

Randolph County Commissioners

September 3, 2024

The Randolph County Council 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 Michael Wickersham, Gary Friend and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council's update

Mike said first item on the agenda is a council update. Missy, you have anything for us?

Missy Williams said we had budget meetings on the 20th and 21st, and the budget has been, salaries and things have been set and wages, but we haven't met with the council, the entire council.

Mike said you meet tomorrow?

Missy Williams said yes.

Mike said okay. Thanks, Missy. Anybody have any questions of Missy?

Gary Friend said I do not.

Randy Abel – Contracting inspections

Mike said Randy Abel. Morning Randy.

Randy Abel said morning. So, what I wanted to discuss this morning is the opportunity for somebody to replace me when I'm out. And so, I am expecting to be out for several weeks in the near future. I'm not sure when. It's a medical issue. So, I didn't want to leave the county kind of in a lurch here. So, I kind of wanted to prepare ahead since I know something is coming. And I think too, it would be good, even if there was a car wreck or something. You'd have something in place then to kind of fall back on for the county. So, what we've discussed and discussed it a little bit in council, but I think it came up that Keith Pugh had been contracted in the past to do this job, and he was actually the inspector that was in the office when I got there. And he has been a big, big help to me. I can tell you that. I probably don't call him every week, but it's pretty close. And I'm always like, have you seen this before, and then ask for advice on what different things he's seen and would happen to do. Anyway, I think he would be a good choice. And I don't know if you want to approve other, I've also contacted other contractors. I know

Bill Pearson has done it in the past. There are other reputable contractors in the county maybe who could even do it, if for some reason, Keith couldn't do it. So, I didn't know if that was a discussion point or not, but, I have talked to two or three other contractors that Gary Friend brought up to me in some conversation, that might get kind of sticky, just because if they failed something, and I do fail stuff, a lot. It's usually not anything big.

Mike said well if Keith is willing to do it and is available to do it, I wouldn't know why that wouldn't be our first choice. And I don't know how we would set that up. Would we just contact him?

Meeks said it's all in, it's just, it would be a part time money, right.

Mike said so when the time came, we would just.

Laura said do you have a part time line in your budget? I don't know off the top of my head.

Randy Abel said I don't think I, I mean, I have a part time secretary, but we, when they had the budget cuts, and the Area Planning and billing were together, we kept it in Area Planning, but I think we got rid of it in.

Meeks said well I think you probably need to get some sort of part time line or some sort of line for, to pay a contractor. And then, I would think that if Bill or Keith or you guys are agreeable, then you guys hire him, just like you would do a part time employee for that week or two.

Gary Friend said do we need a?

Meeks said contract.

Randy Abel said okay. I mean, so, the issue might come up that \$14.00 isn't much for a professional individual to do inspections.

Gary Friend said right.

Randy Abel said I don't think you're going to get a state inspector in here to do that, and I don't think.

Gary Friend said I was leaning towards a menu of charges for services. You probably need to know that.

Randy Abel said yeah.

Meeks said just ask Keith what they'd charge and we approve the charges.

Randy Abel said okay.

Meeks said so, you'd have to, you'd have to get money in some sort of line.

Randy Abel said okay. So, can I contact Keith and have him call?

Meeks said yep. Ask him what he'd charge for doing those.

Mike said just enter a contract with him.

Meeks said yeah, enter an agreement with him.

Mike said just enter an agreement and anticipate what the cost of that is going to be in your absence. And Ask council for that appropriation and a line in your budget to pay him.

Meeks said uh huh, then just email me how much it, how much he's going to charge us.

Randy Abel said okay.

Meeks said and then we can just put it in there and if it's not Keith, if it's Bill, then we can just substitute Bill for it or whoever. I wouldn't think it would be any different.

Randy Abel said okay. So, would I take it to council then?

Meeks said you would need to have council, you'd have to have some sort of money in someplace to pay that.

Randy Abel said okay.

Mike said so, I think what I would do is find out what Keith's going to charge and then maybe you and Keith can anticipate what that total cost is going to be. And then I would come back here and we'd enter a contract with Keith and in your absence, he would come in and do it, do this work for this amount of money, and then you would go to council and say the commissioners have approved this contract with Keith Pugh to do this work for this amount, I need that in my budget.

Meeks said probably, if you could figure it out today, you could go to council tomorrow and get that set up.

Randy Abel said okay. I'll call Keith today then and see what we're thinking then. I really don't have any idea from a medical standpoint, how long it will be. So, do you want that?

Meeks said well if they put X amount in the line, if they need more, then they just have to go get more.

Randy Abel said alrighty. Thank you very much.

Mike said any questions for Randy?

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said thanks Randy.

Randy Abel said okay. I'll get working on it.

Chris Peacock, Halderman Farm Management – pasture ground

Mike said Chris Peacock.

Chris Peacock said good morning. I'm here this morning as a continuation from the last commissioners' meeting, following up on the pasture land rent.

Mike said okay.

Chris Peacock said I spoke with Dr. Howell between meetings here, and Dr. Howell would really like to retain renting the pasture. He actually, I asked him for his highest, best offer that I could present to you today, depending on what direction you'd like to go with the pasture, if you'd like bids or continue leasing it to Dr. Howell. He agreed that the 41, plus or minus, acres is probably correct, and he agreed to increase the amount of rent he's willing to pay. It's about a 25% overall increase, to \$5,227.50 per year, and he'd like a three-year lease. He's proposing a three-year lease. Currently the amount is \$4,170.10, annually.

Mike said is there any acceleration in there, in the 2nd and 3rd year?

Chris Peacock said excuse me?

Mike said is that going to be the fixed lease for the three-year period, 5,227.50 per year?

Chris Peacock said yes.

Mike said okay.

Chris Peacock said with the request that, at the end of each year, if he's unable to continue farming for any reason that he or the family could cancel the lease, void the lease for the coming year or years.

Gary Friend said what would be the advantage of having a three-year lease then?

Chris Peacock said it locks it up for him until he retires.

Gary Friend said it also locks it up against the county too.

Chris Peacock said yes, exactly.

Meeks said I think the last couple of times it's been the three years, at least last time was.

Chris Peacock said yeah, you're guaranteed one year, and likely two anyway.

Gary Friend said how long has he been leasing? Do you know?

Chris Peacock said I'm not sure on that.

Mike said 12 years?

Gary Girton said it's probably been nine.

Meeks said probably been nine. It hasn't been all of twelve.

Gary Friends said do you have other bids out?

Chris said we have not asked for bids yet. That's why I was asked to come back to this meeting to see what directions you would like to go, whether you would like for us to open up for bids or?

Mike said well 5227.50 looks like a calculation of about 127.50 an acre.

Chris said yes.

