

Randolph County Commissioners

August 3, 2026

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Council's update

Gary said alright ladies and gentlemen, we'll open up the August 3rd Commissioners Meeting. And the first item on here is council update. Who would like to give the council update? Good morning, Greg.

Greg Cheesman said morning commissioners. My name is Greg Cheesman, Randolph County Council. At our July 7th meeting, we talked about the county, new line item for the county administrator. We also talked, Art Moystner talked, our sheriff, about a new maintenance person and we increased the pay scale a little bit to get that person, because he had some certified qualifications, not just a man off the street. The children's advocate request that we did, one council member said that we might be looking, might look forward to putting a little bit more money into the Rainy Day fund here at the end of the year, see how we come along. We had a MUST meeting with a teleconference thing at the auditor's office the Wednesday after our meeting, and since then, we have had our first MUST meeting, which Tom and Missy were both there at that meeting. I think it went very well. I think she did a good job of laying down the basics of what was needed and we will probably have at least two more to get everybody up to speed and directed in the right direction. The rest of our meeting was your general appropriation stuff and everything else. That's all I have. Have you guys got any questions?

Gary said I do not. Tom?

Tom said nope.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said nope.

Gary said that's it. Thanks, Greg.

Greg Cheesman said very good.

Sherri Thompson – Grant request

Gary said next, Sherri Thompson on a grant request. Good morning.

Sherri Thompson said good morning.

Gary said please identify yourself.

Sherri Thompson said Sherri Thompson, Randolph County Health Department coordinator.

Gary said okay. So, it's pretty simple?

Sherri Thompson said yeah, it's one we do every year.

Gary said for naloxone kits.

Sherri Thompson said yeah.

Gary said what is that?

Sherri Thompson said Narcan.

Gary said that's Narcan?

Sherri Thompson said uh huh.

Gary said okay. Alright, we have a grant request from the Health department signed by the health officer, Dr. Sowinski, and I'm looking for the amounts on it, or is it just the kits only?

Sherri Thompson said it's the kits only.

Gary said to receive 300 kits?

Sherri Thompson said yes.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve this?

Missy said and those will be distributed, do they tell you how many they think they need, each city or town, or end of the year?

Sherri Thompson said we apply for a certain amount.

Missy said yeah, like 300 and some, right?

Sherri Thompson said yeah. And yes, those are given out to the community, the firefighters.

Missy said like even, yeah.

Sherri Thompson said yeah.

Gary said schools, yep, it's 300 Missy.

Missy said thanks.

Gary said do I have a motion?

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

Tony Jacobs, Argo – Recommendation of bid on jail project

Gary said next, Tony Jacobs, Argo.

Tony Jacobs said morning. Tony Jacobs with Argo Consultant Engineers. And we reviewed the bids for the HVAC renovation project for the Randolph County jail. And, based on our review and exchanges I had with Meeks Cockerill, in regards to bids, we are submitting our recommendation for Carroll Electric on the work.

Gary said okay.

Tony Jacobs said I have their bids returned, and our letter of recommendation and some comments that we requested Carroll Electric to clarify on their bid.

Gary said Meeks, you have anything to add to this?

Meeks said no. I'd accept them.

Gary said okay, you'd accept them, okay. We've heard the recommendation from Argo. Somebody like to make a motion to accept the bid for Randolph County jail overhaul of the HVAC system?

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

Gary said thank you Tony. Anything else?

Tony Jacobs said no sir. I'd like to turn these over to you.

Tom said what are we looking at the timing of the starting this route?

Tony Jacobs said my recommendation is we reach out to Carroll Electric, notify that they have been recommended for the job and then I think we request bonding insurance, start the contractual side of it. Once that's signed and approved through the commissioners, then we can start the process of submittals and things like that, and actually get the project up and rolling. But I think the contractual side needs to be in place and then, when that comes in, I think we need their bonds and all insurance items. And I can request that if you'd like.

Gary said yeah, please.

Tony Jacobs said I'll get that started.

Gary said a project like this, how long until duration, until it's complete?

Tony Jacobs said this is, we anticipate this as being approximately a year-long project.

Gary said year-long?

Tony Jacobs said yeah.

Gary said alright.

Tony Jacobs said because we have systems that operate in the heating and cooling season, so we will try to schedule that.

Gary said I'm sure.

Tony Jacobs said and that's again, working with contractor to get proper schedules in place. And plus, there's also long lead times on some of the equipment.

Gary said uh huh. Missy, you have anything further?

Missy said no. The sooner the better, correct, because that has to be done before other things can move forward?

Tony Jacobs said okay. Well, I will get in touch with Carroll Electric and kind of push them to get everything started.

Gary said alright. Thank you.

Tony Jacobs said alright, thank you.

Jake Donham – American Asphalt quotes

Gary said Jake Donham.

Jake Donham said Jake Donham, Randolph County building coordinator. Got three different quotes here for asphalt repair, ceiling at the jail, old hospital and EMS facilities. American Asphalt recommended the jail, the whole parking lot needs re-surfaced. Talking with Tom this morning, he and I are in agreeance of just doing a re-seal this go around. Until the construction project is over, it's going to have a lot of construction impact and heavy traffic. So, think it would be best to just do a repair on it for now, then when that project's over, revisit re-surface and the whole thing at a later date.

Gary said so, these are three quotes for three different locations?

Jake Donham said yeah, yep. EMS is pretty much a redo, grind it all out, and re-surface the entire facility.

Gary said which one is the EMS?

Laura said this one, yeah. This is EMS. This is the jail.

Gary said okay, yeah.

Missy said and that meant going over to the new, at the EMS, that goes all the way over to the new buildings, right, the new add on?

Jake Donham said absolutely yes, yeah.

Missy said so that's a pretty good quote, don't you think?

Jake Donham said yeah. We've used American Asphalt several years now for all our asphalt work and they're very competitive on pricing and do a great job.

Gary said okay. I don't have any problem with it. Tom?

Tom said yeah, I agree. I think all, you know, EMS definitely needs done and the other two, I think we need to put off the re-surfacing at the jail until the project is done with all the extra traffic.

Gary said okay. Missy?

Missy said yeah. I agree.

Gary said okay, so, the one at the jail, the 6,720 is just the sealing?

Jake Donham said yes.

Gary said okay. And the re-surface would be in the \$80,000.00 range. Okay, would somebody like to make a motion to approve this project of these three quotes as we discussed? And I would suggest taking it through Commissioners' Cum Cap.

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

Gary said what else you got, Jake?

Jake Donham said that's all I've got for today, unless you guys have anything.

Gary said your email you sent out, did you hear anything back from Thor?

Jake Donham said nothing.

Gary said okay, let us know when you do.

Jake Donham said yeah. I'll reach out to Danny. I'll try calling him, see if I can shake the tree a little bit, but I'd like to see a little more action over there and get this project wrapped up. It's dragging out too long.

Gary said okay. Anybody else? Tom?

Tom said nope.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said nope, not right now.

Gary said thank you.

Jake Donham said yep.

Mike Stults – Randolph County Security quote, quote for rack install and patch panel at Winchester EMS

Gary said okay, next, Mike Stults, Randolph County Security quote from LEAP Management.

Mike Stults said morning.

Gary said good morning. Please identify.

Mike Stults said Mike Stults, LEAP Manage IT and Gary Thomas with LEAP.

Gary Thomas, LEAP Manage IT.

Gary said okay. We got the one for cleaning up all the wiring at the EMS.

Mike Stults said yes.

Gary said 1500 and something.

Mike Stults said uh huh.

Gary said which I believe is a good price, and certainly needs to be done.

Mike Stults said yeah.

Gary said I see the picture. I don't want to touch it. You see this one?

Missy said yeah, I did.

Gary said so, I think we could take a motion on this particular one right here, to go ahead and accept this quote to clean up the wiring at the EMS building. Are you going to do this after the remodeling is complete?

Mike Stults said yeah. Joey will work with them to get that all scheduled out.

Gary said take a motion to approve?

Missy said so the big console is going to be gone, right? Will it be gone or left in there?

Mike Stults said I believe that we're just going to be managing all that stuff and get it all put back together. Yeah, they're going to move everything to where it's going to be better setup.

Missy said yeah, there's a lot of old wiring that isn't used anymore that's still in there, going back and forth, and it looks like.

