# **Randolph County Commissioners**

# September 16, 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. And I don't see any council person here, so, probably not going to have a council update.

# <u>Deb McGriff-Tharp – Request for Grant Application</u>

Mike said next item is Deb McGriff-Tharp for a request for grant application and Deb's not here either. But we do have a copy of the grant application, and it's for the Children's Advocates of Randolph County. And Deb McGriff-Tharp and Judge Toney are the department heads, and it's a grant for 2025. It's a pass-through grant that the county receives the funds and passes it on to them. It's for amount of \$21,000.00 and I believe this is one she seeks every year and received every year.

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

<u>Debra Johnting –Solar Ordinance 2024-17 (amendment), Building permit Refund</u> Mike said Debra Johnting, Area Planning Commission. Morning Debra.

Debra Johnting said morning.

Mike said you have a zoning ordinance to consider this morning?

Debra Johnting said yes.

Mike said and an amendment to our solar ordinance?

Debra Johnting said yes.

Mike said if I read this correctly. And this was approved by the Area Planning Commission by a vote of 9 to 0 with 4 members absent. Were you there, Gary?

Gary Friend said I was.

Mike said do you have any, either of you have any comments about this amendment?

Gary Friend said no. I think it was considered quite well. I think it's built with some protection for residential areas.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend said and, anything near not being acceptable would go to BZA, it's another overlaying look at anything beyond 10 kilowatts. Is that correct, Debra?

Debra McGriff-Tharp said yes. It comes between residential and the large solar fields. And residential, commercial areas, and ag limited as well. For businesses and schools, the first plan that we got, not only didn't fit, but they didn't bring in much of a plan. Didn't know how far from the lines they would be, what kind of screening they wanted to do, exactly where it was going. So, this will also force them to come to the table with an actual plan of where it's going to go, how it affects the neighbors, the neighbors will know it's coming in. And they'll come to a hearing so it's not just my decision on whether it should be there or not.

Mike said and this affects solar projects with over a 10-kilowatt output only?

Debra McGriff-Tharp said yes.

Mike said so somebody that wants to put one front of the house is not going to be bothered.

Gary Friend said except for engineering, anybody must have engineering

Debra McGriff-Tharp said yes.

Mike said Gary, do you have any comments?

Gary Girton said I think this is good that we have this being developed because it's not good that. There's not, I guess, in a few words, there's not enough thought put behind some of these or has been and there's not been enough input put into by anyone in authority. And we need to, these people, I don't think they're doing these things intentionally, but they're just not aware of what needs to be done and how it should be done.

Debra said and in 2020, we were looking at residential in the large solar fields and this wasn't really on the table. And now, now it is.

Mike said good. We have an ordinance number 2024-17, an ordinance to amend the tax and unified zoning ordinance of Randolph County, Indiana. And as we've discussed, it affects the

solar portion of that ordinance. At this time, I'd entertain a motion to approve ordinance number 2024-17 without reading and by title only.

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

Mike said is this an ordinance that we want to suspend the rules and pass it today, or do we want to wait and have a second reading at our next meeting?

Gary Friend said I kind of think it's really residential influence that we could pass at the next meeting.

Mike said okay. Is that okay with you, Gary?

Gary Girton said I agree.

Mike said okay, so we'll have a second reading at our next meeting Debra, and we'll wait and see if we have any comments or concerns from citizens. The other item is a building permit refund.

Gary Nale said I'm Gary Nale with TK Constructors. Have a customer that was a tornado victim. My understanding is the lot that he had was narrow, had a partial basement, wasn't really able to rebuild there, had a price range where he was going to receive funds from the insurance company. His parents owned a lot out on North US 27 and they were going to give him a lot or us to build. We thought we were going to do that. We got the building permit and the more and more he thought about it, he just decided that he didn't want to go through with that. So, he's changed his mind on building there, so, we'd already paid for the permit. We're just asking to get part of our money back for the permit.

Debra Johnting said there was one, Randy went out there one time inspect the electrical, so he said as long as we would take off \$35.00, which is what an electrical permit would be, but he didn't care if we, if you decided to give the \$440 back, it will never be used.

Mike said you'll be recommending that, or he would be?

Debra Johnting said I would, yeah, he would.