Mike said is that fair? Is that unfair?

Chris said yeah, that's a good lease for this ground. We have trees out there. We have mud holes. He asked that I work with the county highway.

Mike said I'd say we enter the agreement for three years.

Gary Friend said I do too.

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

Chris said I'd like to also update you on the crop land leases. The tenants are all, all three tenants are willing to continue with the leases, current lease rates for 2025. Would it be okay if I go ahead and draft those leases for 2025 as renewals?

Gary Friend said of what we're currently doing?

Chris said yes, for all three tenants.

Gary Friend said are you advising us that's something we ought to be doing?

Chris said we like working with the same operators, long term, if possible, unless they stub their toes or the market changes, or they back out, change their mind on leasing the land, but yes, we

could, we recommend staying with the same operators. It helps build your soil up. They know they're going to farm it, so they help build it up.

Gary Friend said I don't have any problem with that.

Chris said we'll proceed, Gary, we'll proceed however you'd like.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion we proceed for the next year.

Mike said I've a motion to continue our farm leases with the current operators. Do I have a second?

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

Mike said okay. Very good.

Chris said thank you guys? Anything for me?

Mike said I don't have any questions.

Gary Friend said I do not.

Jessi Vogel and Matt Baer-Globe Life

Mike said Jessi Vogel and Matt Baer, Globe Life.

Jessi Vogel said good morning guys, and lady.

Mike said morning.

Jessi Vogel said I am Jessi Vogel.

Matt Baer said Matt Baer.

Jessi Vogel said and we are coming with you as representatives of Glove Life, Liberty National. So, this is an addition to your current benefits package. There're several reasons that I'm bringing this to your table today, to see if this is something that could benefit your crew out here. So, this is for all of your full-time employees, and this is a life and supplemental health provider. So, we are different compared to your current life insurance and supplemental providers because number one, we are a life insurance provider. So, we're all going to die at some point, right? Hate to burst your bubble in case you didn't know, right. So, this is something that attaches to each of your employees. So, I know I've spoken to Laura here and I know that compared to the other life insurance providers that you currently have, this is something that will attach to your employees whenever they leave or retire. This walks right out the door with them, and it stays locked in. They get grandfathered into the premium that they originally set it up with. So, a lot of the other providers, those premiums will increase at the time that they leave or retire, or as they get older, right, or they stop at the door altogether, whenever, folks do leave or retire. So,

this is something that does provide a permanent opportunity for your guys out here. In addition to that, with it being a life insurance provider, this is something to, that for folks who have found it difficult to find coverage because of blemishes on their medical record, we're a life insurance company, we have something typically, for everybody. So, this gives us a different opportunity for all. And then, in addition to that, this costs zero dollars to the county to offer. So, Globe Life is one of the number one life insurance providers within the country, and we actually found our niche by providing the working-class Americans full time coverage, just because this is made available to more global governments than anything, so. Supplemental coverage, cancer coverage, critical illness, action in protection, mortgage protection, income replacement protection, again this is all made available to your employees at no cost again to the county. So, I'm opening up for any questions. Really, it's pretty straight forward.

Mike said so, is everybody insurable then?

Jessi Vogel said most everybody, yes. There's a need analysis we'll complete with each employee.

Mike said that premium would be adjusted based upon their health situation, age?

Jessi Vogel said, age is that determining factor there. Now, we do not discriminate against tobacco use, occupation, or gender.

Mike said so is it, how many other providers do we have?

Laura said six.

Mike said six. Is that all for life and supplemental health?

Laura said I don't know that, I couldn't really tell you the details on them.

Mike said okay. So, are all your policies fixed premiums forever?

Jessi Vogel said they are, yes. So, that's one of the biggest things that separated us from most.

Mike said do any of our other providers offer the policy continuation after they leave?

Laura said I believe they do.

Mike said I would think they would.

Jessi Vogel for the, so I know, when we spoke, I think, Laura, you said you have Prudential, Boston Mutual, Lincoln Life, is that correct? Am I missing any?

Mike said I know we have Lincoln Life.

Jessi Vogel said yes. So, I know whenever we spoke last, it was more or less this is.

Laura said I talked to Shannon. She said we have 6 other vendors.

Jessi Vogel said 6 others, yes.

Laura said so, I don't know what they all are. I didn't ask for the names.

Jessi Vogel said like the details of them.

Laura said yeah.

Jessi Vogel said yes. So, and typically, from my experience, I've been with the company for about 8 years, and I've done some, some of my homework here with most of these other providers. And typically, there is a conversion rate upon leaving or retiring here at the county. So, the premiums will increase a little bit, or again, based on that policy, it'll drop and cancel altogether. So, these are, if you are familiar between, with whole life versus term life coverage, this is more with the whole life. And then, in addition to that, each employee here will get 2 free benefits. So, these are again, at no cost to each employee. They get a free \$3,000.00 of accidental death life insurance. It's through life insurance policy. If they are married, their spouse gets \$3,000. Each dependent gets \$1,000. So, we activate that for each employee. And then they get a discount card, which works in addition to their major medical package as well. So, it gets an additional 10 to 85% off of medical services, such as chiropractic care, which is typically not included in major medical. And then prescription drugs, vision needs, as well.

Mike said so, do we have employees who have reached out to you and asked for this coverage?

Jessi Vogel said no, I've actually been encouraged to come over here. We actually partner with several of your surrounding cities out here. So, we've been encouraged to come out this way and so, I know some folks knew some of the employees working here.

Mike said my issue is that one thing is, you say is no cost to the county, but the county has to track and deduct and so, sitting here, of course, I'm not the, I wouldn't participate in the program. And I'm not going to suffer from it. I don't have to do any of the things that the auditor office does or an employee does, so it's difficult for me to choose to say how many is too many and how many is not enough. And six providers sound a lot to me, I don't know if I can, one thing is, I'm going to refer to the Auditor here, because it's her office that's doing this, and if it's a lot different, I would think she would, she and maybe the personnel committee could determine it's better than another or if it's not a lot different, than we don't need another one I guess, is what I'm getting at. And so, I'm going to defer to the auditor and ask her to recommend to us what we do here. And you don't need to do that today if you don't want to, or you can do that today, or you could talk to the other people on the personnel committee and say is this something we want to add to our cafeteria benefit for our employees. And if it's something that that committee says we want to add, then I would say we add it. If it's something they say no, then it's going to be its own, the employees are going to have to find outside of their employment, I guess. Is that fair?

Jessi Vogel said yeah.

Laura said if you just want to send me some literature and then we'll go over it with, compare it to what we have.

Jessi Vogel said yes. We can definitely do that.

Mike said does that work for you, Gary? I'm not doing the work she's doing on this, or her office, I should say.