Gary Thomas said pretty amazing, isn't it?

Missy said yeah, it is.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve this quote to clean up the wiring at the EMS and use the Commissioners computer line that we have for such items?

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

Gary said now we get on to the big one. This one right here, I wasn't expecting this. I'll just be quite honest, to be a \$100,000.00 project.

Mike Stults said I understand.

Gary said so, I wonder, did we just ask for too much?

Mike Stults said no. I don't think you're asking for too much. What we're providing to you is a pretty substantial setup for a quorum having the ability to track people and, the technology that's included with this system is going to give you the best set up for the security needs that you guys are wanting. So, if there would be an incident that would occur, you know, the ability to go in, grab a face, follow it through the spaces, you know, being able to track those things, is super important. So, there's technology that's in this that is going to be more than a standard camera system that's going to be just recording spaces, right. So, you're going to have that ability that's built into it as well. There're a couple additional things because of the setup that you're wanting, we do have to add some additional access points in the building to make sure the WIFI works well for those cameras and for that setup. And then also, with the panic button solution that you guys are putting in place, to make sure that those all connect correctly. And then, obviously, there's a lot of training that will go along with that as well, from us making sure that people know how to use the camera system, how to track and do all the things that they need to do with

that. But then also, 75 panic buttons making sure that everyone understands how to use those correctly, because we don't want people to mess that up.

Gary said my guess, I was thinking too, and you can certainly jump in, do we need a panic button system when everybody has a cell phone in their pocket?

Mike Stults said so, it's going to be the fastest way to report it. So, that's going to go directly to the security team, so they're going to see that that's, that button was pressed. So, that's the difference there, is just having that single button, know where it is, exactly what it does.

Gary said yep. I want the best security that we can get in here for everybody's safety.

Mike Stults said yeah.

Gary said I was shocked with the price, I'll be honest. Tom?

Tom said when the button goes, that will just go to the security team downstairs? Will it go to like the officers up here that are serving the courts or anything also?

Mike Stults said we can set that up to go to whoever is in that system. So, we can make sure that it matches to whoever that is. So, I don't think that we included anything specifically for the system up here, because this was just focused on the doors downstairs in that group, but I can look into it to see where, at not additional cost for you guys, but what it would look like to add them to that, if there's a way that we can alert them as well.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I'm not in favor of doing this right now with the costs that came back. I just think we need to wait and see. And we want, I want to keep it as secure as possible. We do have an outstanding sheriff's department one block away that somebody could, anybody who'd just hit that number, hit that 911 or have Art, whoever, or the new sheriff and they could get here. I'm just not in favor of it right now. I think we can look at it. I think we can see how much we really need, but we do have security at the front door right now, so when people come through, you know, we're getting that. If anything, I would want to put a camera down there that everyone who walks in, we're going to have them register, not register, we're going to have them, it's called register picking, that they're all on there. So, every day, you're going to say so-and-so says they came in and didn't get you know, what they need out of an office, and then we find out, you see, run the tape back and they didn't even come in or they didn't spend where they went, so, I'm just not in favor of it.

Gary Thomas said and it might be one of those things that, I mean we, you know, obviously, we've climbed all over the building and talked about process and kind of what's that standard operating procedure that looks like, you know, there might be just chunks that maybe makes sense. You know, we were looking at the east and west doors, as well.

Missy said yes, that's what, that's what I was looking at.

Gary Thomas said and the front entryway. I could see where that could be almost a phase one type of approach. To have then visibility and to say hey. The problem is, you get all this data, right. So, then who wants to sit there and watch you know, 20-hours' worth of data, having this technology where you can say find somebody with a red shirt. You know, it's not only going to find the red, it's going to find something very close. Maybe it's a pink. Maybe it's whatever, and be able for them to find in the system instead trying to, you know, comb through hours of data. But I think the main entry points and then at least the two east, west, I think from a phase one, would make a lot of sense. You've already invested in that front entry point, but then to give them visibility, and if somebody does leave those east and west doors, that can be something we can at least parcel out. It's whatever you guys think. The panic button adds a lot. It adds a lot to training. It adds a lot.

Missy said that's like 12 hours of training per office, isn't it?

Gary Thomas said it's a lot, yeah, yeah.

Mike Stults said yeah, it's a good chunk.

Tom said can you break it down then and send us, in phases?

Gary Thomas said uh huh, we can do that.

Mike Stults said so, just understand that specifically, you're wanting, we can do cameras at all the doors making sure that those are set up correctly. And that's what you're looking at right now. So, knocking no camera, or, no panic buttons, correct?

Gary said I'd break it into what the panic buttons cost.

Missy said yeah.

Mike Stults said okay.

Gary said and break it down more into, I mean, it is broken down right here, but more understandable.

Mike Stults said okay.

Gary said I like the phase part, phase being the camera coverage storage.

Mike Stults said yeah.

Gary Thomas said and we'll make sure that the part of this too was the WIFI coverage of the building and we are in an older building that we have WIFI in certain areas and offices, so we'll need to make sure that those cameras, I think we're still hardwiring those cameras, but is there anything else that we need to make sure that we add if we're just doing them in phases.

Gary said well I appreciate your effort to do exactly what we asked.

Gary Thomas said it's a lot.

Gary said I just feel like I asked for more than I realized.

Gary Thomas said yeah, we did vet two other manufacturers as well. So, one was double. So, it doesn't make you feel any better, but technology right now, with chips and ram and everything else, it's crazy absurd.

Gary said Missy, are you alright getting a phase?

Missy said yeah, I would agree with that. I would vote for that. And then also, I think we need to pursue some grant, possible grant money to get this to move forward. We just need to kind of work on that.

Mike Stults said I understand.

Gary said well you know, kind of what we would like to see, we want to get it security adequate.

Gary Thomas said yes.

Gary said we don't want to be, you know, better than the White House. We don't need that.

Gary Thomas said I understand. You guys have done a good job with the first phase.

Missy said I think we're already better than the White House, as far as security in there.

Gary Thomas said thank you for your time.

Gary said thank you for your work on this. We'll look forward to seeing another phase.

Mike Stults said okay.

Gary Thomas said sounds good.

Gary said it makes sense and you guys will know what makes sense.

Gary Thomas said yeah, we understand.

Gary said thank you.

Missy said I feel really confident with the group that we have down there and the people up here with the bailiffs and everybody keeping an eye on things.

William Clarkson – Re-enter & recovery

Gary said next up, William Clarkson, Re-entry and recovery.

William Clarkson said good morning. My name is William Clarkson.

John Davis said and I'm John Davis.

William Clarkson said for Randolph County Re-entry and recovery services. And basically, we're a 501C3 approved on-profit organization. And I gave you each a packet. Basically, what we're here for this morning is we're asking for \$29,500.00 from the Opioid Restricted Settlement Funding. And we're asking for it in two different ways. \$14,500 would be a one-time up-front investment. And then the other remaining 15,000 would be on a reimbursement type, on a reimbursement allotment like, it would be \$600.00 for each participant that we get into our program, and then every-one to three-month basis, whatever you guys decide, we would turn in this sheet that's projected client completion of milestone tracking log. And that would go to the auditor. That basically, it would have unique client ID, the referral source, the intake date, assessment, completion and then basically, how that boils down is it's \$600.00 per client and then that's based on a 25-client allotment for 6 months. So, basically, 25 clients in 6 months. And the \$600.00 apiece would come up to \$15,000.00.

Missy said so you have a facility in mind already that this is going to take place in?

John Davis said we have a facility in line and we've looked at several different facilities around here, around the square. And we're not housing people.

Missy said okay.

John Davis said we are just a resource center. What we do, I'm a recovery coach, I apologize. What we do is we get people, family members or people in active addiction. They'll come to us or somebody refers them to us, we will find them placement and help them get started in the right patch, help them out on multiple aspects of becoming a good human to society back in Randolph County. And you know, the big thing is what we need to remember here is any start is also a help to our community, it saves taxpayers dollars.

Missy said you know that we have several of these groups here coming up, I mean, they're coming out of the woodwork right now.

John Davis said oh, absolutely, absolutely.

William Clarkson said well right.

John Davis said we're not a recovery center.

William Clarkson said how we differ is we're not a, like, we're not a rehabilitation center, we're resources for the community. We're going to offer workforce development. We have a 4-phase success pathway.

Missy said yeah, I read that.