Mike said I guess if the inspector and the office is recommending a refund, I'm not sure I want to get in the way of that.

Gary Girton said I move to accept their recommendation.

Mike said have a motion to accept and refund this building permit of \$440.00 to TK Construction. Do I have a second?

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

Debra Johnting said it would be permit number 15322.

Mike said anything else for us Debra?

Debra Johnting said that's it.

Gary Nale said thank you.

## Brad Mullen – EMS Billing Company contract

Mike said Brad Mullen, our EMS director with a billing company contract. Morning Brad. How's it going?

Brad Mullen said morning. Good. Broke ground in Farmland are working quite diligently this morning when I drove by and got it all leveled out and laying bricks when I drove by this morning. So, they're making progress.

Mike said that's good. So, Med-Bill.

Brad Mullen said yes. We're changing billing companies and there are several reasons we want to change. The current billing company we're using charges us 12.8% of our monthly income, and the new billing company is 5.85. They give us education that helps us bill better for this. It helps us bill better for Medicaid and Medicare. They're closer. They're from Indianapolis. They're willing to come down when we change over to help pull all the runs from our prior billing company so we'd make sure not to lose any of those runs so we can bill for us. They'll also do a study to see how our rates are. And they can help us out if we're kind of low, to have our rates up a little bit higher. And if we have any problems with them, they're willing to sent a representative down to us to do on site, try to figure out what's going on so we can do it. And that's a very compatible with our new charting system that we changed to. They came highly recommended by several EMS companies. I went around and talked to Jay County. They switched to them. They said they had nothing but great luck with them. They came in and actually sat down with them, transferred all their run sheets from the prior billing company to the new billing company, and didn't lose hardly any money at all. And they still got to bill those run sheets. They're very easy to work with. One of the many things that I like about them is that we will no longer have any money at the station. Now, sometimes, we get checks delivered to us, and it get's kind of nervous not having lock boxes out there and trying to get them to the bank and stuff like that. That would be all handled by Med-Bill.

Mike said so, this 5.85%?

Brad Mullen said yeah, 5.85%.

Mike said is that fixed for the life of this contract?

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

Mike said I read something that it was for the initial billing period. So, that is not separate or distinct from the 6-year contract?

Brad Mullen said from what I was understanding, Dalton was the one that dealt with them a lot, on actually getting it up and going. We are understanding it was a 5.85 the entire time, because we told them that were doing the 12.8% and they said that this is what it would be.

Mike said and that savings would be over and above the \$3,000.00 set up fee that we have?

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

Mike said and then, it is a 6-year contract?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Mike said that seems like an awful long time. Is there a reason it needs to be 6 years?

Brad Mullen said no, I don't know if that's just a normal, I mean, honestly, we've been with AIM for 25 years, and I don't know how often that got renewed or how long it was. I mean, one of our main reasons that we're wanting to change is we're having some issues with our runs that we're taking, not being able to be downloaded. And I don't like being behind on runs, because that's revenue coming into the county.

Mike said I'm not questioning Med-Bill, their service, and your confidence in them, I just I'm just hesitant to sign the 6-year contract.

Gary Friend said 6 is a peculiar number, usually, it would up to 5. Did they just go for 6 just because of?

Brad Mullen said the people I've talked to, that's what theirs was also, was six years.

Mike said that's where I saw it, paragraph 8, term and termination, this agreement shall be in full force and effect for 5 years. Then the dates that it covers is 6 years. So, I'm not sure what Med-Bill's intent here is. The contract is in conflict with the term.

Brad Mullen said we can contact them.

Mike said I guess I would be more inclined to accept the contract as written if paragraph, Roman numeral 8, term and termination sub-paragraph A said 6 years.

Gary Friend said page 7.

Mike said yeah, page 7. It's got 5 years in there. And I will say for me, 5 years would be a little more palatable than 6.

Gary Friend said I'm with you. I'd rather see the term of the contract match paragraph 8, 5 years.

Mike said what are you thinking, Gary?

Gary Girton said I don't disagree. It sounds like they've done some research and so on, and I think the service benefits the company, but that's kind of misleading when we've got 6 and 5, in the same paragraph.

Brad Mullen said and we can contact them this afternoon.