Jessi Vogel said I completely understand.

Matt Baer said one thing I'd like to interject. Just with the people that I've met with that have signed on with us, our reputation is of the fact that we have what's called a quick claims process, and they have told me that with other companies they've signed on with, it has been a headache and lots of hoops to jump in order to file hospital paperwork and get reimbursements and all that. And ours is very quick, usually within 72 hours. And they found it a lot easier. So, bringing up things that may cause headaches, this is something that would take away from that and kind of ease the employees.

Mike said claims from any insurance, quick response is a valuable service. So, that's for sure. Okay.

Jessi Vogel said yes, it is. So, yes, well we can link up. Is there a time you would like to link up later today?

Laura said no, not today. Actually, it would be Thursday or Friday before I would have any time.

Jessi Vogel said alright. Can do that. Alright. That works. I will email you.

Laura said if you want to leave me some information and I'll go over it with my committee.

Jessi Vogel said yes, perfect. Okay. I will do that.

Mike said any questions of Jessi or Matt? Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Bob McCoy - update

Mike said Mayor Bob McCoy. Bob, do you have anything for us this morning?

Bob McCoy said busy weekend. Very successful Labor Day tourney, very successful race. Couldn't ask for better weather. Hopefully, we brought in some money for the community and provided entertainment.

Mike said okay. Any questions for Bob?

Gary Friend said no.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Mike said that brings us to other business. Sheriff Art Moystner. Sheriff, good morning.

Art Moystner said good morning. The only thing I have this morning is I'd sent an email out at the end of August, I believe it was August 26th, reference some of the changes that took place during the budget hearing, and obviously, with the way some of the benefits are done. I know I'd gotten a response on one of those emails. My curiosity is there're a lot of employees that are curious as to how some of this is going to work. And one of the big things I had was with the employees still scheduling comp time that crosses over. And I think, if I'm not mistaken, Laura can correct me if I'm wrong, but I think we go into the first pay period of next year in mid-December. So, we have some people that have put in for comp time. I just had a form this morning that was for December 22nd. I don't know whether to approve those, whether those are going to be paid out, whether it's something that we're going to pay whatever is in the bank, and then let them use whatever comp time they've requested up to that point. I just, I don't, I guess there're still a lot of questions that some of the employees are coming to me with, and I don't have the answers, nor am I in a position that I have the authority to answer those. And I wasn't sure if there's a time line where we're going to have some of this with some of these. I know one of the other questions I had was with the PTOs the first year, we're taking applications for a road position now to be able to put how much time they're going to have off the first year, second year, third year, fourth year. I know I've talked to Gary Friend before and mentioned to you guys that that first year if they only get PTO time, that's only 9 days available. I'm competing with places that the day you start, you get 20. And I just, I think there needs to be some more discussion with these changes. I'm just not sure what that looks like. And I know with us being in September, I think the end of the year and our first pay period for next year is going to come upon us very rapidly. And I would like to be prepared for that. I think it's unfair to the employees to keep them in limbo with some of it. And I know it's new so there's a lot of things to figure out. So, I'm not, I'm not trying to push, but I'm also would like some answers.

Gary Friend said we have Erwin hired to work with us.

Art Moystner said yes.

Gary Friend said I don't think there are absolute answers yet. I think Mike's on the committee that's going to be putting together some of these things that you've asked on here. I don't know if we actually have all the.

Meeks said I do think the council set the December 15th, right?

Gary Friend said on that part of it, yeah.

Meeks said yeah, I mean, I think that's pretty clear. I mean, I'm reading here, comp time will stop at accruing at the end of December 15th, will be paid out the 27th, which would be the next, which would be paid in 2025 then, the next. Any overtime from the 16th through the 31st will be paid in your January pay. I think that was decided by the council. I think that's pretty clear.

Art Moystner said and I agree with that Meeks.

Mike said the intent would be that an employee, it would benefit all employees.

Art Moystner said sure.

Mike said and if somebody is going to lose the opportunity to take scheduled time off in December or January because we're paying out comp time, are we saying there's no other way that they can have that scheduled time off? And in this case, it probably could be without pay since they've been paid for that scheduled time off, if we pay out comp time. Is that, am I making any sense there?

Art Moystner said you are. And that's what I'm curious in asking about because with my young employees, you have the situation that they don't have a lot of time built up. Therefore, they might not have sick time and they might not have vacation time available for those days, and maybe they've used their vacation this summer, so there's not the comp time. And obviously, I can give them lost time off. But we hadn't, there's been no determination of when, because I agree that comp time is going to stop being earned in mid-December, but there's been no definition put as to when the comp time can be given so that they can have a comp day off. So, if I have one taking off December 22nd, yes, I don't disagree with what you're saying.

Mike said I guess I looked at it, that was in the department's head's control. So, it gives the department head more control over their employees.

Art Moystner said it does.

Mike said and so, that would fall, to me, that would fall to you.

Art Moystner said so it would just be a lost paid day or whatever time?

Mike said yeah, or if they have sick days, or PTO, not sick days, but PTO, because it's all going to PTO, which raises the other question. I know sick days are accruing at 1/2 day per month now.

Art Moystner said correct.

Mike said and how many PTO days are there? I mean, how many other days off does an employee receive every year?

Art Moystner said besides the PTO?

Mike said besides the sick days currently.

Art Moystner said personal days. And I believe all county employees are given 3 personal days per year.

Mike said so 3 and 6 is 9.

Art Moystner said correct.

Mike said so, really, at three quarters a day per month, they're not losing any days. They're still getting 9 days a year.

Art Moystner said correct. And that was the other curiosity that Gary and I had talked about is, is that going to be given at the monthly rates?

Meeks said I think you get .75 days per month is what.

Mike said I guess my point is.

Art Moystner said so, 6 hours.

Mike said we're really not in any different situation than you were last year when trying to hire a new officer against somebody that's off for 20 days right off the bat.

Art Moystner said and I don't disagree about that.

Mike said other than the three days, that I presume when you hire somebody and they meet a certain probationary period, they're entitled to, now, they're entitled to 3 personal days.