William Clarkson said it is workforce development, transportation we're going to offer for our clients to get to their, to work, to their meetings, whatever they need. And he'll do the recovery aspect like relapse prevention, things like that. If they need, we'll have a program that's for life skills if they need to learn how to get there, you know, basically, the money aspect, how to pay their bills, things like that. Just different life skills.

Missy said right. And they need that.

Gary said this is a lot of information. We have a lot of stuff to look at. We have Opioid funds into categories to use, but I don't know how we could make a decision here today without ever seeing this information before.

William Clarkson said yes, no, I don't expect a decision today. You guys have plenty of time to look over it. That's why I made these packets up. I want you guys to be able to take your time and go over it.

Gary said so, you've got a letter of reference in here as well?

William Clarkson said I got, we've got references from Centerstone and Probation. We've already, like we've already started with money out of our own pocket. We get referrals now from the Probation department and Centerstone.

Gary said and you've tested to make sure that this is eligible for the restricted side of the fund?

William Clarkson said oh yeah, I, what I gave you guys is the two packets, well this packet it says Randolph County Re-entry and Recovery Services, executive summary, opioid settlement funding proposal. So, that's a basically, a list of how our programs will fall under those guidelines like, for instance the 4-phase success pathway falls under Section A on Exhibit E.

Gary said which qualifies it for restrictive funding?

John Davis said right.

William Clarkson said correct.

Gary said that's what I wanted to know.

John Davis said and nothing will fall back, I mean our program is basically guide lined off of what the state requires.

Gary said okay.

William Clarkson said yeah.

John Davis said 100 percent.

William Clarkson said like for instance the certified peer mentorship falls under Schedule B on Exhibit E of the opioid funding guidelines. And so on, all the way down the page. And when you guys go through this, you'll see how everything that we told you is covered on section, on Exhibit E on the sections for the guidelines.

Gary said I mean I feel like you've done your homework on it so, I think need time, as commissioners do. Like Missy said, we've had a lot of them coming in. There are differences, apples and oranges, I understand.

John Davis said can I say one more thing?

Gary said sure.

John Davis said as a recovery coach, not only do we do for rehab, but you know, with the meth use in Randolph County, it's extremely high. We also are linked with Valley Vista and they are a mental, where they get them in and help them get on their meds, get them regulated before we even send them to a regular rehab.

William Clarkson said so we've already taken two rehab already. He drove one down last week. We also do that. Until we can get funding, we're doing everything on our own that we can to help the people that need it here.

Gary said okay. Tom, do you have anything further?

Tom said yeah. Where are you with your additional funding and grants and stuff, have you?

William Clarkson said so I have, yeah, we have different, different.

Tom said I have your list here.

William Clarkson said yeah, so, right now, I've already sent in to the government, I've sent in a, like I've got a completed proposal submitted to the government for \$100,000.00 for 3 years, every year for 3 years. And that's already submitted. And then we also have submissions to 3 different churches here for partnerships for \$10,000.00 apiece. So, that's another aspect how we're going to go about it.

Missy said what's their feedback on that?

William Clarkson said so, we have to meet back with them this week. We just gave the proposals to each of the churches and then we also sent them, like we gave a proposal to Gabe Bogue trucking, set down and talked with Gabe and Ray and gave them a proposal. And then, so that's another aspect of it. We have several different ways that we're going to bring in funding. So, it's not just relying on the county and the city for funding. This is just the initial start up we're asking for, and then we'll rely on several different aspects of funding.

Gary said okay. I mean, it's a good start with us. Missy, anything else?

Missy said no, I think it's a really good, just, I want to do a little more research on it.

John Davis said absolutely.

William Clarkson said right. I appreciate that too.

Meeks said can you provide the incorporation documents for the corporation? I saw your EIN number.

William Clarkson said oh yeah, so, I got you, I gave you the 501C3.

Meeks said yeah, but the by-laws and all those other things.

William Clarkson said yeah, I can give you every, all of that if you want. I can get them to you.

Meeks said bring it to Laura at the auditor's office.

William Clarkson said okay. I can get that later on this afternoon.

John Davis said yeah, we have all that on filed.

Meeks said yep, get that to Laura.

William Clarkson said what all, so you want the by-laws, the EIN?

Meeks said all the, yep, the EIN, all the incorporation documents, show your corporation.

William Clarkson said yep, I'll get that to you this afternoon.

Gary said and then, will you folks give us a month to look at it, and in September, reach out to the auditor's office.

Missy said did you put your telephone number on this?

William Clarkson said no. I will, or actually, yeah, I'll give that all to you. I'm sorry. I was just, I was a little nervous. I forgot that part of it.

Gary said Missy, are you good with a month?

Missy said yeah, that would be great.

John Davis said question Tom or Gary, or Missy? We've never dealt with this so, like turn in paperwork to go with, we, can early, can be all given to her at the auditor's office, and then that will get to you guys, right?

Gary said yes.

John Davis said okay.

William Clarkson said and then I'll get you my email and phone number as well.

Gary said have you ever been in the auditor's office?

John Davis said yes, downstairs.

Gary said just stop at the front desk there.

John Davis said it's pretty quiet in there.

William Clarkson said I appreciate you at least taking the time to go over it.

Missy said we want to try to help. It's just, there's so many, right now, start up. I'm going to give you my card, and you can just email me that information if you don't mind.

Gary said we have these funds. We need to start using them. We just need to put it in the right spot.

John Davis said absolutely, 100 percent. And we agree with you guys. I mean, there is multiple and multiple people trying. And I think everybody has a great idea. But sometimes, like the rehabs, I think they just all need to come together and work as one maybe.

Missy said yes. Yeah, that's what I think.

John Davis said and you know, my main goal, as a recovery coach, not trying to burn up any more time, you can't get anybody healthy that lives in Randolph County and keep them in Randolph County to get them healthy. You have to get them away, get them in a rehab somewhere and then if you want to bring them back, that's fine. I mean, you can look at statistics, I mean it shows you everywhere, you don't rehab in your own county.

William Clarkson said and our program is really for after they get done with the rehab.

John Davis said we'll get them there and get them back.

Gary said okay.

William Clarkson said thank you.

Gary said thank you for your time.

John Davis said thank you guys.

Missy said really, thanks a lot. It's good information.

Reece Welch – new road 800 N

Gary said next up, Reece Welch, County Road 800 North.

Gary said and when you get settled in, if you'd please identify yourselves.

Reece Welch said I'm Reece Welch and this is my son Ryan Welch. We're here for the 800 North proposition.

Gary said to start the, Reece called me about the road going to the stone quarry, and that's why he's here to talk about it, off of Highway 1. So, go ahead sir.

Reece Welch said Ryan's going to do our presentation.

Ryan Welch said if you don't mind. Obviously, this is Reece Welch. He lives at 7882 North State Road 1. We are here to express our concerns about the plan to redirect County Road 800 North directly south of his house, to intersect with Highway 1. My father has lived at his current residence since March of 1970. He has a beautiful home and property. And it has been his peach and solitude for 56 years. It is my understanding that the new road will pass his house just south of his property line, potentially only 20 yards away from his house, the house itself. It is also my understanding that US Aggregates intends to shift all of its production from its Ridgeville operation to the Fairview site. This will increase current heavy truck traffic from between 3,500 and 5,000 trucks a year, to 12,500 trucks per year when the project is completed. The way the road is currently routed, trucks and vehicles and vehicle traffic almost completely disappear behind the berm that has been created when the pond was dug and they were approximately 400 feet from the house. As you can imagine, we are concerned about the re-direction of the road. The amount of noise and dust that these trucks create will change the whole dynamic of the property, making it no longer a place of peace and solitude, but of constant noise and dirt. My father has been experiencing anxiety issues since the project was announced. He is 82 years old and has no intention of leaving his property until which time that life may necessitate it. At that time, he will need all the money he can get from the sale of the property for his next phase. There is no doubt this project will adversely impact the value of his home and possibly mental health. Thank you for allowing us to speak.

