situation, and I like the square footage.

Randy Abel said well we did square footage on the other one also, because the \$400.00 plus square foot, that's the exact same as what we had before on a single dwelling house. So, it did square footage also.

Mike said oh I guess I'm not seeing that ordinance on the fee schedule.

Randy Abel said yeah. But the original fee schedule, we had followed the very same thing on the one and two-family dwellings, except for underneath the 1,000 square feet, it's the \$400.00. You just paid \$4.00 a 1,000.

Mike said right.

Randy Abel said but in our research, there's not a, I mean the minimum you can put in our county is 950 square feet, by area planning. So, that's why we started out figuring at the \$400.00 instead of letting the people say that they guilt it for \$50.00 a square foot. We pretty much just made that a policy I guess, that we include the garages and basements. I'm not sure it's in the actual building ordinance or not.

Mike said pardon Meeks?

Meeks said I don't see the change. I'm just trying to find the change here.

Mike said well other than the apartments, townhouses and condominiums, multi-family dwellings, except for duplexes, I mean, one or two-family dwellings, I don't have an issue with that.

Gary Friend said I don't either.

Mike said multi-family dwellings, I think that it makes it too low there. I know we don't have any but.

Randy Abel said well we could start that at a 100. If that makes more sense to you.

Gary Friend said I think the start has to be at 400, I mean that's a 100, but I think we have to say it' 400, minimum.

Randy Abel said and then add the 50 a unit?

Gary Friend said yeah. I mean, I don't think you could have a residential house paying more for a permit per unit.

Mike said well I don't think, you made it 400, I don't think you'd make it 50 per unit above 4.

Randy Abel said you say you wouldn't or would?

Mike said you would.

Randy Abel said yes, that's what I meant.

Mike said yeah, and then the square footage.

Gary Friend said right.

Randy Abel said uh huh.

Mike said and I think, I'm not sure policy is something that we can hang our hat on. I think if we're going to have an ordinance we ought to define what square footage is. So, when I read the ordinance, I know if I'm building a 2-car garage, it's going to cost me this much more than what the one is going to cost me. So, I think we probably ought to have some definitions in here. So, if we send this back to the drawing board?

Randy Abel said yeah, I think we can put definitions in it if that's based on what square footage includes is what you're asking for?

Mike said that would be the one I would see standing out here. What do you think Meeks?

Meeks said I'm just seeing if we have it already in here.

Mike said well do you want to take this one and add it to the existing one we have?

Meeks said well that's what would happen, add that to this. So, if you'd just give me a definition of what you think, what you guys do now, and send it over to me.

Randy Abel said yes. And I'm assuming when I've read stuff in the past, I'm not sure where I'd read it. So, I'm not sure where I got that from.

Meeks said well if you just shoot me over what you're doing now and we'll put that one with.

Gary Friend said is there good language on the basement being finished versus non-finished? I mean, you've got a walk out basement.

Meeks said you can literally just say it includes basements.

Mike said okay.

Randy Abel said the other question I had was on, did we ever decide anything on that, Meeks, on the wording on that on the fines?

Meeks said well the wording on the fines, we're just going to.

Randy Abel said make like a nuisance abatement or?

Meeks said the problem, what Randy asked was whether or not we could add that to the tax rolls if they didn't pay it.

Gary Friend said if it's not paid.

Meeks said well, and you can't, I mean, but I think what we can do, I mean, you'd have to sue them and then you can get a court order added to the taxes. And that's probably what we'll put in there, kind of like the nuisance abatements. But, you cannot add it to the taxes. Best thing to do is just not issue them an occupancy permit.

Randy Abel said yeah, the fine is a good enough threat usually, but you know. But there's some people that will just not pay their fines.

Gary Friend said but you don't have any stop gap in there to insist they get a permit, subsequent are 4 times the fee. When do you put a stop work order on it?

Randy Abel said when they're not doing, usually when they don't get a permit and they start building.

Gary Friend said but why when we have all these fines going on three levels and then subsequently, thereafter, sooner or later you've got to say we have a stop work order put on you.

Meeks said or just not an occupancy permit.

Randy Abel said but a lot of people will come in, before you even realize it, you know, they start building, then they come in and get a permit. And that's when you double the fees.

Gary Friend said in the get permit section, nowhere does it say we'll stop you from working. It just opens it up that subsequent will be 4 times the fee, subsequent for how long? There ought to be, if you get to the third level here, you're going to stop work until it's resolved.

Randy Abel said oh, I meant like when you bring in the 2nd permit and you're an individual and you've already paid a fine on the first one.

Gary Friend said when you fail to permit, you went out there and you found them and the permit has failed, there's nobody doing it, and then you give them the first offense, you give them the second offense, and you continue subsequent offenses, in this particular writing, there's nothing that says you'll be ordered to stop.

Randy Abel said yeah, if they don't come get a permit, you issue the stop work order.

Gary Friend said but why isn't it in there on the line? Why shouldn't the line say stop work will be put on, on page three of three, top. I'm just curious. Where does it say in our statute or ordinances that you will be given a stop work order?

Randy Abel said well that's, okay, so, when you adopt the building code of Indiana, that's in there. That's in there that the right of the building commissioners issue stop-work orders.

Gary Friend said then my question goes back, you have a line for subsequent. If you're at level two, second offense, the third offense, you're stopped. This is just a question. Why would we allow it to go on and on and on?

Randy Abel said did not getting permits. So, this is like you're building a barn today and you didn't get a permit, and you got a fine. Tomorrow you're building a house, and you didn't get a permit, you get a fine. And then next month, you decide to build a swimming pool and you don't get a permit. It's not the same permit. It's different permits, different structures, I guess is what I'm saying.

Gary Friend said to the homeowner or the contractor?

Randy Abel said to the homeowner. The homeowner's responsibility, it's not the contractors. All permits and fines will go to the homeowner.

Gary Friend said okay. I guess there's nothing in there that says the homeowner can continue to violate?

Randy Abel said no, they shouldn't continue to violate. I mean once you get a fine, you realize you should get a building permit for structures. The next time they build a swimming pool or something, they don't get that permit, then you've got a habitual violator who just doesn't want to cooperate.

Gary Friend said this is not you going out there and catching somebody?

Randy Abel said no. And who's going to catch them is Lee, because he's going to go out there and assess the property and say where did this barn come from? He's going to contact us and then we're going to say look, come and get a permit, here's your fee, here's your fine.

Gary Friend said I understand.

Randy Abel said we're going to go that route. Now, chances are, if I do catch them, I will put a red tag on it. That's what I do now. But I don't, there's no way you can catch them all, no way.

Gary Friend said well from what you're talking here, you're catching them after the fact. The red tag doesn't matter. It's already built, done and in use.

Randy Abel said not always.

Gary Friend said okay. I get, I know that.

Randy Abel said yeah, but yeah, that happens.

Gary Friend said do you ever have them tear it down?

Meeks said yes.

Randy Abel said it's happened, yes.

Gary Friend said it has happened, okay. I'm done.

Mike said anything, Gary?

Gary Girton said no.

Mike said are we good to go?

Randy Abel said we'll look for the definitions, see if it's in any of the old ordinances.

Meeks said it's probably in the building code.

Randy Abel said that's what I mean, it might be.

Meeks said if it is, just shoot me over that and we're good.

Randy Abel said yeah. I'll try to look through some of the old ones and see what it says.

Meeks said I can't find it in our current one.

Randy Abel said yeah, because we don't have definitions in the fee schedule part of any of them I've seen.

Mike said in any other policies that you've followed that would be helpful.

Meeks said that's not in the building code already, yeah.

Randy Abel said yeah. And did you have any questions on the nuisance abatement this morning, down by airport?

Mike said the one out on 300 East?

Randy Abel said so, we've been keeping our eye on that.

Mike said I wasn't aware of that, but yeah.