Mike said I think we balance that and it doesn't go into effect until the 1st of January.

Brad Mullen said right, right. We have some time.

Mike said so, we have some time to rectify that. And the attorney's reviewed this, and you're okay with it?

Meeks said yep, if that's what you guys want to do.

Mike said I will say that I do have a question, and maybe, where is that. Medicare, it's in the fees, what is a revalidation another year?

Brad Mullen said we have to go through and prove, it's like a 200-page report. We just done that last year, right before Duane left. So, we're good for 3 years on that. And it goes through where we justify, how we bill, what the rates are, make sure we're complying with Medicaid, Medicare, rules and regulations. It's kind of a validation that has to be done every 3 years and you have to come up with a bunch of, your staff.

Mike said do you do that yourself now?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Mike said and they're willing to do that for you?

Brad Mullen said yes. They're willing to do that or they're willing to take over all court orders, all requests for run sheets. Basically, if we get an order from a court saying hey, we need this run sheet, I email it to them, they take care of all that.

Mike said so do they seek out Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for us at the end of a term or is that still with the other firm we use?

Brad Mullen said no, it will be with this one.

Mike said they'll seek out their reimbursements?

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

Mike said what are their charges for that? I'm talking about the, we file every year, we file an audit with Medicare and we have a firm that collects the difference in our audit.

Gary Friend said is that what you referred to, they were going to go back and re-review all the claims and make sure nothing was lost?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Gary Friend said and that, their way of saying, we need that clarified further.

Brad Mullen said okay.

Mike said yeah, I was just, I can't figure that name that does that now. I'll get you that information.

Brad Mullen said okay.

Gary Friend said myself, these two little details here, I don't have any problem with this contract, if they make the corrections.

Brad Mullen said yeah, we can touch back with them and I can get them to you guys.

Mike said I'll find out, I'll check that out. Mike said okay. So, why don't we just put it on the agenda for the first meeting in October?

Brad Mullen said okay.

Mike said and hopefully, we'll be able to sign this. Is that okay with you, Gary?

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said okay. Thanks Brad.

## Carol Weaver & Brian Hill – Losantville sewage project

Mike said Carol Weaver, Brian Hill, Losantville sewage project.

Greg Beumer said commissioners, good morning. With me today, I have Kim Ring, who is on the town council, Carol Weaver is the clerk treasurer of the town of Losantville. Matt Worth is with Commonwealth Engineering and they're the project engineer on the Losantville Waste water project. We want to thank you again. Several months ago, the commissioners obligated \$275,000.00 towards the private connections for the waste water project. Of course, in the town of Losantville, they're putting in a collection system so they can send their sewage to Modoc's treatment plant. At that time, we felt, and then we did have the commitment of USDA Rural Development that they were going to participate financially in that project. And they still will,

with an added caveat that we learned later. And that was that the town would have to take ownership of the private lines on private property that we're going to be installing. The town council, for various reasons, said they're not real interested in owning those private lines. For future, I mean, down the road, you can probably see the maintenance and upkeep issues of someone who, let's just say they're flushing things down their toilet that they shouldn't, and every time their line blocks, the town would be liable. So, we're here to ask you for an additional funding. We have a commitment from the general contractor on the collection system project to install those private lines, and his commitment is to do all 123 connections for \$450,000.00. So, we're \$175,000.00 short. USDA will pay for all the soft costs, so as you might guess, there is some significant engineering that will go in with this finding septic tanks on properties. We have to cap those off and so on. So, USDA said without owning the lines, they'll pay the soft costs. We're here today to ask for your consideration for additional funding for the project, and we're here to answer questions.

Mike said first, let me say that we used energy renewable funds for the 275, so, council participated in that decision as well. It wasn't just commissioners making that decision, the council did. I guess my first question would be, what happens if you don't get the funds from the county?

Carol Weaver said then the individual residents will be responsible for the difference from what we provide with the \$275,000. And we just feel like it's a benefit to have one contractor to do everything exactly the way it needs to be done so that we know and we're re-assured that all guidelines will be followed. And we have a contractor willing to do it that knows our land area and everything about it very well. We think it would be a great asset to the community if we could provide this service so that we know and then it's all done, probably quick, all guidelines are taken care of, and if for some reason, we didn't get additional funds, then we would have to decide how much each property owner would receive of the \$275,000 according to their need. And then they would be responsible for the rest.