Gary said thank you for bringing your concerns. It is our intent right now, as we speak, to build a road between the two homes angling down to the S curves to relieve the dangers that are going out on Highway 1 off of 800 because of the blind spot in the hill. We, during the discussions and engineering phase, have requested noise and soundproof and visual barriers to be put up on that new road going through there. The situation taking all these trucks going down 12 or 1,000 as well, has dangerous implications to it. US AGs are moving from Ridgeville to Fairview, 100%. They are actually helping the county do this by being willing to move their weigh station to the S curves so we can all work together to get it in. The road's not going to be a gravel road. It's going to be a paved road going in. But as far as what else we can do to help you folks, not impact you, I'm very willing to look at it. I doubt that we're going to move the road out of that

area, but I'm certain that we can probably look at what we can do to make that a non-impactable event for you. That was the intent of the commissioners some time ago in discussion. Just to make it as non-eventful as possible. This is nothing to do with US AG by the way. They have the right to operate just like it is. They own it, they've owned it for years, probably more than 50 years they've been back in there. We're doing this as safety to the residents of Randolph County, both on Highway 1 and both on 1,000. That's why we're doing this. So, Tom?

Tom said I think you stated everything. If there is any additional screening or sound barriers that we can do as part of the project that, you know, we can talk to our highway department and steps to go along to set the south side of your property. It's, this is 100% a safety issue and if you came out on 800 there on Highway 1, you understand the, how blind it is there. And we've looked at every route from the current operation. And the trucks are going to be there no matter what we do. They're going to go down the road somewhere. And this is the safest and shortest route out that we came up with. But, we'd definitely do anything we can to buffer as much as possible.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I'm just looking at the map and I certainly understand what you're talking about. I drove out there myself, I think twice, two or three times maybe. Really, I brought up the real concern over coming over that hill and then nobody knowing that trucks could be pulling out and somebody losing their life. I agree with these two and they have more knowledge about this kind of stuff than I do. I certainly, we'll put anything we can in there to make it a buffer, and look at some options. I don't know, our highway department really knowledgeable people, and maybe they can go back to the drawing board and kind of work with us and see what we can come up to make that the best that we can. Or, just going around there, any way we go, we're going to be in somebody's back yard. But I certainly want to take some looks at it and I know our county highway department will do a great job of trying to look at that also.

Gary said we're not just talking about screening to make you feel better.

Missy said right, right.

Gary said it is part of the project. And like Tom said, Missy said, we have to increase that screening ability to make more comfort for you there Mr. Reece, we will. But the engineering has already begun on it, just so you know. It's not, it's a little bit passed thinking about it. We've already paid for engineering to put this in there. We haven't gone yet to the phase of acquiring the land yet. That's where we're at right now. Do you have any more to say about what you think good screening would be? I mean, we'll listen to you.

Reece Welch said I'm sure there're examples that you could see. Just south of Redkey, there's a nice example of a screening on the county road, well in fact, it's the first county road coming out of Redkey, coming south. Used to be Zimmerman's.

Gary said on 1?

Reece Welch said yeah. So, that's a good example. I guess I don't think I have much wiggle room when it comes, if the project turns out to be what we expect, dirty and noisy and devaluing our property, where do we go from there?

Gary said I don't know sir. On the condemnation part of it, that can be figured in to us acquiring the land to get the road, is also the adjacent properties. But, I'll stop there because I'm not a legal expert on anything. I don't know. Meeks, would you add anything to that?

Meeks said I don't think I have anything to add to that.

Gary said okay.

Ryan Welch said that is a main concern.

Gary said yeah.

Ryan Welch said because whether it be for him while he's there, once his life changes and he has to go elsewhere and has to sell that property, and if it's worth a third less than what it was before this project or whatever, that's not right. So, that needs to be at least considered.

Gary said I believe with, if you were to get some attorney help, your own attorney, there are avenues of protection on a project for you. I just don't know what they are or what they can consist of, but, we're going to do our part with screening.

Ryan Welch said thank you.

Missy said and I, we'll work with you on that screening. We're not just going to say we're going to put it up, this is what you've got. I know Gary will, he knows more about, and Tom obviously, know a lot more about that, but we want to stay in communication with you.

Ryan Welch said that's been one of the concerns because dad has had, dad has had very little communication from you all on this project.

Gary said well when your father.

Ryan said it's happening, it's happening, and he knows it's happening, but nobody's been communicating with him.

Gary said we've hired people to do the work on that. When your father called me, I called him right back.

Ryan Welch said okay.

Gary said is there anything else that we can tell you today that you want to know about the project?

Reece Welch said I have a question.

Gary said okay.

Reece Welch said if this thing looks as sour as we expect it could, are you going to be considering in buying the property, our property?

Gary said I think that would be between your attorney and our attorney when we get to that point. I don't want to say anything that I don't know how it comes and goes.

Reece Welch said yeah. Well, I didn't want it to get into that.

Gary said I understand.

Reece Welch said because we all lose if it gets into that.

Gary said yeah, I understand. Anything else folks?

Reece Welch said I guess not.

Gary said well I appreciate you bringing your concerns to the commissioners as you have.

Ryan Welch said thank you.

Gary said thank you.

Debra Johnting, Area Planning – Ordinance 2026-14 & Ordinance 2026-15 and Ordinance 2026-16 regarding zoning of solar

Gary said Debra Johnting, Area Planning.

Debra Johnting said Debra Johnting, Area Planning director. The APC voted on three amendments to solar ordinance.

Gary said we've got 14, 15 and 16. Do you want to just start with, is there any special order here that we ought to go in, in your opinion?

Debra Johnting said our numbers are 2-A, 4-A and 5-A. Two is the easiest.

Gary said this is 2-A.

Debra Johnting said okay.

Gary said and then this is 5, and this is 4. Okay, so that would be in our sequential order, 14, 16 and 15.

Debra Johnting said 2 is basically housekeeping. Gives the solar company a little more time once they notify me and the commissioners that they have a place to put a solar system. They would have 60 days to schedule a public hearing. There would be, in addition to certified mail, any other trackable mailing method. If they think they have something faster or something they use all the time, they're not held to just certified mail, but it would be a trackable mailing system and have 30 days instead of 20 days. So, we opened it up for more time. That gives them more time to notify the public, so they're not saying well my letter is still in process. And then the third part of that one is the commissioners would not vote the day of the hearing. They would have 45 days or within the next 2 commissioner meetings. So, you wouldn't hear comments from 40 people and then have to make a decision on the spot.

Gary said well Tom, you are liaison there, what do you have for this?

Tom said most of this is pretty common sense. It's just some people didn't get notified the last time or their letters didn't come in, so that's pushing the time back and then the same thing for the vote. Having a vote within 5 days of the public hearing basically says we have to vote that day.

Gary said right.

Tom said and so, I'm still, wasn't a 100% in favor of a vote then, with the 2 votes or the 3 votes we have with the road agreement, that meeting was originally, I thought, set up for informational. But I can live with that, the time being such.

Gary said the 45 days?

Tom said the 45 days, yes.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I agree with Tom.

Gary said Meeks?

Missy said I think we're going to need.

Meeks said I think it's a pretty no-brainer on that one.

Gary said okay. Alright. We have before us. Does anybody here want to speak to this ordinance before we begin? Okay. We have ordinance 2026-14 laid out, by our APC director, so, somebody like to make a motion to approve this on the first reading only? To approve the first reading of ordinance 2026-14?

Tom said motion to approve ordinance 2026-14 on the first reading.

Gary said we have a motion to approve ordinance 2026-14 on the first reading. Do we have a second?

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

Debra Johnting said I will say that was approved by the APC unanimously. And we have had a run through. So, we've kind of seen where our faults might be, so that'll correct some things.

Gary said we'll get the second reading at our next meeting, then we'll.

Debra Johnting said okay, thank you.

Gary said next up would be 2026-16, ordinance or your control number 2026-4-A.

Debra Johnting said okay. This was a variance request that if solar energy, when the county solar energy system exceeds 15,000 assessed acres, it would be brought before the board of zoning appeals at that point to do more. That vote was, did not pass favorable. It did not pass unfavorable. So, it's considered no recommendation. It was 6, 6 both times.

Gary said okay. Tom?

Tom said this was basically putting acreage caps on.

Meeks said I really don't think we can do acreage caps. We did a bunch of research on that one and I would not recommend passing this one.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I would agree to take the advice of our attorney.

Gary said okay. Alright, well, Ordinance 2026-16, somebody like to make a motion to not accept Ordinance 2026-16? Is that the way to do that, Meeks?