Randy Abel said and have been in contact with her, and I actually go out and take pictures. And believe it or not, as bad as it looks today, if you look at the pictures from March and February, it was worse. So, she is cleaning up slowly, and I'm trying to get more in contact with her where I can tell her, and I think in the past, we've agreed that if you can get it out of sight, like in a garage or something, didn't we decide that was, I'm thinking we did that in Fairview.

Meeks said you're not in violation if you can't see it.

Randy Abel said if you can't see it. That's exactly right. I think that's what we did in Fairview and he basically put it in the garage and sealed the garage.

Mike said in Harrisville, we took dumpsters out there.

Randy Abel said yeah.

Mike said that was through the solid waste office. I didn't email you back, but I was going to suggest that might be an avenue for her, dumpsters to put the stuff in.

Randy Abel said I'll talk with her. She's got a plan to demo, of course, I don't think there's any money there, but to demo the trailer and to do all that. So, I'm sure it's mostly money, but this person is healthy enough they can get out and you know, put it in the garage too.

Mike said okay. Very good. Thank you, Randy.

Randy Abel said okay. Thank you.

Debra Johnting – Full Time Assistant job description

Mike said job description, looking for a full time Area Planning assistant.

Debra Johnting said I do have something to add to the permit discussion. As someone who frequently does permits, it's possible for the three of us to be in the room by ourselves. Ed's out, it's a secluded hallway, and if not being in danger, I have felt vulnerable when someone comes in and says they're going to build a 10,000 square foot barn for \$10,000.00. And if we question it, if we question the wrong person, Ed gave me a survey steak to put underneath my desk just in case. It's just, there's been a few people that I was very uncomfortable with, questioning them. We shouldn't have to do that.

Gary Friend said this will help with that for sure.

Mike said this will help. Not going to eliminate it, it will help.

Debra Johnting said we should not be in that position.

Mike said well I'm wondering if there's something in your office arrangement that, make sure Randy is there to do them I guess is.

Debra Johnting said just as long as we don't have to question their honesty. That is what we have to eliminate that.

Mike said square footage should speak for itself. I appreciate you sharing that. So, we've talked about it for a couple of meetings now, and we believe that the office of the Area Planning which is also the Board of Zoning Appeals for improvement location permits and evidently helping with building permits as well. Your office needs a full-time administrative assistant,

recording secretary. And this was a position that we used to have several years ago. And I'm not sure why it was eliminated, but it has been eliminated.

Gary Friend said it was eliminated on Randy's request. The funding for the county was very low at the time, and then you had said work it out as a team, and then now, it's changed, several years ago. It is a funding issue.

Mike said and the job description to me looks pretty straight forward as an administration assistant recording secretary. Our roll in this endeavor, Debra and Randy would be that we would approve the job description and the position of administrative assistant recording secretary, and then it would go to council to add the position to the salary ordinance at the requested pay of \$19.30 per hour.

Gary Girton said I'll move we accept the recommendation for an administrative assistant recording secretary, as presented.

Mike said at a pay of \$19.30 an hour?

Gary Girton said yes.

Gary Friend said I agree with that but I think the pay will be determined by the council.

Mike said well we would recommend that.

Gary Friend said we will recommend that and I'll second it.

Mike said do you guys have anything to add?

Debra Johnting said just for reference, I got that from the deputy position. So, we felt like that was comparable. And I know you wouldn't think I'd pull it out of the air, but I just, we didn't know.

Gary Friend said if you pulled it out of the air, you did a good job.

Mike said yeah, you did.

Debra Johnting said okay, then I pulled it out of the air.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said anything else for us this morning?

Debra Johnting said I just, Gary, you and I had a conversation about a part-time person.

Gary Friend said yes.

Debra Johnting said and frankly, we were so busy at that time, I didn't have time to even look for someone. We've been in a, we've had two, and it goes back to the issue of permitting filling in, when you're there by yourself and you get hit with all of this, if you're not committed to come in full time and learn it all, it's very difficult after a week or so to tell a part-time, brand new person, hey, by the way, you're going to run the office today. They don't come back.

Gary Friend said that's why I'm going to full time. My point is full time, plus use up the part-time line to get on top of everything.

Debra Johnting said it's just such a learning curve, I can't, I haven't had anyone yet that will stay in there by themselves.

Randy Abel said and years ago, we gave up the, they were doing budget cuts, and we had a thousand dollars set aside that we could hire in emergency cases. Well that money is gone. I didn't know what the policies were, but is the policy acceptable that we could use some of that part-time secretary to hire just a person to come and do minutes or something like that, or just, and go?

Gary Friend said you have to follow the rules of the county's part-time employee. But it's just, it doesn't matter which part-time employee it is to us. It's part-time employment per hour.

Randy Abel said I knew I did that way back in the day when we first took the office over and I think, Bill, I think was leaving or something, and left that desk open. And we were kind of in an uproar. I think there was another person that had already been a part-time in the county, so we didn't have to go through the whole process. But, we used that thousand dollars then.

Mike said it's still there. And unless council would take it out.

Randy Abel said no, it's gone because we gave it up.

Mike said oh, you gave it up.

Randy Abel said and I'm not sure which office it was in.

Mike said I mean the part-time is still there.

Debra Johnting said the part-time is still there.

Randy Abel said oh, the part-time is still there, yes.

Mike said as long as you.

Debra Johnting said this was temporary.

Mike said I would suspect that as long as you don't work that part-time person over the number of hours that we require, then, if you need them in an emergency, they have to go through the

employment process. So, they're not going to be an independent contractor, they're going to be an employee. So, they have to come in, they have to be drug tested, they have to go through the process. That may not work for you for an emergency situation where somebody just to do minutes. So, in your budget, you may want to consider that next year, as opposed to a part-time person, you want a fund of money that you can hire an independent contractor to come in and we're going to pay you a \$100.00 a meeting to come in and sit at a meeting. I mean that may be something you want to do a budget to give you that opportunity.

Debra Johnting said and at this time of year, Randy's secretary, Bev Fields has stepped up and caught almost everything that the part-time person was doing before. She'll have busy times when that won't be as easy, but right now.

Gary Friend said the intent wasn't to over burden you. The intent was to get you enough help in there to get up on top of the mountain. However, you see fit to get there. And the council's view of it too, I believe, I was in that meeting, they're okay with you having full time and using your part-time line.

Debra Johnting said I just think because of my situation, I think we need to have full time first, in case.

Gary Friend said a question I wanted to ask you while Randy is here, I'd asked you about the zoning at the Farmland ambulance depot location as this moves forward, you emailed me back and said that we have to have a public hearing to turn that into public service area.

Debra Johnting said yes, it's a special exception for any need down there. It's no zone for schools, hospitals, emergencies, churches, in any zone, whether you start at R1 and go all the way up to M2. In every single category, it's a special exception.

Meeks said so what does, what do we need to zone it to?

Debra Johnting said apply for special exception, and the first opportunity, May 23rd is the deadline. I can do the paper work for you.

Meeks said we want to get the bids back and figure out what we're doing first.

Debra Johnting said June will be.

Mike said aren't we zoned okay over there?

Debra Johnting said it doesn't matter.

Meeks said you have to get special exception.

Mike said I understand that.

Randy Abel said yeah, the zone is fine.

Debra Johnting said the zoning is fine. That way, we don't spot zone and we don't have to say that particular action goes in this zone. You'd have a million zones for that.

Gary Friend said like Meeks said, we've got an RFP out right now, so we need to begin to get this.

Meeks said we want to see what we get. I think you'd want to see what you get before you start.

Debra Johnting said I can start working on the paperwork.

Gary Friend said whether we get anything this round or not, I think we've got to get that public hearing out of the way.

Meeks said well that won't be too bad.

Debra Johnting said I usually suggest a hearing first. You find out where you stand when you do that. You have to go in front of the board. If you're talking about tearing down a house, that's the board.

Mike said we've got an attorney.

Gary Friend said we've got an attorney. The house is gone.

Meeks said the house is gone, it's just bare ground.

Debra Johnting said no, I mean in another situation, that's the same board that, so.