Art Moystner said correct. I guess what I would share is I pulled some information that I didn't have prior with regards to comp time in the sheriff's office. And I guess what I would, one of the things that I would share is we'd changed this because I know, and I think it was a valid point of having banks that build up and whatever you're earning today, you're paying out five years from now in leave banks. And I understand that. And I think pay for certain things is definitely a benefit to the employees. I would share that in 2023, in the precinct manager year of 2023, so it goes from December to December, mid-December, however that is, the sheriff's office earned 7,735.75 hours of comp time. That's both overtime work. That's holidays that weren't worked that they were given credit for and holidays that they were given credit for. So, there was a total of 7,735 hours. The sheriff's office used 7,314 of those hours, as a whole, which is approximately with 39 employees, I think that works out to somewhere in the neighborhood of 180 hours per employee that they took off that is no longer going to be available for time off. And it only carried forward 421 hours for over 39 employees, which is a net gain of about 10 hours per employee to move forward from calendar year to calendar year. So, I just think there's going to be a huge change in the available time off that was before compared to now. And with the limited time off that they're given, being 9 or 14 days in those first 3 years, there's a big push in emergency services for the mental well-being of the employees and their mental health. So, that's just some of the things that I think we need to have future discussion on. But I digress off of my point now is the big thing I wanted to say was guidance on the comp time, and with you saying that we just, if they pay them out and they had that day, we could make it a lost day and they've received that money up front anyway. So, that helps me for today. I just think there's

some additional conversations we should have at some point because I think with the emergency services, I'd ask for additional PTOs to be built in and I would like to have that conversation.

Mike said but somewhat in the future though, and it may make your job more difficult is that I'm accruing overtime, or as I'm paid out overtime that I receive, then I'm banking those dollars and if I need time off beyond this, and you have it in your schedule to offer that, you can do that to give me a mental health time off because I need it and you don't, I don't get paid for it because I've already been paid what I would have accrued under the old system.

Meeks said we have to make sure that's in the handbook. I don't think that's in the handbook.

Mike said well but the whole concept here for me was it gives the sheriff in his case; it gives any other department control over their employees.

Meeks said I agree, but I'm just saying when we have the handbook ready, we need to make sure that's relayed to Irwin.

Art Moystner said and I would share with you, I've had multiple conversations with my legal deputy to make sure I'm following what I need to do with regard to police and fire-type issues. And in our case, police specifically. And I have to be, I have to be careful with how those decisions are made because if I do anything arbitrarily, it opens the county up to any type of lawsuit. I know there are some other things that are available, and I think you and I've talked about this. I know I talked to a couple council members about it with regard to administrative leave, if I feel like someone is needing mental health time, I think we go down an avenue that I'm not sure I want to open Pandora's box with, with regards to some of that because the I'm making the decision of who needs that mental time off and who doesn't. And if I don't have a specific set of rules that I follow, I think I open us up to liability where if that time is available to employees in the form of PTOs or my initial, and I know Gary and I disagree on this, my initial having a hybrid system for emergency services, that takes the decision making away from me and the liability off the county because I'm not picking and choosing who I truly think needs mental health days.

Mike said well and that was your term you used. I was just, I'm talking about a day off. If a guy wants to go fishing, he's banked those hours, he's been paid for those hours already, and you have it in your schedule to send a guy, he wants to go fishing, let him go, if you want to do that. If you can't do that, you can't let him go.

Art Moystner said well I think it starts a very dangerous precedent to let people have lost time off.

Mike said it's all within your management ability though.

Art Moystner said I understand. I also think there're some rules and case law and whatnot within the law enforcement field that makes this very difficult.

Mike said Irwin will tell us that.

Art Moystner said I hope.

Mike said okay.

Art Moystner said so, for now, that's what we're looking at with the comp time that's been asked, if that ends up being paid out, we're just going to change that to loss time, unless they have other time to throw in.

Mike said sum that up again for me.

Art Moystner said the comp time, once it's paid out, those hours are no longer going to be setting there. So, if it's anybody that has planned a vacation or whatever they're doing, or a trip to have a day off, then it would just simply be lost time. Or, if they have other time available, they can take that.

Meeks said I think what we're saying on December 15th, we're going to stop accruing comp time. It's going to be paid out on the 27th and then any overtime from the 16th through the 31st will be paid in January.

Art Moystner said so anything beyond the 27th we'll need to change

Meeks said well I think, the 15th. Anything before the 15th, you're fine. Anything after the 15th, you're not.

Art Moystner said okay.

Meeks said I think that's pretty clear what the council decides.

Mike said that's accruing.

Meeks said that's accrue.

Laura said well they won't be able to use it either because the pay period ends.

Meeks said we have to know, we have to know what we're paid, what we're going to pay. So, we can't like.

Art Moystner said well I guess that's what.

Meeks said but you take it off the 22nd, means we're going to pay you the, we have to.

Mike said if he's got a deputy over there that he has requested time off on December 27th, and was intending to use comp time for that, and now he doesn't have the comp time because he's been paid for that comp time, and he doesn't have vacation, and he doesn't have personal days.

Meeks said then he can take the loss time. If he got paid for it, he can take the loss time. He's going to get paid for it the 27th.

Mike said he could take the loss time I guess that's what I'm saying.

Art Moystner said okay.

Meeks said if the policy allows for it.

Art Moystner said and that's fine. I think what I'm referencing is comp time that was put in before we were even looking at any of this.

Mike said I don't think there was an intent to take anything away from them.

Meeks said I mean, he's going to get paid for, or she is going to get paid on the 27th for that time.

Gary Friend said and that's right Mike, we met with her and it was specific this wasn't to be punitive. As these changes were made, any employee you have, I mean.

Art Moystner said and that's why I was asking if it was already on the books because it already shows a loss on the leave time. So, you would actually have the number of hours that they haven't used, versus the number of hours they had ahead. I just don't want to make it more confusing for anybody so that no one gets shorted or overpaid.

Gary Friend said a lot of times, if employees have at the time, they could make sure they're covered, just rather than use comp versus what's already setting on the books as a reserve. I don't know, it's their time.

Art Moystner said it ends as of the 15th, all of your sick time and personal time changes to paid time off anyway.

Gary Friend said yeah, but you know, part of the issue the county has got itself into years and years and years, is to have that much comp time, I mean, you're looking like, you said your department 180 per person, basically, on the average.

Art Moystner said that they've taken off.

Gary Friend said yeah, I mean, that's another 5 weeks on top of how many they already did. You're looking at what, 10, 12 weeks off. I mean, what's that done is it has self-perpetuated itself as comp time is being gained to cover people with comp time. We have to stop somewhere. There's got to be a cut line if we do it.

Art Moystner said well and I guess that's my point. In 2023, that comment was made that they're earning comp to gain comp. And that's just not happening at my agency.

Gary Friend said I'm not saying they're earning comp in order to gain comp. I'm saying one feeds the other.

Art Moystner said right. And based on the figures that I got, we have enough coverage, we haven't been doing that over there. They're not gaining comp covering someone else, other than when we were extremely short employees.

Gary Friend said the flip side on that would be if you have 7,300 hours, how many people short are we in the county in having management where there's zero comp time and zero overtime. I mean, that's what we're actually balancing against.

Art Moystner said and I don't disagree with any of that. I just, I think there's a lot of conversations still to be had, moving forward so that we have a winning situation that people want to come and work here.