Meeks said well you can vote not to pass it I guess. I guess just don't do anything. Well, it, well, if you don't do anything, it goes into effect after 90 days. So, you have to vote to reject it.

Gary said yeah, so.

Meeks said right, 90 days if you don't do anything, it goes back to you.

Debra Johnting said and the APC did not recommend it.

Meeks said well that's only on a favorable recommendation. I don't even know what happens if, I'd have to look that up.

Debra Johnting said it wasn't favorable or unfavorable.

Meeks said but on a favorable recommendation, it goes to the commissioners if you don't pass it within 90 days. So, why don't we vote to not pass this and then it'll be clear.

Gary said yes. So, would somebody like to make a motion to not pass Ordinance 2026-16?

Missy said I'd make that motion.

Gary said we have a motion to not pass Ordinance 2026-16 on the first reading. Do we have a second?

Tom said second.

Gary said a motion and a second. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All aye votes.

Gary said this will have to come back too for a second?

Meeks said nope, it does not, does not pass.

Gary said okay.

Meeks said not to bring it back.

Gary said thank you. Now we have Ordinance 2026-15, or your control 2026-5-A.

Debra Johnting said this was a recommendation to change on the 3rd and 4th side, platted building sites, parks residential and public use, solar system would be 700 feet from those buildings instead of 500 feet. It's on the 1st and 2nd side. And it was also not recommended. It wasn't not recommended. There's not favorable, no unfavorable, it's just.

Gary said 6, 6, vote?

Debra Johnting said 6, 6, vote.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said the, you say the argument against this was we just passed within the last year the 500-foot setbacks which was pretty substantial change and we haven't even done, there hasn't been a project done

Gary said right.

Tom said so, to increase it again, I do understand if somebody has on four sides and, the consideration, but if we went to 700 feet with the, some of the diagrams, where they got on all

sides, it would basically shut down the projects completely. On two sides, it would still make things pretty difficult. So, that's why it was, it was 50/50 pretty much on it.

Debra Johnting said and this was a 6, 2, vote, not 6, 6.

Gary said I'm sorry. Thank you.

Debra Johnting said we were missing four. We had one abstention and it was 6, 2.

Gary said okay.

Debra Johnting said both ways.

Gary said both ways, okay. Missy?

Missy said I don't think we, I am not in favor at all. We picked it this number, you know, 200, you know, 500 earlier. We just, they just voted it. We've got to take what they, I mean, not, I'm not in favor of moving it back any further.

Gary said I think if anybody doesn't like the 500, then they don't like the 700 either.

Missy said right.

Gary said or a 1,000. So, I think 500, if you step off 500, and I have, there are other controls that the commissioners have at their availability to have to do that. Somebody, Meeks, anything to add?

Meeks said I'd just deny it then, vote to deny.

Gary said okay. We have Ordinance number 2026-15, would somebody make a motion to not accept this?

Missy said I'd make that motion.

Gary said we have a motion, have a second?

Tom said second.

Gary said a motion and a second for not accepting Ordinance 2026-15 on the first reading, all those in favor by saying aye.

All aye votes.

Gary said what else?

Debra Johnting said we do have a screening amendment that will be coming I hope, next month, that will give a solar company more leeway on what they're planning, when they have to plan it, that kind of thing. So, hopefully, it'll be more housekeeping instead of.

Gary said we've all read some stuff about the flood plain, the drain, everything okay there now?

Debra Johnting said yes.

Meeks said so, is the new one the, if they don't do the screening, it's going to be a fine? Is that the new one?

Debra Johnting said that was what was taken to the APC. It was turned down and tabled.

Meeks said okay, is that the one coming back on next month?

Debra Johnting said yeah, I think it's going to. I know it's going to be re-written.

Meeks said okay.

Debra Johnting said my main goal was just to make it instead of having to order all of one kind of tree and count on that to survive, we've had plans introduced of different types of screening, types of trees.

Meeks said my question on that, when you guys discuss it, I read it, I just don't know the enforcement mechanism.

Debra Johnting said correct.

Meeks said I would hope that they would have some kind of suggestion for us on this enforcement mechanism.

Debra Johnting said that's the, that's the problem, yeah, that's the problem.

Meeks said because I don't know, yeah, I've thought about it, a while.

Debra Johnting said we're working on that.

Meeks said okay. That's great.

Tom said the reason on changing the screening which she's talking about using different varieties, and the wording in it also puts a 40% max of one certain, because currently, they're almost all the same.

Debra Johnting said uh huh, they have to be.

Tom said and so, if something would come through, a disease that would hit that one species, it wouldn't take everything out at the same time. So, it's a little bit of a variety in different.

Debra Johnting said and working on different types of planning arrangements, making the agreements between the neighbors, they can do their own, have it on their own property, whatever they want. That would help.

Gary said if a disease of any kind were to wipe out 40% of the screening, even though there's 60% left behind, is there going to be language if they have to reinstate the 40% that's died off?

Debra Johnting said we haven't gotten to that point yet, but we're just trying to reach the goal and not be so stringent on how we get there.

Gary said okay.

Tom said I would, the fines, which I understand when some mechanism in place, there was one in place to, you know, make sure the plants got replanted, but the fines were very excessive with the way, because I mean, I think it's 10 times the value of each individual tree. So, I think that's something you need to address.

Debra Johnting said and there was criticism that they were not keeping up. We got to the point where I said, as director, don't keep doing what you're doing if they're just dying. If you've got that money to throw around, use it somewhere else, but we're going to figure this out. So, that's what we're trying to do.

Gary said okay. Preliminary right now. Anything final?

Missy said it's pretty difficult to, I mean, then should we put screening around junkyards, people who have junk in their back yard, so, I don't have to look at it if I'm the neighbor or I'm driving through someplace and somebody has a huge junkyard that's been there for 50 years and cars have set there all the time, we going to screen that?

Meeks said we do have some fencing requirements in some of those things.

Debra Johnting said we do.

Meeks said so, we do on certain, I don't know if a junkyard or not, but I know on certain ones we do.

Debra Johnting said and the Baker project put up a fence with the slats in it and it's, it looks great. Where it's at, it looks great. Everybody's really happy with it. It's very well done.

Tom said the feasibility too with screening, when we were 140 feet away from the house compared to 500 feet away from the house is, how it, the effect of it would.

Debra Johnting said right. Correct, and we need to discuss that too.

Tom said yeah. It's a whole different process of things to do.

Gary said have you got anything else?

Debra Johnting said not right now. Thank you.

Gary said thank you.

Clyde Shaffer – RCU discussion

Gary said Clyde Shaffer, RCU.

Clyde Shaffer said I've got to have my glasses for this too. Clyde Shaffer, RCU, 7967 North Delaware County Line Road. Here to present, we've talked about it in the past, we needed to get you guys a budget, yours first meeting in August with cuts to our budget, to bring us in line with something you guys felt was acceptable. We've, I feel like we've been pretty aggressive on it. So, what you have in front of you, I mean, I gave you the details just so you can review it at some point. But at the end of the day, some of this will change of the detail because the type of cuts that we're making, there're things we just don't know at this point. Okay, but we'll fix it. I mean we'll make it function. The bigger issue is that we're asking for a \$150,000 for the 2027 budget. \$140 for 28 and \$130 for 29, and that's down at the very last page that you can see, okay. You know, for us, that changes the dynamic of the organization, as you could imagine. I mean, we're looking at a 39% cut of funding from the county. You know, you guys only wish every group that you fund would make even a 10% cut, would make you guys' life easier. We've got a 39% cut and by the end of the 3 years we're at a 46% cut. That's a huge massive change basically.

Gary said right. It doesn't have to be a cut in the budget, per se over there, as the RCU board manages the budget, it's a cut in how much the commissioners are putting in.

Clyde Shaffer said that's correct. Thank you. Yes.

Gary said which is important.

Clyde Shaffer said yes.

Gary said that's what we're looking at is how much we're going to put in there and what we're going to get for it.

Clyde Shaffer said correct. And so, you know, so, what we're going to do is, you know, the focus of RCU and it's something we're going to have to sit down and really hammer through, but with reduced staff and everything, you know, we're going to have to start looking at our focus, is how do we increase housing, starts of that nature. Things that will put butts in the county, which then, the county income tax can help fund this, our local government, because at the end of the day, I mean, we've got a matrix that we're going to work from, but one of the biggest things you see throughout anywhere. As long as the population continues to decline, the income to the county government continues to decline, period. So, we're going to focus on that. So, that is

what we're presenting to you. We'll come to county council. Is that the process, Gary? Do I need to go to county council to present to them, or what do I need to do?