Randy Abel said I think they're good for a year, aren't they?

Debra Johnting said yeah, it's good.

Gary Friend said well, might want to get rolling on this.

Debra Johnting said you have a year to start construction of something.

Mike said okay. Thank you.

Joe Copeland – 4-way stop 100 E & 700 N (at school), Award for bridge 110

Mike said Joe Copeland. Nice award we got.

Joe Copeland said yeah, SJCA had submitted application to ACEC, what is it, American Council of Engineering Companies, and we were one of the state top finalists. So, I wanted to present. Tom Chalfant and I went and received the award for bridge 110. But it was a, it was for coming up with the design to use lightweight concrete on the bridge deck, so we didn't have to replace the entire bridge. It saved us a lot of money.

Mike said do you have a place to put that out at the garage?

Joe Copeland said well I'm sure there is.

Mike said okay. Thank you.

Joe Copeland said next is an intersection study.

Gary Friend said 700?

Joe Copeland said it's done, yes. We took traffic counters out there and counted the traffic. The last page shows the average daily traffic incoming or coming to the intersection, EDT. The Indiana manual and uniform traffic control, Indiana manual and uniform traffic control devices governs 4-way stops, and the placement of all signs, traffic signals, even yield signs. So, I've copied, on the second page, information from the manual on the different things that you have to go through. You have to go through whether the amount of traffic that comes to the intersection, and also, it takes into account accident history. So, after looking at all this, it came down to the final, I can go through it step-by-step. Traffic volumes are at 62/38. In other words, they say not to put a 4-way stop in unless the volumes of traffic are near equal. The old manual used to say 60/40 split.

Gary Friend said what do you mean, 60/40?

Joe Copeland said 60 percent or.

Mike said a certain way, 40 comes in the other way.

Joe Copeland said yeah, if it's closer than a 60/40, then we can live with that. But this is a 62/38. So, it's outside that 60/40 realm.

Mike said now it's a 50/50. You said the old was 60/40.

Joe Copeland said no, they don't even talk about 60/40 split. They just say near equal.

Mike said near equal.

Joe Copeland said that's all they say today.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said it doesn't meet any criteria for traffic signals of course. Crash history, I looked on Aries, the state database for traffic accidents, and I found two accidents, but they did not involve a vehicle. They involved animals. Alright, there was another one, but it was a 1,000 feet from the intersection. Ran off the road. So, crash history is not a, has not been met. Minimum volumes weren't met, of course. Side distance, there's plenty of side distance at the

location. So, my recommendation is not to install a stop condition at the intersection of 100 East and 700 North because the requirements of the IMUTCD are not met. Also, I put in here some information about speed. I usually do that. Those counters not only do volume, but they do speed and they do the type of vehicle that's running the roads. The average speed was anywhere from 38.4 to 46.7. Maximum speed was, lowest was 61 ½ miles an hour and the highest was 66.2 miles per hour.

Mike said I've not driven out there.

Joe Copeland said in the 85th percentile, and the reason I put the 85th percentile was just, we were doing a speed study. You're supposed to look at the 85th percentile to determine the safe speed limit, safe speed limit. And that ranged from 50.3 to 55.9. If you were to put a sign up there for speed, it would be 50 or 55.

Mike said well I think the, the school out there is anticipating school buses coming out for tours, concerned about that traffic volume when they come out. And I really think the better way to handle that would be to have the school maybe seeking some assistance from the county sheriff's department to just be aware that that's going on and help them that way.

Joe Copeland said yeah, average volume coming to the intersection from the north is 34 vehicles a day. Coming from the south is 49 vehicles a day. And that's pretty low.

Mike said I don't see Greg here today, but we could notify Greg of your recommendation and I don't see a reason to not accept Joe's recommendation and not put a stop sign there.

Gary Friend said I agree.

Mike said that okay Gary?

Gary Girton said yeah, it was well documented that we don't need it.

Mike said okay to share this with Greg if he wants to see it?

Joe Copeland said sure. If you would like to see any of the traffic data from the counters, I have it if you'd like to see it.

Mike said I don't need to see it.

Gary Friend said I don't need to see it.

Joe Copeland said yeah, it's pretty boring stuff.

Mike said we had an award for bridge 110.

Joe Copeland said yes.

Mike said and we've already talked about the award for the Carl Street.

Gary Girton said is that something that's a potential future use, the surface material?

Joe Copeland said as far as?

Gary Friend said the concrete.

Joe Copeland said oh, yeah, I mean it, there had to be a specification written for that lightweight concrete, and submitted to the state, and the state approved it.

Perry Knox said I remember you telling me that.

Joe Copeland said so, it's now a specification at INDOT.

Perry Knox said statewide, yeah, it's approved statewide.

Joe Copeland said and the designer who was with SJCA has his PHD. He knows concrete and he knows bridge decks, and very good, very knowledgeable person.

Gary Girton said he was here once, wasn't he?

Perry Knox said yeah.

Mike said okay. Anything else for Joe?

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said alright.

Ed Thornburg – Utility agreements, NLBC and BMS Group, Frontier, Charter

Mike said Ed Thornburg, utility agreements. Looks like we have several different companies, NLBC, BMS Group, Frontier and Charter. Anything out of the ordinary in these?

Ed Thornburg said no, lots of ordinary. Lots and lots and lots of ordinary.

Mike said are you recommending that we approve these county utility agreements with these four companies?

Ed Thornburg said yes.

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

Mike said anything else for us?

Ed Thornburg said no, not at this point.

Gary Friend said are you the one that types in the microscopic letters on some of those lines?

Ed Thornburg said no, I've been talking to the people involved in that. Somebody is an over achiever with the micro font.

Sherri Thompson and Wendy McDavid – Grant request, Health Board appointment

Mike said next item is Sherri Thompson and Wendy McDavid. Are they here this morning?

Sherri Thompson said I'm here and Wendy is not.

Mike said you came up as I was talking. You have a grant request?

Sherri Thompson said yes. It is the no option grant.

Mike said and this is for 100 kits?

Sherri Thompson said uh huh.

Mike said and you're just seeking our permission to get them. And you're going to distribute them to the police, the schools, and the community in general?

Sherri Thompson said yes. And the public can come up and request them.

Gary Friend said that's, really, it's not a dollar request, it's a request for the kits?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Girton said there's no match.

Mike said it's in kind there's no match.

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

Mike said and you have a new member recommendation?

Sherri Thompson said yes, for the Board of Health. She's come a few times.

Mike said Kathy Wallace?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

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

Mike said anything else for us?

Sherri Thompson said we will be looking for a new person to take the place of Cody Lemaster on the preparedness portion. So, she's going to stay until the end of June. So, we're working on getting that all posted.

Mike said so, we do have Eric Devon. I don't see Eric here this morning.

Sherri Thompson said Eric had a previous engagement that he couldn't be in office today.

Mike said can he be here in two weeks?

Sherri Thompson said yes. Yes, and I can try to answer anything if you would like.

Gary Friend said I have one question. He's denying somebody's septic system, tornado victim?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Friend said who?

Sherri Thompson said I'm sorry?

Meeks said I don't think we should talk about it, the person he's denying.

Gary Friend said okay, fair enough.

Sherri Thompson said I do know that there was a letter that was read from, I'm not sure if it was Barnes or where.

Gary Friend said I'd seen that, yeah.

Sherri Thompson said yeah, and it said that it was not fit for what they wanted.

Gary Friend said but it was fit for the house before the tornado hit it.

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary Friend said we, as commissioners have waived any type of ordinances like that that affected somebody just putting it right back on their footprint. And that's all they were going to do, correct?

Sherri Thompson said I believe so. That, I don't know. I don't know if they have added any.

Gary Friend said I would like to see the fact that they were allowed to rebuild their life right there as it was before the tornado.

Sherri Thompson said right.

Gary Friend said and not enforce this.

Sherri Thompson said I think it may be that they've added, I don't know if they've added a room to it, and that's why they.