Mike said and that would be a future conversation.

Art Moystner said sure. I don't disagree.

Mike said Nine's a lot different than 20. I think all employers in rural communities are faced with the same thing. I hear advertisements from Richmond and what some of those factories down there are offering new hires.

Art Moystner said oh, sure.

Mike said so, anyway.

Art Moystner said I don't disagree.

Mike said Gary, do you have anything?

Gary Girton said no, I know it's something that has been an issue along and hopefully we're resolving some of it. I think doing away with comp time is something I've been in favor of for years in paying it out.

Art Moystner said sure.

Gary Girton said particularly, in the safety area of it their time schedule and what they have to do, and what needs to be done is different that it is in the other areas.

Art Moystner said agree.

Gary Girton said and don't want any of them to be shorted, but then on the other hand, I don't like comp time.

Art Moystner said and I understand that wholeheartedly.

Mike said anything else for Art?

Gary Friend said I do. The sidewalk situation over there.

Art Moystner said yes sir.

Gary Friend said is your maintenance person taking care of that or are you expecting our, the county, or Jake to, what's going on?

Art Moystner said I think there's been some miscommunication along the way. And I'd sent an email, I believe, before our last meeting but we were caught up in budget, so I was going to touch it after budgets. The last I knew is we were sitting here and Jake was going to make some phone calls because he had used an arborist here at the courthouse. We've had no communication with that person. I think Jake attempted a couple of times and when he didn't get an answer, he gave the number to Devin, which is my maintenance person. I've got Devin working on other things. I didn't realize he'd given that to Devin. So, right now, I'm just kind of waiting on some guidance on where you guys want to go with it, and how you want to do, because I believe the big thing was the trees.

Gary Friend said yes, it is.

Mike said the cracked sidewalk.

Art Moystner said and I think the issue is in order to see what's underneath the sidewalk, we have to remove the sidewalk to be able to see what's going on with the trees, which will create its own unsafe.

Gary Friend said I guess, and while I'm thinking on this, your guy can't take the lead on this? I mean, Jake's got other things to do too. It's just deciding who's more important on other things to do is not the question, should it fall under Devin being the lead, getting all the information for you to bring to us or should we just say hey, should the sidewalk, in your opinion out of it.

Art Moystner said it, I guess my opinion from the get-go was the fact that I think the trees are causing the problem with the sidewalk and even if we go remove what roots are there now, we're going to have new ones later. I can tell you on the east side of the building, Argo said the roots are pushing that retaining wall in. That's not going to change at all with the trees on the east side. And as much as I dislike taking trees down, I'm not real sure you guys have a lot of choice around the building itself. Now, the sidewalks to the west side around the parking lot, we could probably do something and leave trees there if that's what you want. I think with the building, we're going to end up having to take them down. But I'm not an expert in that. If you want me to have Devin call the arborist to come over, we can do that. But I'm also going to need the money probably to have those sidewalks removed so that he can get to those. They going to have to put temporary gravel in and then come back for a decision from you guys and move forward.

Gary Friend said my bigger question is where do you perceive your guy ends and Jake takes over?

Art Moystner said I can do it either way.

Gary Friend said where do you perceive that?

Art Moystner said I don't. They've always kind of worked together between the two places. I know there're times he's came over and helped us. I know if he needs help, I'm more than willing to have the maintenance person help him. It had never been an issue before.

Gary Friend said I'm not, I don't know that it's a big issue now, but the sidewalk hasn't been attended to yet.

Art Moystner said I agree. And if you're wanting me to have Devin, the last I knew, you guys had told Jake to look into it. So, if you want me to do that, I'll take care of that.

Gary Friend said well I wanted to make sure that Jake was told to look into it that he's. But I don't know what's going on.

Art Moystner said well I think that's the situation. I don't think it needs to go there, Gary. If you want me to look into it, I'll look into it.

Gary Friend said it's not completely up to me, Art. I just wanted to know where the boundaries were.

Art Moystner said I think they get blurred. And I think that happens because I have a building that I try very hard to maintain.

Gary Friend said we know. We try too with you.

Art Moystner said and I agree, and ultimately, it falls on you guys to make sure it's maintained, as a responsibility. So, I have no issue having Devin get ahold of that arborist. We'll move forward and I'll try to have you answers in two weeks.

Gary Friend said I would like to ask Jake to get ahold of Devin and everybody's on the same page on this.

Art Moystner said sure. Perfect.

Mike said so, are you going to talk to Jake to talk to Devin. Okay.

Gary Friend said what do you think?

Mike said that works for me. Okay.

Art Moystner said perfect. Anything else for me?

Mike said anything else for the sheriff? Thanks Art.

Payroll Claims \$ 314,114.97 & 313,519.44

Mike said that brings us to our payroll claims. We have two sets of them. One for \$314,114.97 and the other for \$313,519.44. I'd entertain a motion to approve both these claims.

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

Regular Claims \$294,284.42

Mike said next item on our agenda is our regular claims in the amount of \$294,284.42. These were emailed to us and I trust we had a chance to review them. I'd entertain a motion to approve these claims.

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

BF&S Claim (Vision Trail) \$6,879.40

Mike said next claim is the Butler Fairman and Seufert claim for the vision trail in the amount of \$6,879.40. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

SJCA Task Order #2 Claim \$7,460.00

Mike said next item is the SJCA task order #2 claim in the amount of \$7,460.00, which is a scoping report. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

Right Stuff renewal

Mike said that brings us to Right Stuff software. We received a copy of a renewal letter and agreement from Right Stuff and this is our software program that does our timekeeping. And indicated in a letter that their fee has not gone up in the 9 years that they've worked with us, and this year they're raising their fee, annual fee, license fee from \$22,800.00 to \$24,000.00, but their annual hosting fee will remain unchanged at \$5,400.00. And this is somebody you work with.

Laura said that's our payroll timekeeping.

Mike said so, you would recommend we renew this at the rate stated?

Laura said yes.

Mike said and sign a 3-year renewal or a 1-year renewal?

Laura said I would do the 3 year. It's a rate that's in for at least 3 years the way I read it.

Mike said don't see any reason to change them, so.

Gary Girton said I'll move approval for three year.

Gary Friend seconded the motion.

Mike said I have a motion and a second to approve a 3-year renewal period commencing January 1, 2025 and expiring on December 31, 2027. All in favor of the motion?

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Your Life Speaks LLC – Opioid funds?

Mike said next item is the Your Life Speaks LLC. This is a grant we approved to Anne Taylor, director of student services at Monroe Central, to bring in a speaker for 3 60-minute school presentations and 1 60-minute parent night with questions and answers on October the 28th and 29th. If you recall the total cost of this was going to be \$8,000.00. We asked the school corporations to participate and none of the 5 school corporations could afford to do so. So, it came back to us and we agreed to grant this group \$8,000.00. And the question remains, do we want to take this out of our opioid funding or do we want to take it from someplace else?