Mike said so how do you go about making the connection? Obviously, you have to have consent from the property owner, or do you force that on them, or how does that work? I guess I curious.

Greg Beumer said the document that's required is called the right of entry. And it's only for the term of the construction. So, it's sort of like a temporary construction easement in a way. But it will be called a right of entry, and we will have to have that assigned and document from every property owner.

Mike said and do you think you would get objection if you charged them anything for this?

Carol Weaver said well, it would be a hardship on some people. I know that it would be a hardship. And that would probably be the main objection if the resources of very low income. And, that's our concern that it would be the hardship on the homeowners and getting it done in a reasonable amount of time.

Kim Ring said and that's actually been the main topic of the residents is how are we going to afford whatever that cost is going to be.

Mike said because they're going to have a sewage bill as well?

Carol Weaver said yes.

Mike said have we, I know at one time, we were anticipating what that would be. Do you have any more current number on that?

Greg Beumer said what we're looking at tentatively, now, construction is not done yet, so don't know the final cost of the project or the final debt number. Right now, for 4,000 gallons, it looks like it will be in the approximate area of 90 to \$99.00 a month. And I might add to that, residents are now paying a sewage fee even though they are not receiving those services. That's a requirement of all USDA projects. The town has to build up a reserve, and so, residents are already paying for something that they feel well, we're not getting anything.

Carol Weaver said they're paying \$50.00 a month right now.

Kim Ring said and we just started that September 1st.

Gary Friend said what's their water portion? I know this comes from L&M, right?

Carol Weaver said uh huh.

Gary Friend said how much is that bill for a residence?

Carol Weaver said L&M is going to handle the billing and everything for us. So, it's going to come on their water bill as a water bill and a sewage bill. I think the minimum water bill is like \$33.

Gary Friend said so that \$33 you're talking there is added on to the \$99.00?

Carol Weaver said yes.

Mike said \$50 will go away?

Carol Weaver said yeah.

Kim Ring said yes, increased once it's up and running.

Mike said okay. It almost sounds as if the residents aren't afforded the opportunity to hook on without charge, we're not going to have very many people hook on.

Carol Weaver said well they will be required to hook on by USDA. And I mean, it could create a debt for them.

Gary Friend said they'll get billed anyway?

Meeks said it's going to be built and you have to hook on then.

Kim Ring said there is no exemptions for anyone in town.

Greg Beumer said that's for the people who live in the corporate limits in the town.

Carol Weaver said residents, yes.

Greg Beumer said any other connections are voluntary as that line runs through the country. But the money we're talking about is not for those folks.

Gary Friend said and you want them on anyway, out of town, also because that helps.

Greg Beumer said the more customers, the better, yes.

Carol Weaver said definitely, yes.

Gary Friend said so, got anymore thoughts, Mike?

Mike said no, I don't.

Gary Friend my thought is we've been with you all the way through this, and need it and want it, and have to have it, and I'm not opposed to asking the council to go to the commissioners for the \$175,000 to finish this project. I think it's hard to get the exact price for it up front unless you ask for it in the beginning and then come and give it back. So, I'd appreciate going for a littler amount until your set and ready to go. I think we have to complete this, and I'm going personally, to go forward.

Mike said Gary, have you got any thoughts?

Gary Girton said no, I go to their meetings and they know my thoughts.

Mike said so someone want to move approval?

Gary Girton said I'll move that, well, I'll let Gary do it.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion that we provide the \$175,000.00 more for this project from renewable energy funds.

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

Mike said there you go.

Carol Weaver said thank you so much.

Meeks said it takes council approval. It takes county council approval.

Greg Beumer said and so, Laura, you'll have us on the council's October meeting?

Laura said yeah. I think it's the 8<sup>th</sup> if I'm not mistaken.

Gary Girton said I think one point too, that needs to be made, which not everyone knows, that is the majority of renewable energy funds come from Union Township.

Gary Friend said a lot of them.

Gary Girton said right now, it's what, 90% or more.

Gary Friend said is it really?

Mike said I think it probably is.