Gary Friend said well that's different.

Mike said added a room to the construction after the disaster?

Sherri Thompson said yes, yes, after. So, I don't know if, you know, that is what is going on, or that's how I understood it anyway. I did not read any of that.

Mike said it sounds like we need to talk to Eric.

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Mike said and we, and I think maybe we just wait and talk to Eric about this proposed sewer ordinance. He's proposed this.

Meeks said this is all on him, yeah. The state actually. It's a form from the state.

Mike said it is a form from the state?

Sherri Thompson said yes. The state, I know that it states that we can't have anything more stringent than what the state has, so that's why he.

Meeks said pretty much this is a draft directly from the state and instead of blank county, we put Randolph, I put Randolph County in there, made a couple changes, very minor.

Gary Friend said what's driving it?

Sherri Thompson said the state has changed the ordinances. They've changed several ordinances.

Meeks said the state doesn't like septic systems.

Sherri Thompson said they're actually working on food, the food one also, that they're going to be changing, how it's rated and things like that, so. So that will be coming up too.

Mike said okay. Well we'll just table this until the 20th.

Sherri Thompson said okay. I'll make sure he's here. Thank you.

Mike said thank you, Sherri.

Kevin Decamp – Life Stream letter of support & resolution

Mike said Kevin Decamp. Life Stream letter of support & resolution.

Kevin Decamp said it's been awhile since I seen you all. Kind of like some of these people, I've been battling the federal government, myself, not so much the state. INDOT is being, has asked me to get an authorizing resolution from each of the tier counties, which would be anybody that's with me in the public transportation system. Being that Jay County is my pass-through county commissioners, which it's been that way for over 20 years. So, I don't know why we have to change anything, but the FTA is involved. That's all I was told. So, nothing has changed. It's just so they have some record of it. I sent it to Laura prior to, so you guys could take a look at it before I come and ask for signatures. Like I said, nothing has changed since the last 9 years. I've been there and my president says nothing has changed in the last 20. So, it's just more documentation for the federal government. And then, of course, on the 13th, I'll have Jay County sign after I have all these from the other 3 counties. You guys were my first. And I would like to say while we were looking this over, my team, during the disaster with the tornadoes, I didn't even have to ask for volunteers. They were already lined up outside my door. We delivered beds. We moved people out of the assisted living. And we have a shuttle right now for the ladies out of the assisted living going to get their hair done every week too. So, we've tried to help out any way we could here.

Mike said so, we're entering an agreement with Jay County?

Kevin Decamp said yes sir. And it's the same that we've had just verbally now. It's on a piece of paper for some reason.

Mike said and the agreement basically, is that you will be.

Kevin Decamp said I'm the sole guy that runs everything.

Mike said operating within Randolph County for Life Stream Services to offer transportation?

Kevin Decamp said correct.

Mike said I think there's a typo in the first paragraph. It says this agreement is entered between Jay county commissioners, hereinafter applicant, Randolph County commissioners, hereinafter tier 2 county, pursuant to their respective government employees at the applicant, and TY are authorized to enter into this agreement. I'm not sure who TY is.

Meeks said can I see it?

Mike said the resolution?

Meeks said yeah.

Kevin Decamp said yeah, I see applicant and TY would be, well look, INDOT makes mistakes too.

Mike said I don't, I mean, I'm okay with a typo if I knew what it meant.

Kevin Decamp said yeah. I don't, I don't know what TY means.

Meeks said is that in the, it's not in the resolution is it?

Kevin Decamp said no. That's in a governmental.

Mike said this is the intergovernmental agreement that we're signing.

Meeks said should say they are authorized.

Kevin Decamp said they?

Meeks said should be they.

Mike said they. That's what I wondered.

Meeks said h e missing on that one.

Kevin Decamp said now we know.

Mike said so they're okay if I.

Meeks said the resolution is fine. This one, I went through. Just some changes, minor.

Mike said it doesn't appear we're giving up anything.

Meeks said no.

Mike said we're maintaining our relationship with Life Stream, which I think is a good thing in the county.

Kevin Decamp said correct. Well that was the one thing I made, I couldn't understand. I wanted to make sure, I'm like, I don't want anything to change what we've been doing. He's like no, it's just the FTA wanting.

Meeks said I'd just mark that out, put t h e y, initial it, Mike.

Kevin Decamp said and I have one here if you'd want to sign this one instead. I can do that t h.

Meeks said just initial that and you're good.

Mike said okay. Are you okay with this agreement, Gary?

Gary Girton said yes.

Gary Friend said yes.

Mike said someone want to move approval?

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

Mike said this is resolution 2024-07, a resolution for the transfer of funds. And this basically, says that Jay County can apply for those funds and receive funds from INDOT in the financing of the transit system.

Kevin Decamp said yes.

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

Laura said I can email those to you, but I've got to keep the original.

Kevin Decamp said yes ma'am. Thanks so much. You all have a wonderful day.

Mike said well thank you Kevin.

Kevin Decamp said let us know if we can do anything for you.

Mike said yes, thank you.

Evaughna Shepard, Jim Martin and Jen Tarter – Monument lighting

Jen Tarter said good morning. We are here on behalf of Winchester Main Street to request the use of the courthouse and the courthouse lawn again for our second event this year. It's scheduled for Saturday, November 9th, at 6:30. Last year, we used the first floor of the courthouse for tours and restrooms and warmth, and also, the lawn.

Mike said and that event is what?

Jen Tarter said the monument lighting. I apologize. Sorry.

Mike said oh, okay. Thank you. Well I think it was a success last year. So, I wouldn't know why we wouldn't want to.

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

Jim Martin said there was one issue with the monument ring at the top that Mr. Lenkensdofer pointed out. It looked like one of the sides, the chains were rubbing against the monument, itself. And so, this year, we have had Falcon Industries extend the rings of the ring, about an inch and a half, which will be more than enough clearance.

Mike said have you shared that with Dave?

Jim Martin said I don't know that I have.

Mike said I would recommend doing that. If you want to see him on Wednesday morning, that's when the council meets, you could share that with him and the council, and they'd probably appreciate that. We do.

Jim Martin said okay, alright.

Gary Girton said the only other question I had was last year, I mentioned about the microphones and PA system. From where I was standing, I thought was, well particularly for the young people, well for, basically, everyone, it was hard for me to hear. And I thought they had an excellent program, and I'm sorry I missed part of what was being said.

Jim Martin said the crowd definitely overwhelmed us. So, we were expecting maybe 50 people, and it was a lot more than that.

Jen Tarter said around 500.

Jim Martin said yes. And so, this year we are getting a bigger sound system that hopefully can cover a lot more.

Gary Friend said and 50 motorcyclists.

Jen Tarter said lots of surprises.

Gary Friend said it was good though.

Gary Girton said a good program.

Mike said yeah, it was.

Jen Tarter said thank you so much.

Jim Martin said thank you.

Mike said thank you very much. Evaughna, did you have anything to add to that?

Evaughna Shepard said no.

Mike said okay, okay. Evaughna is our new tourism director, appointed by the tourism board and Randolph United. Look forward to working with.

Chris Peacock – Halderman Farm Management – Explanation of overage

Mike said Chris Peacock. Halderman Farm Management, explanation of overage.

Chris Peacock said alright. Thanks for working me in today. So, I'm here reporting on the tile project we did east of the fairground. That tile project is completed. Unfortunately, we had to make some revisions along the way to the project to make sure it was done correctly, which increased the final cost of the project. These revisions were shared with us, and reported to us, and it was approved by our county surveyor and I to make the project what it needed to be. So, the first revision we had to make was the tile outlet. Every, every successful tile project needs a good outlet for the water to drain from the installed tile. So, in reaching a good outlet, we had to extend on further north into the Culy woods for that outlet, which added \$1,773.00 to the project. Then we also, the initial plan did not include tiling between the new main and the east fence row, fence line. So, we filling in that gap. I emailed you guys a copy of the tile map. You have this in your packet. We have areas marked there in the right-hand corner. So, the final cost of the project with the fittings and the revisions ended up being a total of \$60,169.45. And I'm requesting approval for additional funding to reach that amount so we can pay Proficient Drainage.