Gary Friend said I think if it's an allowable expense out of opioid funds, which is very restrictive in areas.

Mike said well part of it is not restrictive.

Laura said yeah, we've got a portion that's not and part of it that it is.

Gary Friend said is allowable on restrictive?

Laura said well, I sent you guys the guidelines because I read through it and it doesn't just say you could do this, it doesn't have a list. So, I wasn't sure, but if he's speaking on drug abuse. It's mental health I think, it doesn't really say it's on drug abuse.

Mike said and I think for me, no more than it is, of \$8,000.00 to stay safe, I think we should take it out of the unrestricted fund.

Gary Friend said yeah.

Mike said reserve something, as I read through it, I didn't think it did, but that's just my opinion. I don't know who can advise it that it does or does not.

Meeks said well there'll be another project that will be clearly within this.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve.

Mike said okay. I have a motion to pay this out of our non-restricted opioid settlement. Do I have a second?

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

Achieva resources \$5,000 funding for 2025

Mike said next item is the Achieva resources of \$5,000.00 for 2025. This is a group we've been supporting for the last several years, and they are sponsored, somewhat sponsored by the Indiana Supreme Court Adult Guardianship program. They're located in Wayne County, but they serve Wayne, Union, Fayette, Franklin, Randolph and Henry County. And they do have residents in Randolph that they support and our \$5,000.00, should we agree to support them again this year, goes to their matching money that receive from the Supreme Court. So, again, this benefits a group of Randolph County citizens or this group benefits a group of Randolph County citizens. And that's where we came about supporting them.

Gary Girton made motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion.

Mike said I think in the past we've gotten that from EDIT funds. Is that where you want it to come from?

Gary Girton said yes.

Gary Friend said yeah, that's fine.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Additional Appropriations:

General

Computer Maintenance	\$2000.00
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Mike said that brings us to our Additional Appropriations. The first one from General fund for computer maintenance in the amount of \$2,000.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this additional appropriation.

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

EDIT

Legal fees & other services	\$39,700.00
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Mike said next one is EDIT, legal fees and other services in the amount of \$39700.00, and this is services for the SJCA task order at 1000 West, 800 North. And that's to review the Fairview stone quarry situation. I'd entertain a motion to approve this appropriation.

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

Cum Cap

Building Maintenance	\$20,000.00
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Mike said next is Cum Cap for building maintenance, \$20,000.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this.

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

Elected Official Training (Auditor)	\$1,000.00
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Mike said elected official training for the auditor, \$1,000.00 travel and training, additional appropriation. I'd entertain a motion.

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

Children Advocacy

Coordinator Fee	\$750.00
Part time employees	\$6,000.00
Training/Schooling	\$3,364.00
Mobile Phone	\$20.00
Postage	\$400.00
Travel/Mileage	\$3,000.00

Mike said the next group is for the Children Advocacy. Coordinator fee of \$750, part-time employees, \$6,000, training/schooling, \$3,364, mobile phone \$20, postage of \$400 and travel/mileage of \$3,000. I'd entertain a motion to approve these additional appropriations.

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

Mike said that brings us to the end of our agenda. Laura, do you have anything for us this morning?

Laura Martin – Disaster relief

Laura said I do. I got an email from Lacy Foy the state on our reimbursement for the tornado. And she needs me to just, here's the list of what they're reimbursing. She wanted me to do a letter requesting the reimbursement and then there are some other things I've got to gather for her. But, if I could get you guys to sign the letter requesting, and then I'll get the rest of it to her from that and the rest of it to her, so that we can get, she said the first reimbursement is going to be about \$100,000.00. Those last three on the list will be sent direct to those agencies, not to us. So, ours will be a little over a 100,000.

Mike said Ward, Richmond and Lynn?

Laura said yes. These go direct to them.

Mike said and this is just a simple letter saying we request reimbursement. Want to take a look at that?

Gary Friend said who's paying for this?

Laura said the state.

Mike said that's disaster relief from the state, \$102,000.00. And that's for fire departments, highway departments, EMAs, auditor's additional time, assessor's additional time, the county. Someone want to move to approve this letter requesting reimbursement?

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

Mike said Meeks, do you have anything for us?

Meeks said I do not.

Mike said Gary, do you have anything for us?

Gary Friend – Fairview Stone Quarry traffic

Gary Friend said Joe, can you come up so we can hear you? On the difficulty with 1000, can you give us an update on what's going on with 1000 and are we off using, are we still using 800 to get to Highway 1, because I know there's a lot of traffic going on about trucks going out of the quarry down 1000 straight out to 32.

Joe Copeland said that's what they're looking at now as far as giving us an idea of different scenarios that we can do and giving us some costs on what it's going to take to do that. In the meantime, we met out on site and a 1000 West, we don't know what shape it is underneath, how much asphalt is on it. So, we're going to have some cores done on that road to kind of get an idea of what, how much strength we there in the roadway. So, no, they're working on it right now.

Gary Friend said I guess I just want to, in my mind when we were talking about the stone quarry, we're mainly looking at getting out to Highway 1.

Joe Copeland said right.

Gary Friend said not 1000 West, as an alternate route. So, we're using 1000 West, or they're using, the trucks are using it.

Joe Copeland said just to get down to 800 and across. Coming out of the stone quarry.

Gary Friend said to Highway 1?

Joe Copeland said taking, coming out of the stone quarry, going south and then taking 800 over to State Road 1.

Gary Friend said east?

Joe Copeland said yeah.

Gary Friend said these trucks aren't going all the way to 32?

Joe Copeland said you mean now?

Gary Friend said yeah.

Joe Copeland said I don't know. I asked Jay that question and Jay wasn't sure.

Gary Friend said I think there's some discussion that they're running all the way to 32 down 1000.

Joe Copeland said well there's some question about signage down there at that location. And I pretty much, I told Jay, I said, because they're running 900 West and they're running, there was another one down there. But anyway, I asked him, I said what road do you not want them to take and he said 900 West, north of 32. He said it's not in very good shape. So, I said so you'd prefer them to take the other, the alternative route and use it.

Joe Copeland said 900 and take it, the other route, because it's in a lot better shape. And I said well, sign it that way. Put some signs up that says, you know, no thru trucks over a certain tonnage or something like that to discourage the trucks from taking that route. And put them on the route that you want them to take. They're looking for a short cut. They don't want to back track over to 1 and then come down to 32 and then go west. They're just looking for a short cut.

Gary Friend said right.