Gary Friend said yeah, solar fields are down there too.

Gary Girton said yeah.

Mike said okay.

Greg Beumer said appreciate it.

## Perry Knox – Supplemental agreement Bridge 32 and Task Order #5

Mike said Perry Knox, Supplemental agreement bridge 32 and Task Order #5. Perry is with SJCA.

Mike said Jay on vacation this morning?

Nate Moore said yeah.

Perry Knox said and Joe's out today, so he called me and asked me to answer any questions you might have.

Mike said you came, didn't bring anybody else from SJCA here?

Perry Knox said no.

Mike said just you?

Perry Knox said yes.

Mike said okay. Supplemental agreement, bridge 32. Why do bridges care about pollution in the river?

Gary Friend said that's a good question too.

Perry Knox said it's a Federal requirement and you know, when there are areas of the White River that have, that have been on a map showing that there's potential contaminates in the soil. And then environmental safety assessment for the safety of the people doing the construction, disturbing the sediment, and any of those contaminates that might become evident, and what to, how to be safe and how to take samples and what to do with those samples and that process.

Mike said and it's my understanding that the other Federal bridge project we have north of town on Old 27, this consultant fee is included in that engineering.

Perry Knox said that's correct, yes.

Mike said and this is a \$10,800.00 additional design service cost as part of this project?

Perry Knox said yes.

Mike said and that's what this is about. Sounds like it's something we have to do because we have to find out if there's pollution in the river. We just can't assume that, but, based upon the, because that's what, a mile from the other bridge, a mile and a half from the other bridge?

Perry Knox said I don't know exactly how far it is, but, yeah.

Mike said any questions of Perry?

Gary Girton said no.

Gary Friend said no.

Gary Girton said I'll move to approve.

Gary Friend said if we're going to build the bridge, we have to do it right. I'll second. Do you have a funding source?

Mike said Joe source was the same fund that the original \$291,920 came out of, and I don't recall off hand, what source that was.

Laura said I'll look it up.

Perry Knox said and that's what he had indicated to me, he wanted the source in the same fund the original design was from.

Laura said I can look it up. That's fine.

Mike said so, the motion would be to approve supplemental agreement number 1 and fund this \$10,800.00 out of the same fund that the original contract was funded out of?

Gary Girton said correct.

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

Mike said that says what fund. And then we have task order number 5, a supplemental to the prime agreement with SJCA, and this is a request for a task order to, not to exceed \$20,000.00 for culvert replacement inspection.

Perry Knox said on-call inspection, this is a not to exceed task order. It's pretty much if the county needs help with any type of inspections on culvert installations by local contractors, they can call us and we'll put an inspector out there.

Gary Friend said so are we having trouble, I mean, with culverts being installed correctly?

Perry Knox said there are a couple of culverts that Joe would have like to have seen installed a little differently.

Gary Friend said is that something that an inspection would have seen to it that it actually was done?

Perry Knox said yes. Absolutely, yes.

Mike said we have one now that as I understand it, according to Joe, it's culvert 1278 on 500 West north of 600 South, and they have some issues there that Jay is requested the contractor to come back 3 different times and they've not come back to fix it.

Nate Moore said uh huh.

Gary Friend said I guess on the inspection would be before the payments were made, which is the hook to get them back, right? They're not paid before the inspection. If they are, how's this inspection going to change getting somebody back if you can't get them back now.

Perry Knox said well the inspection would be, you'd have an on-site inspector during the time of installation.

Mike said so it would be prior to total fees. And we might pay them something before that?

Perry Knox said yeah, I haven't had any, I mean, normal inspection process is, especially, when we're on call, part-time inspection is there are certain events, like for example, the day they set the box culvert with the crane, you would want an inspector there. Then they would make sure that it's set at proper height.

Gary Friend said who organizes and coordinates that?

Perry Knox said the county, it's, the county would call us and set, you know that, the contractor notifies the county that you know, maybe next Wednesday, they're going to install you know, then the county would reach out to us and say we want an inspector there, because this is an on-call contract with a not-to-exceed, just an hourly rate. So, it's you know, we'd be out there for.