Gary said it won't hurt. But the commissioners are, as far as the contract, report first, but it is subject to the annual appropriation of the Randolph County Council.

Clyde Shaffer said yes, are the first.

Gary said so, yeah, but no, it will not hurt, you should go.

Clyde Shaffer said yes, perfect.

Gary said we should probably also, Clyde, if this is favorable to the commissioners, pass it one year at a time because we're getting into unknown territory pretty soon.

Clyde Shaffer said okay. That's fine.

Meeks said in 2029, we don't know where that funding will.

Missy said exactly.

Meeks said we do know in 27 and 2028.

Gary said so, we could do 2 years.

Tom said that's what I was thinking, a two year.

Meeks said well, I don't think you can do in 2029, so, that's, the last reading I was told, EDIT funds go away in 2029.

Clyde Shaffer said which is fine. I mean, I understand.

Missy said but, my question is, so if we spend it in 2027 and 2028, then all of a sudden 2029, we don't know what it's going to be, I don't know what my income is going to be myself in 2029. I'm going to cut back a little bit more, 27 and 28 to prepare for what it might be. Then if it isn't then.

Clyde Shaffer said which is what we're doing in this budget. We're cutting back very heavy in 27, excessively heavy in 27. And we really are just saying you know, we'll cut a little bit in 28. But we really need to get our feet under us and figure out you know, what's what. But our goal will continue to be, to go to self-sufficiency.

Gary said that's why I say this is just accelerated steps to self-funding. Like I said, as far as the budget line items in here, that's the board management, if somebody bequeaths a bunch of money, what the commissioners are looking at is how much we're going to donate, what we're going, not donate, but you know, put over there, and what are we going to get for it. So, the

question is, are we still going to have the same verbiage of contract that that's still what you're going to do for Randolph County.

Clyde Shaffer said yes, exactly.

Gary said only this year here, you're looking for \$150,000.

Clyde Shaffer said correct.

Gary said which I think, I mean, I started a zero some months ago, and I can live with that.

Clyde Shaffer said yes.

Gary said I think that's both parties coming to an agreement, to take a good look at our economic development, which track it's going to take, what it's going to do and how we're going to get there, and then get to self-funding.

Clyde Shaffer said yeah, yes.

Gary said with self-funding, there's a lot less hassle for people like me.

Clyde Chaffer said well, and we included Tom, of course naturally, Tom was your representative during this process. Scott Fisher was for County Council. So, you know, our goal was to bring in both, I just didn't want to keep coming back with a budget that you guys said no to, then I come back the next month. It was just easier to get all the parties together, sit down, discuss it. We all have the same goal. Want to make Randolph County grow.

Gary said right.

Clyde Shaffer said that's everyone's goal. And do it within the financial restraints that the state continues to push downward.

Gary said yeah. Tom?

Tom said I was kind of the same way that you're in, you know, I told Clyde with 150 I could live with going into next year. I'm, still struggle with just an only additional 10,000 the following year. I would have liked to have seen a bigger cut going into 28, once again, to try to get you more on your own. And especially since in 29, the commissioners can't guarantee you any money. But I was at a 100,000 for the 28 year. But that can be a discussion, and we can just do one year and discuss it again next year.

Gary said that's probably the best thing to do, I think. We'll do a one year

Missy said yeah that's, I would agree.

Gary said Missy, what do you think?

Missy said I would to the one year, but I wouldn't go any more, and not that I'm not saying I'd support it, it's just we need to know. There's a lot of uncertainties coming right now.

Clyde Shaffer said right. But it gives us opportunity to show our worth also.

Gary said before we get into this vote on here, Clyde, thank you for taking this seriously and taking the bull by the horns, so to speak. It's not been an easy endeavor for you.

Clyde Shaffer said no, no.

Gary said so we have a proposal from RCU to fund 2028 at \$150,000.00 for the same verbiage of the contract that we have.

Meeks said well I think we just say enter in a contract and we'll get a contract together and you can vote on the contract.

Gary said okay. Enter into a contract?

Meeks said uh huh.

Gary said and the contract will look like.

Clyde Shaffer said like it did last time, okay. And then Meeks, you'll get that that?

Meeks said yeah, we'll, I'll change the contract and get it to Laura and Laura can get it sent out to everybody.

Gary said okay. Yes.

Clyde Shaffer said the other thing is too, one of the criticisms we have taken and is that we're on the second floor. And we need to be down to the first floor, so we have more access. Gary was on Economic Development, so was I, when we moved to the 2nd floor, because we were moving out of a real dump and we were on the first floor, but it was kind of bad shape. And when we moved there, that was a great move, but it's time. So, we have met with Matt Tarter and we're looking to move down to the old movie theater and build an office space there. We'll be getting buildout cost. Gary is our rep on Economic Development, so if it's okay with you, as we get buildout costs, I'll share those with Gary what we're doing, keep Gary up to date, then he can just report back to you guys, okay?

Tom said if you do a buildout like that, how long would a term of a contract, are you going to be required for that space?

Clyde Shaffer said to do? Matt said he'll work with us naturally, because I mean, he ends up in pretty good shape. He ends up with a building that's been built out on county money basically, okay. And so.

Missy said he's not doing any of the finance, or any?

Clyde Shaffer said when we built out, Gary, correct me if I'm wrong, tell us how we did it the last time?

Gary said yeah, I was the president last time, we secured a lease and they let us do what we wanted to do to make offices out of it, and we paid for it from RCU's capital development funds. The first office, I forget the name of the room on there, which was three offices and then we went over to where the conference rooms were at and we also paid for that buildout. So, we just, you know, now, the leasee, it wasn't always Tarter at the time, the one before him, but they held our lease a little bit lower amount.

Clyde Shaffer said because of expense, yeah.

Gary said because of expense that we put into it.

Clyde Shaffer said yes, exactly.

Missy said would have been the group, Hendrickson and all those guys.

Clyde Shaffer said yes, yes. So, you know, so, we think going to the first floor helps us tremendously, and helps county in general, because Tourism would be with us and Tourism definitely needs to be on the first floor, period. And we've already had Tourism in to look at the, what we plan to do. We don't have drawings yet. We haven't made it that far. You know, because we had steps to go through. One, we had to get the executive board to agree, get Tourism on board, because they're a separate group. Then we had to get the full board on task to the site, then come to you guys. So, there's no need to start making drawings until everybody was nodding their heads.

Gary said right. The theater part, is it going to be the sidewalk, we'll have windows to the sidewalk?

Clyde Shaffer said yes. So, we got all the way from the front entry okay, and the, I don't know if it's the right word, moniker, you know, the signage that sticks out. So, we're going to keep that. We'll put something on it because it looks too nice to flatten it back against the building. It'll give us better exposure. So, we'll have from there back to basically, where the restrooms start, if you're familiar with that in there. And then there's a common restroom, just like we utilize now at Economic Development. They've took Chicago Pizza and turned it into office space. They're turning everything there into office space. So, we will keep you guys informed so that we can get through that process, okay.

Gary said but on the original initial buildouts, we asked permission to do it, because we wanted to do it.

Clyde Shaffer said got it. Okay.

Gary said and then we paid for it because, and they did freeze the rents or the lease.

Clyde Shaffer said yes. Well that would be the thing, you're going to discount the rent, we're going to build your place out. That or I need somebody to start doing some of our places like that. That would be a pretty sweet deal. But Matt is pretty cooperative with us. He's been good. That's why we stayed in that structure too.

Gary said and I actually am in favor of helping build out.

Clyde Shaffer said yes, the site. And especially, if any of you get a chance and you want to talk about it over there, the buildout is not going to be that much.

Gary said I don't think so.

Clyde Shaffer said no. The whole front half is going to stay just like it is, because it just, it looks really awesome the way it is now. We just got to do the rest back.

Gary said very good. Tom, anything else?

Tom said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said nope. I think it's a good move.

Gary said somebody make a motion, have we been through the motion on the contract or just talked about it?

Meeks said well, we'll get a contract together.

Gary said we need a contract.

Meeks said then you can vote on the contract. You'll need to get approval from the County Council for the appropriation.