Mike said and this was one that needed to be done on the go?

Chris Peacock said yes.

Mike said and Ed and you approved that?

Chris Peacock said yes.

Mike said Ed's got funds.

Chris Peacock said excuse me?

Mike said do you have any funds you can use to pay for this overage Ed?

Ed Thornburg said no.

Mike said okay. And I'm at a loss as to what we used to pay for this.

Laura said farm maintenance.

Mike said farm maintenance.

Gary Friend said I think we had to go to general, didn't we?

Gary Girton said we transferred from general.

Laura said we transferred into farm maintenance from general. I don't know, but we transferred enough for both projects, but we can do another appropriation if need be.

Mike said well I think we should pay the overage. The overage is \$3,437.97.

Chris Peacock said actually 3,729.55 is the overage. That included the additional, the revised fittings required.

Gary Friend said the only comment I have on that is we weren't informed when we set the funding up of possible overages, and I think we should be. Maybe, I just, maybe it's just me. But we allotted a certain amount of money to do it, to go over without the approval first, but Ed was involved in it, but without the sanctioning bodies approving the funding first, county government it's a little different. But anyway, I guess the only thing I have to say about it, I'm not mad at anybody, we weren't informed at all through this, say hey, by the way, there could be a possibility that we're going to have to pay more.

Chris Peacock said okay, so moving forward when we get notice of possible overages on projects.

Mike said I think what he's saying if Proficient Drainage said they could do it for \$56,000, I don't know if in the small print they say this project may run 10% over or 10% under, so we're aware that there would be a potential of an overage.

Gary Friend said especially when we appropriated a certain amount of money.

Mike said like we saw on the jail 2 million dollars, I think, we're probably going to expect there could be some overage in that estimate. And generally speaking until you get into some things like a drainage project or a jail building or any other construction, repair or replacement, you don't know what you're going to find until you get in there. And it's somewhat of a given that you're going to pay more, or you may pay less. If that's just stated in that quote then, we're aware it's going to happen I guess. Does that make sense?

Gary Friend said it does.

Chris Peacock said okay.

Mike said so, I'm not, I'm looking at your invoice you sent us, and the total due is \$60,169.45 and there's approved by the commissioners a \$56,731.48, which states an overage amount of \$3,437.97. Am I missing that number someplace?

Chris Peacock said you're ahead of me on this Mike. I've got different calculations on there.

Mike said up at the top you added \$3,729.55 is what you're saying it is?

Chris Peacock said \$329.05 for the additional fittings. Then part of that ran under budget as well, the initial part of the project ran under budget. Just to get a good tile outlet primarily, and then filling in the area between the fence and the tile.

Mike said so, the overage is \$3,729.55 which is highlighted in yellow on your page right under the tile layout. So that's what we owe Proficient Drainage?

Chris Peacock said yes.

Mike said so, we need a motion to approve the payment of that additional funds and do an additional appropriation from general into farm maintenance.

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

Chris Peacock said thank you.

Mike said sorry for the confusion.

Chris Peacock said we'll get this right moving forward. I apologize for the confusion on this end. Would you like an update on the results of the project?

Mike said sure.

Chris Peacock said I spoke to the tenant. They worked the ground down. The project was just completed early the week before. The tenant has worked the ground down. It was planted Friday and Saturday. All the county land there around the fairgrounds is planted now. And so is it at the airport. The tenant report in that field it was a sopping wet field, and they could not, they were amazed that how quickly that field was running down from this tile project. And they bid the amount they did based on us completing this project. So, really appreciate your working with us on getting that done.

Mike said okay.

Chris Peacock said any other questions?

Mike said no.

Chris Peacock said thank you.

Mike said thank you, Chris. I don't see the mayor here today.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Argo agreement

Quotes for dishwasher, icemaker and range

Surplus K-9

Mike said other business. Sheriff. Quotes for dishwasher, icemaker and range and also surplus property and K-9. So, you went back to get a little more study and got a revised quote, which looks to be the same, it's just moved things around a little bit.

Art Moystner said it has. And should include the fact that they are removing the old equipment. I also met with the other individual. They do not sell any of those items. You lease through them, and it also comes with a chemical component that you have to purchase so many chemicals. With the situation we're in, I'm not sure how that would work.

Mike said so, they don't do the services, installation or training

Art Moystner said no.

Mike said I didn't think they sold, but, okay. So, we are faced then with a dishwasher cost of \$20,384.77, some additional start up and then some install and then the removal and installation and training of \$6,008.20. And the removal includes the dishwasher, the booster heater and the, upgrading the electrical, making utility connections, and then they also have a quote for an icemaker in the amount of \$3,999.00 and a quote for a range in the amount of \$11,312.73 with a \$418.00 installation on that. Total appliance invoice from C&T Design Equipment Company is \$39,054.63. And we need this stuff.

Art Moystner said we do. The only thing not included in this quote that I would point out is with the range. We will also have to have someone hook that up. The connection for that is at the owner's expense. So, I would get someone to come in and hook that up also. But I believe I can find that elsewhere in the budget.

Mike said final electrical connection by owner.

Art Moystner said yes.

Mike said I think we talked about paying this out of ARPA funds.

Gary Friend said we did. I'll make a motion we make the purchase out of ARPA.

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

Mike said do you want me to sign this?

Art Moystner said if you would like.

Mike said do you want to sign it?

Art Moystner said I can do either, as long as the commissioners agree to have me do that.

Mike said you're the sheriff. Go ahead and sign it.

Art Moystner said thank you.

Mike said next item is the K-9 retirement agreement. A resolution to sell the K-9. How long have we had this K-9?

Art Moystner said 5 years.

Mike said 5 years?

Art Moystner said maybe 6.

Mike said what's its name?

Art Moystner said Vilo.

Mike said Vilo.

Art Moystner said he's done a good job for us.

Gary Friend said is that the average service expect ability.

Art Moystner said 5 to 8.

Gary Friend said 5 to 8.

Art Moystner said and I just know he's been having some medical issues.

Gary Friend said do you have another one?

Art Moystner said we have one in training currently. Should be finished May 17th, I believe, and back on the road. We'll post something about that when that happens. Just for the record, in selling the K-9, we are selling the K-9 to the handler, and letting them stay together.

Mike said okay. So, we probably ought to do the resolution first, then the agreement to sell. So, resolution 2024-08, a resolution declaring certain personal property of Randolph County as no longer needed, and to be sold.

RESOLUTION 2024-08

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY OF
RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA,
AS UNNEEDED, AND
TO BE CONSIDERED SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners (“Board”) is empowered to declare unneeded property to be surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the Board may authorize the disposal of surplus property pursuant to IC 5-22-22 *et seq.*;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board that:

1. Pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8, the items listed on Exhibit “A”, attached hereto, shall be considered to be surplus property (“Property”) for purposes of disposal.
2. The value of the property is less than the estimated costs of the sale and transportation of the property.
3. The Property may be transferred to its handler Jerry Hammons.
4. Proceeds from the sale of the items set forth in Exhibit “A”, shall be placed in the fund from which the item was purchased. If no fund can be identified for a particular item, the proceeds shall be placed in the General Fund.

Sheriff’s Office

Male Shephard Breed named Velo

EXHIBIT “A”

Gary Girton made motion to approve Resolution 2024-08. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said next item with regards to Vilo is the K-9 agreement in which we are agreeing to retire Vilo and transfer ownership to his handler. Pretty straight forward agreement. I’d entertain a motion to approve that agreement.

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

Mike said anything else for us today?