Gary Friend said I guess what I'm getting at, the whole thing is, I understand all that, inspecting, I want to make sure if we have inspections and we are paying inspectors, that the end result still doesn't have an inspector saying hey, you've got a culvert and it's still not right. I want this process to say it doesn't go forward unless it's right.

Perry Knox said well yeah, the inspector is in contact with the county. So, if there is an issue, if there's a confrontation if you will, or an issue on site.

Gary Friend said disagreement, whatever.

Perry Knox said yeah, the inspector will reach out to the county and say hey, you know, I'm telling the contractor to do this, they're not doing this, then that will bring out the county.

Gary Friend said do they give the inspector in the county the authority then to stop them?

Perry Knox said yeah, the inspector, yes, absolutely, yes. Our inspectors are INDOT certified, lots of experience.

Gary Friend said well I believe all that, I'm just talking about the process.

Perry Knox said the reason for this is there are no, there's no written set of specifications for you know, because, Joe is doing a really nice job at putting in, having culvert installed throughout the county without incurring engineering fees. So, because of that, there are no like, written set of specifications.

Mike said a little bit of trust.

Perry Knox said I mean, there's some communication like I want this culvert put in, I want it at this depth, you know, and then, and what happens is when it's done, you know, Joe or somebody from the highway department goes out and says well, you know, there's been certain culverts where the rip rap is not in the right place or the culvert is not in the right depth, or certain things are not done the way that they should have been done. So, this gives Joe a little more of a reach, you know, with an inspector that can come out and say hey, we're going to be here today to make sure that this part is done correctly.

Gary Friend said so, the inspector gets there and something else has happened, and this culvert has got to be removed, this just helps us in the legal end of it, getting it redone?

Perry Knox said that's correct, yes. That's correct, but again it just gives another arm, you know, for the county to have somebody that understands culvert installations and you know, Joe's wishes, you know, that these get done correctly. It's an on-call per request.

Gary Friend said how much time you need to get somebody there if the highway department says they're going to be there Wednesday and it's Tuesday afternoon?

Perry Knox said it's our availability, so, you know, it's, I can't speak for their director of construction inspection, which is Robin Warner, but you know, they'll reach out to Robin and Robin will schedule somebody. But we have several inspectors that live out in this area.

Mike said well and the contractor would be advised that we now have an inspector?

Perry Knox said that's correct, yes.

Nate Moore said they normally give us about a week of notice before they set the boxes and stuff like that.

Mike said Ed, have you seen any issues with our culverts?

Ed Thornburg said very few. But there have been a couple.

Mike said well I got, Joe gave me a list of three, and one of them is, sounds like it has a lot of issues. I think it's probably a necessary evil.

Gary Friend said I do too.

Gary Girton said do you then, or is Joe to make the final inspection?

Perry Knox said yeah, Joe always, Joe always goes out and looks at the final product.

Gary Girton said okay. So, you're the interim?

Perry Knox said yes.

Gary Girton said interim inspector and Joe makes the final. So, that would help them from having, you know, if it's corrected while it's being done, technically, us having them dig it up and re-doing it.

Perry Knox said yeah, because that's time and materials. And it would be, you know, it would be a lot more cost to a county, and then, you know, who's really, I mean then it becomes a question that we don't want to pay for this, and that type of thing.

Mike said someone want to move approval?

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

Mike said anything else for us this morning? Okay. Thank you.

### Journey Home issues

Do you want to talk about the Journey Home?

Gary Friend said yes, I do.

Mike said Jake, you want to come up? Did you see the emails on the Journey Home, Gary? Morning Jake.

Jake Donham said morning guys.

Mike said did you get a fire alarm this morning?

Jake Donham said not this morning. Two of them last week within a 12-hour period.

Mike said so any, I guess, I've talked to Jake a couple of times through email about this matter, then I emailed Justin at the Journey Home. I've not heard back from him regarding my concerns. I didn't know if anybody had any questions of Jake?

Gary Friend said I do. I mean, you indicated it's in pretty rough shape as far as environment?

Jake Donham said environment conditions.

Gary Friend said I seen your picture this morning of the weekend's liquor bottles.

Jake Donham said yeah, and my dayshift girl at that building daily checks. And that's one of her spots that she checks is those bushes because she's found, it started about 6, 8 months ago, they started showing up there and gradually keep getting more and more. So, it's daily every morning, she's checking bushes and around the perimeter.