Joe Copeland said yeah. So, I, they're going to do it. The question is, what road do you want them to use?

Gary Friend said right. I thought the initial discussion was working with the Fairview quarry, US Aggregate, to get them to Highway 1. And somehow, I was thinking when you're saying you were just doing 1200 just from 800 to the quarry, you're not addressing the road all the way to 32?

Joe Copeland said no, we're not addressing all the way to 32.

Gary Friend said my understanding, we have a large truck traffic going all the way to 32?

Joe Copeland said now?

Gary Friend said yeah.

Joe Copeland said I asked Jay that question and Jay didn't know that they were running out of there heavy. So, I said where the trucks are going, and he wasn't sure.

Mike said wouldn't, I mean, it wouldn't make sense for them to go over to 1000 West then come back east on 800.

Gary Friend said right.

Joe Copeland said right.

Mike said I mean, that's backtracking because they can come right out of the quarry to 800.

Joe Copeland said if they're going north. If they're going north, that would be the way they'd want to go. They'd want to, right. But if they're going west, and going south, then yeah, that's a whole different ball game. It would be down 1000.

Mike said it's three quarters of a mile out of their way, which is a mile and a half out of their way. And it keeps them off a county road, puts them on a state highway. I know the danger road, still got the danger. I guess it's safer to turn south on 1 then it would be turning North. I think we, in my mind, we would want to discourage them to stay off 1000 West.

Joe Copeland said you can do that.

Mike said and especially if we're talking about rebuilding them a safer intersection there and spending the money. We already spent \$38,000.00 to investigate this thing. And if they're going to take over 1000 West, we don't need to do anything.

Joe Copeland said there're signs.

Mike said if we spend that money on 1000 West, make it a highway.

Joe Copeland said there're load limit signs available.

Mike said those work as long as you have somebody patrol.

Joe Copeland said right, exactly. I mean, I, have I had to use them in other locations, yeah, in other counties, I sure have.

Mike said I assume they're not US Aggregate trucks, they're independent contractors loading up, up there.

Joe Copeland said sure. That's what most of them will be, yeah.

Mike said and maybe we, I don't know, I don't know how we go about controlling that.

Gary Friend said that's the kind of question, I think it's getting more that the truckers are taking the path of least resistance, obviously. But I don't see them going down 800 to 1 and going all the way down and going, then they'll have to go east again another mile. Or they'll shoot down 900, so both roads are at risk.

Joe Copeland said some way we have to discourage those trucks from taking that route.

Gary Friend said how do we keep them off county roads. What's the legal aspect? Is there one?

Joe Copeland said load limit.

Gary Friend said can we make them, is there anything we can really do?

Joe Copeland said an exempt agricultural traffic. That's what we were doing.

Gary Friend said yeah, an exempt agricultural traffic, the seasonal traffic.

Joe Copeland said yeah.

Gary Friend said yeah, I was, I think we're going to have a real serious issue going down 1200 all the way.

Meeks said because you have to enforce it. You have to send somebody out there.

Joe Copeland said you're going to have to write a few tickets to get the point across.

Meeks said the load limit problem, we've had that problem before, you have to get scales.

Gary Friend said on the load limit, yeah, that's just.

Meeks said we don't have scales and the state won't come. The state has scales but they won't show up.

Gary Friend said yeah, I think the load limit is one thing, but I think it'll increase traffic there's a lot of homes going down through there.

Joe Copeland said how about legally signage that says no thru trucks over a certain load limit, so many tons? Tons are pretty easy.

Meeks said well you could do that but we would not be able to enforce it because we again, don't have the scales.

Joe Copeland said if they have a weight ticket, is that enough to do it?

Meeks said when you stop them that's when it's the problem. We had that when they did that frost law, like 14 years ago. And the problem was, they weren't thru traffic, I have a destination.

Gary Friend said I did get an email from Chad Roots said he'd met with the owner of this parcel right here, and it didn't go well. That's all I heard.

Meeks said I think it might just be more, you know, you go to the quarry and some information for their people. They need to disseminate that to the people picking those things up. I mean, quarry people could tell them.

Gary Friend said okay, so, I guess, what's the best route to try to handle it.

Mike said I suppose load limit would be a starting place.

Joe Copeland said you could put up no thru trucks over so many ton.

Gary Friend said we would have to make this an ordinance right?

Joe Copeland yeah, to write a ticket, yeah.

Meeks said then you'd have to get scales to write a ticket, or you won't be able to write a ticket.

Gary Friend said unless can we leave the weight limits out and put it to tri-axle truck just to discourage. I understand trying to run around with the scales.

Mike said would the officer has probable cause to look at the driers weight ticket?

Meeks said well I mean, that's not going to help. I mean, the weight ticket is not going to be sufficient. We would need to have the scales to prove it in court.

Joe Copeland said if Art's officers are busy, in another county we have, we did hire off duty officers to patrol the area at certain times and write the tickets. And we were able to get them. I mean, that's not a problem.

Gary Friend said did it work; did it deter them?

Joe Copeland said it slowed down I think. We were having such a problem in Henry when 70 was being worked on truckers were using county roads all over the place. We put up signage and they weren't listening, so we hired some off-duty officers and they started writing tickets. And did it slow them down, yeah, I think it slowed them down some. Word got out. Their GPS was telling them to go that way, and that was part of the problem.

Gary Friend said okay, I mean I can reach out to the stone quarry at some point I will, I mean this week, I'll talk to them and see what we can do as the next step.

Mike said tell them what we're thinking about.

Gary Friend said what we're thinking about doing, yeah, putting some strong ordinances in to stop that traffic going down 1000 W. And it's more than that too, it puts all those trucks right out to Monroe Central High School, through curve, a minor S curve, down on 1000 W.

Joe Copeland said most of them will probably be triaxle.

Gary Friend said and then I guess the next question is going to be is do we want to force them to turn to the east on 1 and get to Farmland to 32 and 1 or they'll just go down 900 and end up that road will be destroyed in a couple of years. That's a nice road too.

Meeks said you want to put them on the highways.

Gary Friend said yeah, you want to leave them on the highway. You want to keep them off, because it's easy to go down 1, just go straight to 32, down 900. Anybody would. We need to route them to 1 as fast as we can, which is 800 North and then keep them on the highways from there.

Joe Copeland said so they don't, they don't want to take the jog, they want to go straight. Yeah, you're right.

Gary Friend said and then I'll speak to Chad Roots to see if there's any opportunity to get this issue here on 800, get that S curve out of there, or that sharp turn out of there. It's not a 100% clear, but I think we've got a plan to move forward.

Mike said I think so.

Joe Copeland said so you say Chad did talk to that property owner?

Gary Friend said I got an email where he said he talked to the property owner and it didn't go well.