Gary said yeah.

Laura said so, are you coming tomorrow? Do we need to add you to that agenda?

Clyde Shaffer said is that okay? Is that okay for us to come tomorrow?

Greg Cheesman said as far as I'm concerned. The more the merrier.

Laura said so, you're going to come tomorrow? Okay.

Clyde Shaffer said we'll figure it out. What time do they start?

Laura said nine.

Gary said nine o'clock and they're done by 9:15.

Laura said I can put you a little later.

Clyde Shaffer said no, put me right out of the gate please. I've got a nine that I'm going to move back now. Thanks.

Gary said alright. Thank you, Clyde.

Joe Copeland and Jay Long – recommendation regarding ditch on 1150 W (tabled from 7-20-26), Large culvert funding

Gary said Joe Copeland and Jay Long.

Joe Copeland said good morning. Joe Copeland, highway engineer.

Jay Long said good morning. Jay Long, Randolph County highway.

Joe Copeland said has everybody got that spread sheet I sent out?

Gary said meaning the one that says a million, seven sixty-five, five fifty-two?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary said yeah.

Joe Copeland said you want to start there or do you want to start, which one?

Jay Long said go ahead and do it.

Joe Copeland said alright well let's start there. We've been going through the culverts and you can see by this list of culverts the current load limit, they are on those structures. And some of them are large. Now the size that's shown there is the replacement size, okay. But most of them are pretty close to that size existing, okay. I may put a little taller one in to make sure we get it where it needs to be on the invert. But the problem we're having is funding. We don't have enough money. I've got a contractor that worked for us last year on an annual bid contract and he has billed us for last year's work pretty much what, May, I believe, we received the bill.

Jay Long said end of June in to the beginning of July.

Gary said Duncan Roberts bill?

Jay Long said yeah.

Joe Copeland said yeah, about a half a million dollars, okay. Now, there's another bridge up on 750 North that he finished right just after the first of the year and we haven't received that bill yet, have we Jay?

Jay Long said no.

Joe Copeland said so, we're taking this year's money to pay for last year's work, okay. So, that leaves us short this year. That's why you're seeing that \$700,000.00 I believe it is.

Gary said well let me ask you. The money that was laid aside for Duncan Robertson last year, isn't it held in reserve, or did it go back to the pool of money?

Joe Copeland said as far as I know.

Jay Long said it goes back to the pool.

Joe Copeland said pool, yeah.

Gary said so we can't.

Joe Copeland said so, the cash is still there, okay, but.

Gary said yeah, but it was used in your calculations for this year's

Joe Copeland said the appropriation is gone.

Gary said before we go there, how are we going to stop this from happening to us?

Joe Copeland said he's no longer.

Gary said we're 8 months into a year.

Joe Copeland said he wasn't low bid this year. We have another contractor that will be doing our work when we have work for him to do for the bridges. The culverts are done by a different contractor, so, hopefully, that ends, that stops, okay. The problem we've got with these culverts, the large culverts is like I said, money. We can get it done, but it's going to take years to do that, trying to get enough money to get them finished.

Gary said okay. First of all, Meeks, is there any protection for the county on something like that?

Meeks said don't those usually cover that?

Gary said yeah, they didn't, that paperwork doesn't cover them.

Laura said they have to submit paperwork to get an incumbrance.

Meeks said yeah,

Laura said and it has to be within a certain period, so I don't think that would have qualified anyway.

Meeks said I don't even know if this would, I don't even know if it would matter. I thought it was like 6 months.

Laura said I don't think it's that much.

Meeks said it's not even that long, for 60 days, 90 days.

Laura said I would have to look, but yeah, I would say more like 60.

Gary said can we consider eliminating them from the contractor pool?

Meeks said well you have a problem with them, I don't know. If they're the lowest, you'd have to have a reason. I mean, I wouldn't just eliminate them out of the hand. I mean. If they are the lowest bid, then you'd just have to decide whether or not you want to take them next time. You cannot disqualify out of hand. You can on a case-by-case basis decide.

Gary said yep. Alright, so what's your question is, we can pay the Duncan Robertson claim and we need extra funding to do this. So, how much funding is the highway short to do this?

Joe Copeland said well, here's the thing. We spent most of the appropriation, right Jay?

Jay Long said uh huh.

Joe Copeland said for this year already on the half mil and we've asked for another 700,000. Alright, that 700,000 is going to pay for the biggest part of that bridge that they finished after the first of the year and I haven't got the bill yet, so I don't know exactly how much that's going to be. So, what we're, what we want to do is next year we're going to be in the same pickle is what I'm afraid of. We're not going to have enough to get moving along. We may have what, a half million maybe next year that we can go into to get some of this work done. But we don't have enough money to keep moving. We need, some of these were slated for 25, some of these replacements. Some of them are pretty bad. You got, you know, 8, 9 ton. You've got one that's 6 tons load limit. They're pretty rough. So, and some of them are on regulated drains. I put that over to the right showing you know, for Ed, what I've seen on GIS anyway. He may find some that's, that is that I don't have listed. But anyway, what we're wondering is, can we get maybe some solar and wind money to help move this along. I'd like to, we could do what, probably 8 a year with contractor. I mean spread them out, get price quotes for the material, the boxes. And then set a schedule to when they'd be completed and ready to ship, and then have the contractor on board ready to set them. The problem we're going to have with these is utilities. Utilities are going to be a big problem because we've got aerial, overhead power on most of them. And the other problem is, the big ones, the 18 footers, that's a big box, okay. There're, I believe there are 2 of them in here, 18 by 6 and an 18 by 6. There's a 17 by 8. It's going to take a big crane to set

those. And we've got a, when you put those outriggers out on a big crane, we're going to have to build a place, probably on the road or around the road for those guys to set up, because their outriggers will be out in the side ditch by the time you get a big crane in there. So, we're going to have to build a place for them to set, just to set those.

Gary said so, what's, what are you asking of the commissioners right now?

Joe Copeland said approval to go before the council and ask for wind and solar to try to help us with these.

Gary said how much? All of it or half of it, or, I mean, as much you can do this year, in one year?

Joe Copeland said we'd like to start, go with all of it and if that could carry over, hopefully, have this done in what, 3 years?

Jay Long said uh huh.

Joe Copeland said I think we can do it.

Tom said what percentage increase are we going to have over that 3 years on that? What percentage of increase are we going to have on that 3 years on that, because that's today's prices. Obviously, the ones you're going to be doing in 28 aren't going to be that.

Joe Copeland said don't know. You know it's going to go up.

Tom said I mean, we know it's going to go up, so we're going to be short in the long run.

Joe Copeland said so, I'm guessing that the labor and equipment, the materials numbers come from our annual bid. Now the annual bid on concrete boxes I took, but usually we can get a little less on that than what they actually bid. We did not accept their bids on that, I get quotes every time that I go out and get prices on these concrete boxes. It's usually cheaper. Yeah, it is, it's, we can get a little bit under what they originally bid the first of the year. So, yeah, it'll probably go up a little bit. But, we might be able to save some money here and there.

Missy said any help from Federal or State funding reimbursement?

Laura said these are payments received. Doesn't mean this hasn't been earmarked.

Joe Copeland said we could try for Community Crossings. Here's the problem with Community Crossing, there is no design. They won't pay for design. They won't pay for inspection. The only thing they'll pay for is construction and that's 80%, up to half a million a year.

Gary said Missy, I've underlined what's available at the bottom left corner.

Joe Copeland said half a million a year is all they'll help, all they'll allow, at this point.

Gary said okay. I was just checking. I had the graph sheet on it. We have availability in the funding. What's the funding available there's 6 million?

Missy said yeah.

Gary said so, we can do it.

Missy said 6 million, 366 thousand.

Gary said yeah. And it's a good use for it, probably one of the primary uses for it, so. So, Missy, what are your thoughts?

Missy said I would make the motion to approve to do the funding.

Gary said you mean \$1,765,552 out of Renewable Energy funding?

Missy said yes.

Gary said Tom?

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

Tom said before we get away from that though, is there any mechanism within the bookkeeping that we can, we have committed funds that doesn't, even though it gets thrown in the pool next year, but we know it's already committed, so that that doesn't get spent two years in a row?

Jay Long said yeah, I guess.

Gary said remember that happen several years in the council?

Tom said yes.