Gary Friend said the lease is up for renewal soon?

Jake Donham said I have no idea.

Mike said according to Justin, it is. He wants to come in and talk about a renewal.

Jake Donham said through last week, I had contacted one lady. She had been with the Journey Home quite some time. She recently started working across the street here for another Journey Home recovery site or something, so I contacted her last week on this situation, not knowing she was no longer employed there. And she said she was no longer working there due to funding issues.

Gary Friend she's no longer employed due to funding?

Jake Donham said yes. And said it didn't look like it was going to get better real quick. So, after Mike and I had emailed, all of you, he had spoke to me and had talked to Justin, I went to see Justin to get contact information and so forth, and it's just a different environment in there than it has been in quite some time.

Gary Friend said is Justin a local person?

Jake Donham said I have no idea. The Journey Home has changed workers so much that I don't even remember their names anymore because they won't be there in 6 months more than likely. They have rolled through employees, regular.

Gary Friend said do you know what the residential count is out there?

Jake Donham said I think they can only do 10 or 12 at a time. I'm not real sure exact numbers.

Gary said 15.

Jake Donham said maybe it's 15, I don't know. Some room have 3 beds, some have 4. But it's a different group.

Mike said well I would say we probably ought to see when our lease expires.

Gary Friend said I agree.

Mike said and so if you could get a full copy of that lease for us and email it to us.

Gary Friend said and how much is that lease for Randolph County?

Meeks said they don't pay anything.

Gary Friend said they don't pay anything?

Laura said I think it's \$9,000 a year.

Meeks said minimal, it's a minimal.

Jake Donham said it's a minimal square footage price.

Gary Girton said they pay 700 a month.

Mike said that's pretty cheap square footage. I think it's 750 a month, maybe?

Laura said yeah, I think you're right.

Jake Donham said I was thinking 5 to \$7.00 a square foot. It's minimal, yeah.

Gary Friend said and it's, could you give us an assessment of what it's going to take to put that place back into re-leasable condition, because it's not right now.

Jake Donham said not right, not with them being in there.

Gary Friend said okay. If you had an idea.

Jake Donham said I don't want to. We would have to turn that building upside down. I mean, right now, you're looking at all new flooring throughout pretty much. I mean the carpet is shot.

Mike said and I guess it's a matter of opinion as to how, they offer a service to veterans, how good that service is, is going to vary depending upon the management of the facility. And I think what I'd like to do is review the lease. Justin told us it's going to terminate. He wants to, he said was going to email me next week to talk about renewing the least. So, I think if that be the case, I think that is going to be putting Justin in the Journey Home on the agenda at our next meeting. And I guess, I'm hoping in the interim, he'll reply to my email, indicating he is taking steps to take care of the issues we've raised.

Jake Donham said yeah. I would welcome any one of you if you guys want to take a tour out there.

Gary Friend said I do.

Jake Donham said whenever is good for you, we could just stop in there and just say hey, we just want to kind of do a quick walk-through.

Gary Friend said I'll get with you.

Jake Donham said unless some things drastically happen over the weekend, I doubt.

Gary Friend said on the services of veterans, and I agree, other than, how many veterans of Randolph County do we actually serve? And second of all, I don't give veterans a pass for being drug addicts, that isn't PSTD related. Just because you were in the service and ended up just being, that's not the same thing in my view.

Mike said and I don't think that program does either.

Gary Girton said no.

Mike said I think the intent of the program was if that happens, you're out of here. You go about your own way. You served on the board for a short time.

Gary Girton said a long time.

Mike said I think they've lost sight of that mission because if they're allowing that to happen, they're not helping anybody. It never was set up just for Randolph County veterans. It was those that needed help.

Jake Donham said I've asked questions before from previous administration in there on are we doing background checks on these people, because with DCS, Head Start, GRIC program, a lot of kids. I want to make sure. It's kind of a gray area with confidentiality of the veterans and the people in there, but I just wanted, and I asked that question, and I never got a clear answer. The only answer I did get was we can check the state of Indiana pretty securely, but if they're from out of state, they're limited on what they can check. And that bothers me.