Art Moystner said the only thing I guess I’d like to update you on is we’ve had a process with one of the vehicles that was damaged in the tornado. They were initially going to fix that. Kept finding additional damage, additional damage, finally, the insurance company has totaled that out. And I wanted to share with you and the council tomorrow the insurance, when they come to check, it’s going to be about \$11,000 short of what the cost will be to replace that vehicle. Obviously, that’s not in the budget, so I will approach council tomorrow to see if we can get that

rectified. I'm not even sure we can find the vehicle this year. Every dealership I've contacted, Dodge has stopped making them currently. So, we'll wait and see how this all works out.

Mike said what year is it?

Art Moystner said it actually only had 7,000 miles on it, so it was new. But it was caught out in the open in the tornadoes.

Mike said okay. Any questions of Art? I saw Cobalt at the jail this morning. They finishing up the tile over there?

Art Moystner said I apologize, yes. They did finish. They are dragging and probably going to plant grass seed, and that is the last major piece of the septic we've been working on. So, that should be finished.

Mike said I hope it rains for you.

Art Moystner said let's get the floor in the basement sealed first, then we'll do that.

Mike said okay. Thank you, Art.

Art Moystner said thank you.

Minutes of March 13 and 18, 2024

Mike said next item, we received minutes of our March 13th and March 18th commissioner meetings, and one of them was a joint meeting with commissioner and council. We received those via email. Were there any corrections or deletions to those minutes?

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

Payroll Claims \$308,942.05

Mike said next item is our payroll claims, the amount of \$308,942.05. They are at our place, and I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

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

Regular Claims \$1,560,111.70

Mike said next item we received a copy of via email, and that's our regular claims in the amount of \$1,560,111.70. I'd entertain a motion to approve the regular claims.

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

Mandy Hummer/ Use of Courthouse lawn

Mike said next item is Mandy Hummer, the use of the courthouse lawn. I received a copy of a request to use the courthouse lawn on a reunification rally. But the name is not set in stone. This is a strengthening families' event that is sponsored by the Indiana Birth Parent Advisory Board members and DCS staff. I presume that's our local office staff. Nicole Mock.

Gary Girton said yes.

Gary Friend said it mentions a bounce house. Do we have to get special insurance for that? They have to provide it to us?

Mike said yeah, they want to do a bounce house if possible. Those involved are DCS, local churches, county Gideons association, Meridian Health pediatrics, and she's willing to work with Jake on this obviously. And she's going to need to get a porta potty and probably a handicapped porta potty. So, the question is, do we want to allow this, and I'm not sure, June 1st, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. So, she would need the courthouse lawn from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00. And June is the reunification month. So, I wouldn't know why we wouldn't want to offer them the opportunity to use the courthouse to kick off family reunification.

Gary Girton said what day is it?

Mike said pardon?

Gary Girton said what day is it?

Mike said June 1st is a Saturday.

Gary Girton said they have the farmers market this year.

Mike said yeah, I would guess they're having farmers market, and that would be Saturday. I don't think that's going to conflict with this. They're going to be on the lawn. The farmer's market is in the street.

Gary Friend said might be able to share a porta potty, just get a handicapped one. That's up to them to work out I suppose.

Gary Girton said and the one for farmers market, they bring and leave.

Mike said yeah, I think they do. I think it's up here for the entire summer, because there's been some discussion about modifying that some way. So, do we want to allow them to use the courthouse lawn?

Gary Friend said I do, as long as they show us the insurance for the bounce house.

Mike said is that a motion?

Gary Friend said that is a motion.

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

Mike said so, I'm going to put a note on here that we need to have a copy of their insurance.

RAZ 32 support letter

Mike said next item is the Raz 32 support letter, and that is our agreement to provide them with grant funds from renewable energy funds in the amount of \$242,530.00 this year, \$229,130.00 for 2025. We agreed to do this and voted to do it, so this is just basically, the document that we're going to send to Rural Alliance Zone 32 to let them know that they're going to be receiving this money for those years.

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

UMR Health Insurance plan additions

Mike said UMR Health Insurance plan additions, United health care company.

Laura said the plan was added to your email only because it was so large I didn't print it, but it highlighted the change. It was just an addition of a benefit.

Mike said it's an improvement to the plan so we need to accept the improvement.

Laura said I think it included like wigs and such for cancer patients, that type of thing.

Gary Friend said a few other things.

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

Procurement Policy for Federal grants

Mike said Procurement policy for Federal grants.

Laura said so, this is not, it's just a little bit of change, I changed it last year after our audit, and I sent it to the auditor to ask if it was okay, the change, because they didn't like our plan. And, the auditor this year, asked me, did you get that plan approved? And I did not bring it to you guys. I was waiting on that auditor to tell me my change was okay, and she never did.

Mike said okay. So, this is a Randolph County procurement, an allowable cost policy for federal grants, which you modified our original one because the state board of accounts didn't like it?

Laura said right. And I modified it to correct the issues they thought were, and then I sent it to them and I said is this okay, and I never got a response. So, in not getting a response, I didn't ever bring it to you guys.

Mike said so we're asked to approve this policy, and I'd entertain a motion to do so.

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

Vision Trail Engineer agreement

Mike said next item is the vision trail engineer agreement, since you're all aware we received a trail grant from the DNR, and the first step of this trail grant is to hire and enter an agreement between the owner and the engineer to do the trail planning design and some other incidental matters. And our committee, and I think we have agreed to hire Butler Fairman & Seufert as our engineer. And this agreement, which Meeks has seen, and I've read through it, and it looks appropriate to me. And I would like authority to sign this agreement.

Gary Friend said motion to give the president authority.

Mike said this does commit us, their fee for engineering services is \$764,000.00 and that's to start and finish the trail. So, I have a motion, do I have a second?

Gary Girton said so, that's just for this grant?

Mike said that's for the 4 million dollars.

Gary Girton seconded the motion.

Mike said and of that \$764,000.00 we are going to be responsible for 20% of that claim.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said along with that, I will be filing at the DNR's request, they sent me a claim form to file in the amount of \$854,000.00 which they would then pay us 80% of that, \$683,200. And then we will have it in our account to pay as the engineer bills come in. So, I presume we set up a separate account for that. We, DNR will be sending us a check for \$683,000 which covers the engineer's fee of 754,000 or at least 80% of it. And then 80% for some part time inspection work that the engineer is going to be doing as we develop this project. I will say they've already started working on the project and dealing with A&R pipeline, and their right-of-way and trail building on the pipeline route. So, that's already started. Butler Fairman & Seufert will be happy that we signed that contract and we're going to file a claim because they've got some money invested in that. I will add too that Vision Trail is not the end of trails. The Community Foundation received a \$50,000.00 master trail planning grant from Lilly and they put that to use with Butler Fairman Seufert and are having a trails open house event May 16th. And that will be at the 4-H grounds. And in addition, Lisa Jennings of Community Foundation has indicated to me that they have filed for a Lilly grant between 4 and 5 million dollars for a trail enhancement project that will put a trail enhancement around Modoc, a trail head at Modoc, at the end of what our vision trail is as well as putting a spur on the vision trail just east of highway 1 running from the vision trail to Union School Corporation which will connect the Union School Corporation to

the vision trail, which will really enhance the opportunity for trail use and the school corporation, as well as Randolph County. So, that will be a good thing. And that's a, I think, it's up to 5 million dollars, and there's no match required. So, that's all Lilly's money. That's my report on trails.

Gary Friend said thank you.

Union City Daycare (Randolph Eastern) request

Mike said next item is the Union City daycare, Randolph Eastern request. It sounds like, we brought it up at our last meeting, that there was some concern about the equipment, but it sounds like that from Aaron Black, that the YMCA is going to leave the equipment.

Steve James said I can speak to that is you'd like me to.

Mike said well sure. Steve James, Y board, long term recovery committee chairman.

Steve James said ex Y board. I'm actually an advisor to the executive committee. They've given me approval to negotiate on their behalf.

Mike said okay.

Steve James said so yeah, we've got it approved by their board to sell the equipment for a dollar there. I think they just have to work through some stuff with their, some of their donors that donated some of the monies to the childcare to make sure that they're okay with it. But I think it's, all in all, it's on track.