Joe Copeland said of course, he'll be compensated for what we would do.

Gary Friend said that's all I have. Thank you, Joe.

Mike said anything else for Joe?

Gary Girton said no, I think that's a good plan. I think adopting the ordinance and then giving the quarry information to encourage the truckers.

Mike said can we, Joe, can we define the type of truck in the ordinance?

Joe Copeland said I've not done that before. Weight is usually the way they do it.

Meeks said weight is almost always how we would do it.

Mike said okay. Anything else, Gary?

Gary Friend said nothing.

Gary Girton – SBOA Audit

Mike said Gary Girton, do you have anything?

Gary Girton said I'd just like to say that I sat through the exit from the auditors and Laura and her group should be commended for the work well done, because they had a couple, I guess one issue, but really it wasn't our fault, it was just the fact that we couldn't get the date in, Laura couldn't get the date we needed to pass it on, but anyway, a very good report and that's something that's hard to obtain and takes a lot of work by everybody there in here office. Should be commended.

Mike said okay. Job well done Laura.

Laura said thank you.

Gary Friend said I agree.

Mike Wickersham – Letter from Demeter Land Development, Letter from Gabe Bogue trucking, Vision Trail

Mike said anything else? Well, I think we all received the letter from Demeter Land Development.

Gary Friend said yes.

Mike said and I'm not sure which parcel they're identifying, 102.05-acre parcel in Randolph County. Is that all around the County Home?

Laura said it looked like it. I pulled it up on the map by the parcel number. It looked like what's over there around it.

Mike said and just leased it as pasture land for 3 years. They want to lease it as solar land. So, do we want to respond to Scott, just tell him that at this time, we're not interested in leasing our 102.05 acres as solar?

Gary Friend said that's what I would do.

Mike said okay. Are you okay with that? Okay. Want me to write that letter? It doesn't need to be a legal letter, does it?

Meeks said just email them back. Not interested, thank you.

Mike said did you get an email from them?

Meeks said I did not get an email.

Mike said I'll send them a letter back.

Meeks said okay.

Mike said and then I also received an email from Gabe Bogue Trucking and from Gabe Bogue of Gabe Bogue Trucking and he is interested in buying or leasing the county, the old county highway garage, and he understands that there may be of use right now with the long-term recovery committee. And wanted to know if we would have any interest in talking to him about leasing the inside and or outside for his truck parking.

Gary Friend said no, I don't at this time.

Mike said and, I've got one no. Do you want to talk to him? He would be willing to come in. We've turned down, we had one lease agreement that didn't work very well. I think this, if we lease to Gabe, he's a local guy and has a business here and I think it probably would have a more positive effect than the last one, but still, our talk has been that we were going to use that building for our own equipment storage of highway and excess sheriff's department excess county equipment. And I think Gary is still maintaining that

Gary Girton said well, interest in it changed after we were told that we were going to have to build, possibly build on out at the new county facility in order to have enough area in order to keep our equipment. And it makes sense that we utilize the facility that we have and not have to spend additional money to build on if we could do what little it would take to maintain and correct to make it work for our facility.

Gary Friend said I don't mind saying it, I think we have a bit of a responsibility to monitor what goes into that particular area of the county's housing market, and I don't think that's a good fit out there for trucking company parking. And I agree with what you said, I'm not in any mood to, it's nothing against any trucking company, I just don't believe that's the right spot for something of that nature.

Mike said what's your thought, Gary?

Gary Girton said just what I said.

Mike said okay. I'm going to take that is you would want to keep it for our use as well.

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said so, I'll reach out to Gabe and tell him that we're not interested at this time. Then the final thing I have is somewhat disappointing news for me. But it also is positive, as you are well aware, the Randolph Vision Trail received a little over 4 million dollars from the state of Indiana, the county matched it with a little less than a million dollars to build the trail from the Wilbur

Wright Train in Henry County across Henry County highway, Randolph County highway into property that we had secured in Randolph County and had commitments from, I found out in the last several weeks that the, after negotiating and talking with A & R Pipeline who owns the right-of-way from County Road 950 South east of Losantville, they own the right-of-way from there to the end of where we are proposing the trail, which would have been Highway 1 or thereabouts and really Main Street in Modoc, and they, even though we showed that our right-of-way, our trail was going to be off the pipeline, away from the pipeline by a minimum of 25 feet, that they are not interested in us having a trail on their property. And that property amount to about 2 miles of an approximate 5-mile trail. So, I talked to DNR, Department of Natural Resources, about modifying our scope, and taking that portion out, and going back West to two property owners that we had not secured prior to our trail application, and that was the reason we were using county roads, and they agreed that we could adjust our focus to spend the money that was earmarked for the A & R Pipeline area into the two additional properties that would be between, for general purposes, between Cardinal Greenway and Wilbur Wright Trail. So, we've kind of taken a re-focus and are going to, one property owner is interested in participating and we're still negotiating with the second property owner. And I'm just bringing you that information because the county is invested in this trail, and ultimately, when the trail is done, it will then be off, it will be a dedicated bicycle/pedestrian trail from the Wilbur Wright Trail in Henry County to the east side of Losantville at 950 South, which will not then go on county roads. So, that's the plan at this point. And I guess I'm hoping you guys continue to support us in that.

Gary Friend said I do. I think it would be better to get off the road isn't it?

Mike said well, it is somewhat better, yes.

Gary Friend said are we, this is going to hook to Cardinal still?

Mike said it will hook to Cardinal. It'll cross Cardinal. That's never been in jeopardy. It's always going to cross the Cardinal Greenway. It's just it was going on to Modoc and the disappointing thing about A & R, a county corporate citizen, them not participating is, the plan would have been to continue to use their right-of-way east of Lynn if that was possible. But I would say that's not in my lifetime.

Gary Friend said still might put the Wilbur Wright to the Cardinal Greenway off a road.

Mike said and through Losantville, yeah. So, that's all I have this morning, which brings us to any citizens that are here that would have comments, questions or want to speak out?

Gary Friend – Military Tank on Courthouse lawn upkeep

Gary Friend said before you close, Mike, I'd mention I've reached out twice about our haven't gotten anything back, but I've got another number to call. It's more of a curator of this. I'm still working on what we can do. Thought I'd mention that.

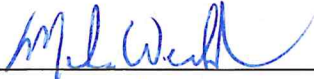
Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

None

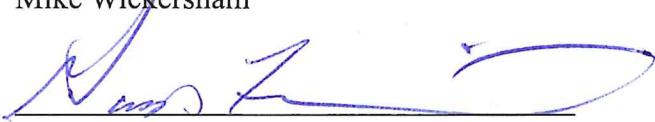
Adjournment

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

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



Mike Wickersham



Gary Friend



Gary Girton