Jay Long said yeah, I guess as we move forward on the projects that we have here, I'm just going to document them and then make sure that we have the bills accounted for in that physical year, you know, so that we don't run into this. I mean, it was kind of a bomb dropped on me at you know, 6 ½ months later and I was like, well wait a minute you know, how this has happened, so.

Missy said it's kind of amazing they wouldn't want their money sooner than later.

Jay Long said it's amazing, I mean, they're still sitting on one, you know what I mean.

Joe Copeland said and it'll be, it'll probably be over half a million.

Gary said what else? We've got to keep moving here. What else do you have?

Guard rail on 1150 W

Joe Copeland said guard.

Jay Long said guard rail on 1150 West.

Gary said guard rail, 1150.

Jay Long said yep.

Gary said I'm in favor of the guard rail.

Missy said me to.

Gary said they've been here concerned for almost 3 years now.

Jay Long said oh yeah, yep.

Gary said Joe, you said it goes either way, 50/50? It'll pass.

Joe Copeland said it'll meet the warrant for a guard rail, yes.

Gary said and what would a guard rail cost Randolph County?

Jay Long said I'm going to have to reach out and I was just kind of making sure.

Gary said any kind of idea? No idea?

Jay Long said it's going to be long. It's probably what, every bit of 200 feet.

Joe Copeland said yeah, I don't, and then here's we can use, if we can find it, we could use used rail, okay. I mean it's, it may not be shiny but it'll still work.

Gary said well as long as it looks brand new when it's painted, yeah.

Joe Copeland said save us some money.

Gary said yeah, and as long as it looks new.

Jay Long said yeah.

Gary said I don't care if it's used as long as it's not dented up.

Joe Copeland said yeah, not all rusted up and, right.

Gary said and I was looking at the accounts. I mean there are accounts we still have, and you may have plans for them all, but, road and street, tipping fees, things of that nature. So, what is, do you have any idea what a guard rail may cost?

Joe Copeland said no.

Gary said okay, fair enough.

Joe Copeland said if I can get it used, I can get it a lot cheaper than new. New is not cheap.

Gary said yeah. What else? Well wait a minute. Missy, what do you feel about the guard rail?

Missy said yeah, I'd, if you can get it used and it looks you know, good enough, I would definitely, yes.

Joe Copeland said we'll try.

Jay Long said we'll try.

Missy said I'm in favor of it.

Joe Copeland said don't know if it's out there.

Tom said I go back and forth because there's quite a few other areas in the county with the same type of situation. But we can't do them all right now.

Missy said we've got to start somewhere.

Jay Long said yeah.

Tom said I guess we start there.

Gary said so, we can just approve this particular guard rail here alone. Somebody like to make a motion to approve the guard rail on 1150, right? Is it 1150?

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

Joe Copeland said I'll plan on being at the council meeting in the morning.

Gary said that would be good.

Joe Copeland said for the addition.

Riverstart IV road repairs

Jay Long said did any of you get the bid proposal for Riverstart IV, for the road repairs?

Gary said I did.

Joe Long said okay.

Missy said I don't think I did.

Gary said is it your recommendation we move forward with this?

Jay Long said yes sir. I just wanted to get some stuff for the residents down there. Get going on it, so.

Gary said I've seen it, Missy and I'm ready to accept the recommendation.

Tom said as long as they recommend it.

Gary said yep. Missy?

Missy said as long as they recommend it.

Gary said someone like to make a motion to accept the recommendation of the road repairs for Riverstart IV, right?

Jay Long said yes.

Gary said and this is to be taken care of by EDP?

Jay Long said yeah. I think there is about 5 ½ miles of pavement and then about 12 of chip and seal. So, it's a good step in the right direction.

Gary said okay, somebody like to make a motion?

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

Jay Long said that's it. Thank you.

Joe Copeland said thank you.

Gary said that all, thank you.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Gary said that is all of today's business. Now we go to other business. Sheriff Moystner.

Art Moystner said good morning. Art Moystner, Randolph County sheriff. I just wanted to come up and I wanted to tell you guys thank you for the proclamation last week. As it's been all over social media, we lost Marshall Brad Fisher last week in a tragedy, doing his job, and I just wanted to tell you guys thank you. I wanted to comment about the first responders that we have

in our community. Marshall Fisher, one willing to sacrifice or to do the job to where that sacrifice would be made. The first responders that rallied around the scene, the family over the past week, and I think we've got a few more weeks that are probably going to be a little dark for the first responder community as we work our way forward. And then I wanted to recognize the community that we live in, the Lynn community, Randolph County as a whole, and the way they've rallied around the family, the first responders, and it's truly a blessing to serve in this type of community. So, I just wanted to come up today and recognize that.

Gary said thank you.

Art Moystner said thank you.

Minutes of June 15, June 18 Joint meeting and July 6

Gary said minutes, June 15th, June 18th joint meeting, and July 6th. Would somebody like to make a motion to accept all these minutes at the same time?

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

Payroll Claims \$376,765.69

Gary said while we're getting caught up on the signatures, the next claim up will be the payroll claim, \$376,765.69.

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

Regular Claims \$869,288.29

Gary said and then, now we have the regular claims, \$869,288.29.

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

LWC Inc Claim \$17,512.00 (tabled from 7/6/2026)

Gary said the LWC Incorporated claim, \$17,512.00.

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

Gary said before we move on from the airport, I emailed out to the airport.

Missy said I did too. I mean, I talked with them.

Gary said you have talked with them?

Missy said yep.

Gary said do you have any idea on that hanger?

Missy said I didn't get a positive response, but I think they understand, I mean, that we really.

Gary said you want to see it?

Missy said yeah.

Duncan Robertson Claim \$498,029.48

Gary said next up is the Duncan Robertson claim that we just discussed with the highway department, \$498,029.48.

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

Argo Consulting Claim \$11,110.91

Gary said Argo Consulting claim, \$11,110.91. Someone want to make a motion to approve? That's for the ongoing work at the jail.

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

BNY Mellon Annual bond fee claim \$825.00

Gary said BNY Mellon annual bond fee claim. This claim here is for their administrative fees, would that be correct?

Laura said yes.

Gary said \$825.00. Somebody like to make a motion to approve?

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

Flex time policy

Gary said flex time policy. We've all had it. It's been put out for around 2 months for everybody to look at. There has been some concern, not a lot. So, I'd entertain a motion to add the flex time policy language clarification to our handbook? Gary said I'm in favor of it.

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

Application for construction design release

Gary said application for construction design release. This is for the cold storage building. Just need permission to sign. Somebody like to make a motion?

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

Gary said that is the end of our agenda. Missy, do you have anything?

Missy said no, I don't.

Gary said Laura?

Laura said no.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said I'd just like to kind of go off what Art said and it's been a rough week for the community, but also an amazing week to watch everybody come around the Fisher family and the first responders and this tells us why we should be thanking and appreciate our first responders every day. But what a community. What a blessing to have Brad serve our community for 25 years. And just remember his family. That's it.

Gary said I would agree completely. Meeks?

Meeks said nothing. I echo Tom's comments though.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

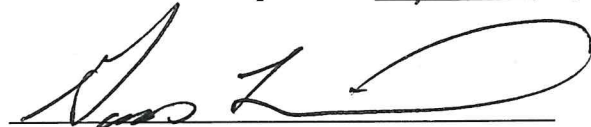
Gary said alright. We're at the end of our agenda. Is there anybody in attendance today that would like to come forward and address the commissioners? We'd really like to use this clock for the first time, so who's coming?

Adjournment

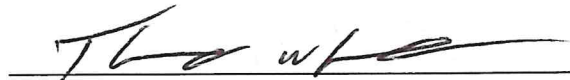
Gary said well, seeing nobody coming up, somebody like to make a motion to adjourn?

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

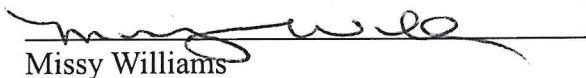
Reviewed and accepted this 17 day of August, 2026



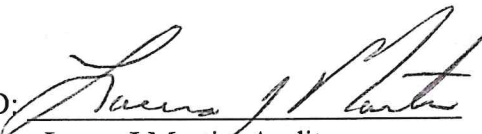
Gary Friend



Tom Kerns



Missy Williams

ATTESTED: 
Laura J Martin, Auditor