Mike said okay. Good. But you're not here to speak of Union City's, you're not at their request?

Steve James said no, no, I'm just telling from what I know that there was previous discussion about where the equipment was at. And I wanted to make sure that the YMCA is on board with that.

Mike said okay. And you gave an update on long term recovery committee last Friday.

Steve James said yeah, if you want, I can give you guys some, I know there was a question about the non-monetary donations in the county garage.

Mike said well we kind of resolved that. I think they're still there.

Steve James said they are still there. Yeah, we do have, we're in the process of getting insurance for those items that are in there. I'm not sure what the question was, but I don't, Lonnie actually asked me to be here, if there were any questions from the commissioners on that. Yeah, but as far as it's going, I think we have 6 case managers involved. So, they are starting to process the cases. We're hoping to actually start some of the reconstruction here in the next couple of weeks and what not, so, right now, we have about \$400,000 in monetary donations from that. And then

we've not inventoried our non-monetary, but we have a lot of building supplies, lots of clothes, lots of food as well.

Mike said bottled water?

Steve James said yes, there's an abundance of bottled water out there, yes.

Mike said I saw a skid of water sitting outside this weekend.

Steve James yes. We've got more water than we know what to do with.

Mike said okay. Very good. Well we appreciate you coming in today.

Steve James said absolutely.

Mike said any questions of Steve?

Gary Friend said what, I guess I would have one. It's not a real technical one, but when do you think the highway building there will no longer be needed? How far down the road will this take?

Steve James said so, we're actually looking at other facilities right now, to look into that. Right now, there are some in Union City that's available.

Gary Friend said I'm not rushing you. I just wondered what.

Steve James for us, I'd rather try to see if we could get closer, to kind of in the middle of everything, and rather than putting it in Union City. So again, we're looking, some of the materials might be there for a bit until we find another facility. But we're looking for that. I know that's not ideal for either one of us, the storing the materials there.

Mike said but we're glad to help out.

Gary Friend said I don't think it's even bothering anything right now, nor will it in the near future. I was just wondering what the long term was.

Steve James said well I think as we start to get this, we'll start seeing more of those supplies in, I know that we got. Ceann, I don't know if you want to join me up here to talk about some of the grants that you're going after getting some of the building supplies in?

Ceann said yeah, we're talking to Asheville. Asheville has committed. I can't release an amount yet, but they are donating a very significant amount of building supplies. We're going to have someplace to store that. And so, there's another company who is also looking at doing non-monetary donations and so, we're also in conversations with Reid Hospital and so, you know, you're talking about, you know, Gary, looking at a year and a half, two years, where are we

going to put all this stuff? That's where we're looking at long term, no year, year and a half. But yeah, we're going to get more stuff I guess.

Steve James and we're trying to segregate the different types of stuff there. I get it, there probably is a logical place for some of that stuff to be stored there. But we probably need to look at a few other facilities available.

Mike said has there been any discussion of, I guess the best way to say this, to getting rid of some of the excess stuff that we have that we might not need?

Steve James said yes. Right now, we're looking at a lot of the food and water that we have there. I know that the current food pantry is full there, but I think there're lots of other outlets that we can get some of that stuff too before it spoils and we're just throwing a lot of that stuff away. So, yes, we're in the process of really looking at all that.

Gary Friend said did any of that go out west to the tornado events that they had or is it when it gets here, it stays here, we're the end user.

Steve James said right now it's all been here, all the funds that have been donated, but a lot of the organizations are working, they are splitting it between Delaware and Randolph County.

Gary Friend said I was meaning farther west, out in Iowa, Kansas?

Steve James said as far as, yeah, we have not, we've not decided that. What we didn't want to do is really before we started getting the case managers, to look at and see what our needs are. But once we get to do that we know that there's going to be a lot of excess that we'll try to figure out really, to help other victims, paying it forward.

Gary Friend said okay. Well I'm glad we had the facility to use.

Steve James said yeah..

Mike said I'm not sure what we're to do with Randolph Eastern's request here. His email indicated that he wanted us to take it under advisement. He sent us a letter that is either request, I'm going to suggest we table this unless somebody wants to do something different with it. But his letter kind of, he's requesting a \$100,000 this year, and \$50,000 next year. And then he said they are eager to discuss this proposal further and welcome any questions you might have. So, what do you want to do?

Gary Friend said sooner or later, I think, my opinion is going to have to come out on that. I don't think we should get in the business and daycare, supplementing operations. I don't think they county can segregate or determine who is more worthy, who's not? You know, like we see us as a county subsidizing operations, and folks from Ohio coming in, and nothing against our friends in Ohio, but it's Randolph County money. And we have people that need daycare across the county, up and down and around. And to start paying one area and not another area, I personally don't believe we should be subsidizing operations of daycare.

Mike said well, in a sense, we did this, we gave a hundred thousand dollars to this project before we gave, before we bought the equipment for the YMCA. So, we have supported this project in the past. My concern is, is at the time we supported the project, it was, they were going through the building process and creating the daycare, and then we were buying equipment. But this seems like a request to subsidize the operations of the daycare. And I can't speak for the Y, but there was, and I've not heard why the Y decided to pull out of the daycare in Union City, but if it were a money-making project for the Y, I can't imagine them pulling out. So, my concern would be that the Randolph Eastern, they're going to need support beyond the summer of 2025, and then we become into the situation of being in the daycare business if they come back to the county every year to ask for support. If it's a good, and daycare is a good thing, and daycare is needed, and if it is, I'm just wondering if Union City and Randolph Eastern are the ones that need to be creating this operations in their budget. If Aaron Black comes in and says you know, this, we need a hundred thousand dollars for improvement of the facility, that's different than we need a hundred thousand dollars to hire a director. I would hope they could find that because they're going to need to pay that director, I think that's what he said. So, I can't make a decision yay or nay today, but I'm a little like Gary Friend. I'm leaning towards the nay because the whole request sounds like it's a, we're subsidizing the operation. And if we're looking at economic development funds, although their asking commissioner and council so, that would be a, they're asking for a commissioner support and council support, that would be a renewable energy request.

Gary Girton said I'm not in favor of putting in renewable energy, but I might be in economic development, but I think we need more information from what Randolph Eastern is planning to do. I hate to see the program close because there's been so much put into it, and I think we need more information as to the problems. I know part of the problems; different ones have said is more labor. Isn't that right

Steve James said that's what the request is.

Gary Girton said but the reason the Y is having issues is because of maintaining staff to support the program. Correct or not?

Steve James said it's the, it's simple math, the revenues did not exceed expenses there. It was difficult like you said to maintain the staff, because of the hours of the operation we had to have some teachers and needs for the organization there. I will say, however, that it with the new voucher system in place in Indiana now, they get a lot more assistance from state vouchers than what they did when the Y was running it. So, when we looked at running it, we were running it at a 25 to \$30,000.00 deficit every year because of we wanted, again, keep it mission driven and make sure that we were allowing child care for you know, families that didn't make a lot. I think what they, and I can't speak for the school system, I know that Aaron and I have had conversations on how they could make it operationally work. I think was now trying to buy himself a year or so, so they could get acclimated and get up to a level three child care services which obviously, you get more grants available and certainly more monies for assistance.

Mike said and I really, I mean at one point, he does mention the director position, but it's also initial operating costs included but not limited to facility upgrades, staffing, licensing and staff training. And I guess I'm like you, I don't know what their budget is and I don't know what Randolph Eastern is putting into this, other than manpower. But I don't know what kind of funds are available and what their anticipated total costs are. But we have given this, and we gave the YMCA for its stake here, a hundred thousand dollars I think, back when we got our grant from the federal government, they've not come back and asked for anything else to support the daycare. It supported itself. And this one, this one has not been successful. And the YMCA has been in the daycare business and they were in the daycare business when they bought the new facility, and so, they've proven that they can be successful in the daycare business. But they weren't successful in Union City, so, this is going to be a hard sell for me to support from a county perspective because they're going to be new. And a little bit of me says well if YMCA can't do it, why should we expect somebody else to be able to do it?

Gary Friend said yeah, and part of me also goes beyond that, is why would we subsidize certain locations. And those unfortunate enough not to get over there for lower cost daycare and just paying the cost for it from their tax dollars, and it's, you know, it'll backfill. Daycare will backfill. Daycare's been going on forever. And the more we get involved, I think the less that private entrepreneurs can get involved because the prices stay down and the labor cost is not high. I mean, if you get daycare outside of Randolph County, it gets rather, I don't know the rates completely, but it sums up significantly. And if we're backfilling and trying to subsidize, it just gets in the way of normal daycare backfilling in. And we have found this in Parker, Farmland, on the other side of the county, whose money will be subsidizing one they could never use. And it does bother me too, that we'll be subsidizing daycare for folks that live across the state line who will never have a dollar in it. So, I think we just have to get out of daycare operations. Infrastructure is one thing, but operations is another.

Mike said so, do we want to table this for more information?

Gary Girton said I do.

Mike said okay. We can do that. We'll look at it again in two weeks.

Randolph County EMS bank change letter

Mike said next item is the Randolph County EMS bank change letter.

Laura said so, we've done this twice already, and the bank keeps coming back. So, here we are again. They wanted us, I guess Diana's name is still on there so I had to name her in the letter also.

Mike said this is removing Duane Petry and Diana Sutliff from the bank accounts and adding Brad Mullen and Dalton Brown to the bank accounts. Entertain a motion to approve this.

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

Additional Appropriations:

ARPA

T-Hanger \$3840.00

Mike said we now have additional appropriations, first one being ARPA for a T-hanger in the amount of \$3,840.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve.

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

General

Farm Maintenance (fairgrounds) \$56,731.48

Farm Maintenance (Airport) \$10,000.00

Mike said and the next one is from general to farm maintenance, one for \$56,731.48, which is the original claim on our drainage out at the, east of the fairgrounds, and the other is for \$10,000.00 for farm maintenance for the airport. I'd entertain a motion to approve these additional appropriations.

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

General

K-9 Maintenance \$15,900.00

Mike said next one is from general to K-9 maintenance in the amount of \$15,900.00.

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

ARPA

CAMA upgrade (Assessor) \$40,300.00

Mike said the next one is for the assessor's office. This is the software maintenance contract, the improvement of their software to allow, I believe it allows the property owner to get on line and see what's going on with their property. So, 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.

ARPA

New Vehicle (Ambulance Change order) \$2,594.20

Mike said the next two are again, from ARPA. One is for a new vehicle. That's the ambulance change order that we discussed back in March which increased the cost of the ambulance by \$2,594.20. 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.

ARPA

Professional Services (jail) \$109,650.00

Mike said and the final additional appropriation is from ARPA as well, and it's for the professional services of the Argo contract in the amount of \$109,650.00.

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

Mike said okay. That ends our additional appropriations. Laura, do you have anything for us this morning?

Laura said no.

Mike said Meeks?

Meeks Cockerill – Amended EDIT Plan (Randolph County Promise)

Meeks said I did. I had talked to Laura and you, Mike, about the EDIT plan regarding Randolph County Promise.

Mike said right.

Meeks said my notes had it that the promise to EDIT, that your EDIT plan reflects it, that you're going to pay 25,000 this year and the next four years for them. I think the minutes indicated it was going to be 10,000 this year and then 25 for the 5 additional years. And I know, there was a lot of back and forth, so, I just wanted to, whatever you guys decide, we need to make that a clean vote. I talked to Kathy and she's happy to have the money. If it's 10 this year and 25 next, that's great. If it's 25 this year, I think they would take the money this year though.

Mike said I thought the final decision and, evidently, I didn't make myself clear in the minutes, but I, at least from what you said, I thought they needed, in lieu of the 10 this year, it would be 25 this year and then for each year thereafter.

Meeks said that's how I remembered, yes, also.

Mike said so, I think we need to make that decision clear today.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion to clear it up today. \$25,000 for this year and the next four years.

Mike said 2024 and \$25,000 for the next four years after that.

Gary Friend said not include the 10 in there.

Mike said in lieu of the 10.

Mike said are you okay with that Gary?

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said do you want to second that?

Gary Girton said yes.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks said the other one I had was that Ball State. Did you sign that Mike?

Mike said I did sign the Ball State based upon your recommendation.

Meeks said very good.

Mike said okay. Gary.

Gary Friend – Salary Study Committee update

Gary Friend said briefly, the salary committee has been meeting and one of the things we're going to be attempting to do, and hope to get it done this year, but it's going to take a lot of council help, and maybe even next year we'll have to work on it, but, eliminating comp time completely. Putting comp time money in each department's budget and making some other changes that I will be sharing with the commissioners and council. We've got 3 members on the council. I believe it's time to look at, and I believe we can afford to, giving up comp time completely, and getting into paying overtime. So, we're working on that. So, I can briefly say some of the things we're looking at is a lot of employees are already 8 hours with a paid lunch. Taking everybody to 8-hour with a paid lunch. Taking the sick time and switching it to PTO, paid time off, looking at a 4th week of vacation after 15 years of service. And then council, of course, will fund all overtime operations. And once that's done, anybody that used their overtime in their yearly budget would have to present themselves in front of the council for additional appropriations. So, I will be working with Meeks, I already have, funding to get Erwin involved a little bit, how we make that change over because it's going to be different for Randolph County budget. The amount of comp time we carried on the books sometimes pretty extraordinary. We ended up paying it down anyway. It's just time to get off if we can, and if there's will to do it.

Mike said or are we not exempt from the salary minimum, because those are changing. Matter of fact, I think the executive branch is going a little further with that, reducing it even more.

Meeks said some would be exempt. It would all depend on classification.

Gary Friend said talking about the total salary.

Meeks said oh, total salary, I, yeah, they went up.

Gary Friend said all of our salary ordinances we're working on are above that minimum.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend said but I don't know, Mike. That's a good question if that minimum affects us, but we're working as if they do, and making sure we're above them.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend said and all this is proposal. It's not set in stone. There're are several meetings yet to go, the salary committee. That's all.

Mike said Gary Girton.

Gary Girton said nothing.

Mike Wickersham – Apex Tool forgivable loan

The only thing I have left is Apex Tool. Back in 2017 we approved a \$38,000 forgivable loan to Apex Tool.

Meeks said I remember that. It was.

Mike said they were to meet certain requirements and basically, move here and equip here and become part of this community. And they've been here 7 years, and I think they've met their responsibility and I told Randolph United that I would recommend that we forgive that forgivable loan that we made in 2017 based upon the reports that Randolph United received from Apex.

Gary Friend said understand the forgivable was in the contract.

Meeks said I think you just send a letter that says you've met your requirements. I think that's what we've done in the past. If that's what you guys want, I'll get something together.

Mike said so, I would make the motion we do that and ask for a second.

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

Meeks said I'll have something for the next meeting to sign to give to them.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Mike said and that brings us to citizen comments. We still have a full room today. Do we have any citizens here that would like to speak up and talk with us?

Adjournment

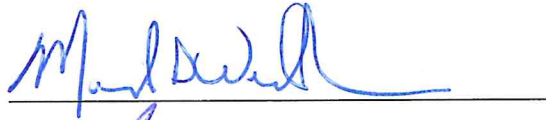
Mike said okay. I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

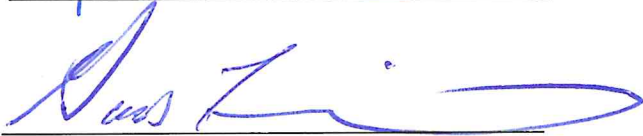
Gary Friend made motion to adjourn. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Meeting

adjourned.

Reviewed and signed this 1 day of July, 2024.


RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS







ATTEST:



Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County