Mike said I guess I'm hoping I get a response.

Gary Friend said yep.

Mike said okay.

Gary Friend said before Jake goes, I have another line of question if we could. I have not been anywhere trying to find somebody from the tank. And the person that I was given to call left phone messages. But there's more, there're are some complaints coming from the pigeon problems in the portico.

Jake Donham said yeah, I was emailed on that by a couple different people last week.

Gary Friend said can we consider getting a professional wash down around the courthouse and have them do the tank only not blow the paint off it, tell him he'd have to hand wash it? That's what I'm looking at, and put a fungicide on there and stop the?

Jake Donham said yeah, the fungicide, I don't know on the tank as far as, I mean, some of the paint is already peeling. Anybody, I think anybody could probably power wash it and get it painted, and then the signature, the stuff that's on there, I would probably just get some vinyl stickers. The technology on those has come a long way, and just re-sticker it. I think that could be done pretty cost effective.

Gary Friend said do you think there're contractors out there that would be willing to, if Mike and Gary agree, to?

Jake Donham said I would think so. Only thing I could do is shop around, try to find somebody.

Gary Friend said power wash the courthouse areas, that are reasonable.

Jake Donham said yeah, yeah, yeah.

Gary Friend said and the final question, is there something that could be done, like a screen put up there to keep the birds from perching?

Jake Donham said so, on the pigeons, I've been in contact with the All Pets Exterminating. They have a route here for both of our buildings. I talked to Andy, the owner, last week. He said pigeons are kind of, obviously, we can't poison them, in a public area we can't kill them, so forth. You know, if you're home, do your own thing, that's your own thing. But here in public, no, it's not going to happen. He said, he recommended a couple ultrasonic devices. That's kind of a new technology thing. He said a lot of success with. I actually have two devices on order. So, what they'll do is they'll rotate enemy of the birds or predators of the birds, mimic that sound. So, you can set it for however long we want. It alternates every 8 different sounds, I think up to 8 different sounds of predators and it changes each time. He said in the past they had then where it would just be like one certain species. Well, the pigeons would get used to it. So, now they've got technology where it rolls every time it chimes, it's a different bird call or predator. And he said he's had really good luck with these. So, he would recommend trying those first. So, I have two of those on order. We're going to put them up in the attic and see if it works. If it doesn't, we'll move them to the outside. They're waterproof.

Gary Friend said I didn't know if the translucent style of stream events, that you really couldn't see from the ground, but it wouldn't allow them to get in there and perch.

Jake Donham said well, that's just the porch area.

Gary Friend said oh, I was talking about.

Jake Donham said when you in between these buildings, the new addition and the old, the other day when I walked, after I got off the phone with Mike, I walked out there and I stopped counting at 20 birds. There were 20 pigeons tucked up in there and on the roof. So, they're going to be, there's a lot more mess than just right there.

Meeks said you can see them from the judge's office.

Gary Friend said okay.

Jake Donham said yeah, and I don't know why, we've been in this after renovation, I've been here 17, 18 years, and we've never had a pigeon problem until this year.

Gary Friend said it's too dangerous everywhere else.

Jake Donham said or we're too nice here in Randolph County, is that what it is?

Mike said I had birds go nest in my guttering this year. I've never seen that before.

Meeks said with the hurricane and stuff?

Jake Donham said I don't know what's changed or what, but yes.

Meeks said I mean, the tornado changed.

Gary Friend said what do you think Mike? Do you think we can maybe plan something.

Mike said I think so. I think we, why would it hurt to go beyond, it sounds like we need to go beyond, if we clean it. That sounds like a good idea.

Jake Donham said yeah. So, I want to get the devices in. If we can get rid of the birds and then start looking real hard about doing a cleanup to try to find a one-stop shop, look at the tank and the bird situation, because Andy did mention, he said don't go out there and try to clean that up yourself. He said that pigeon feces is extremely dangerous. He said you need respirators and protective gear because he said he's seen some bad things with that stuff.

Mike said appreciate it, Jake.

Jake Donham said yep.

Mike said we'll talk about Journey Home in two weeks.

Jake Donham said okay.

Mike said October 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Other Business:

# Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Mike said other business. Sheriff Moystner.

Art Moystner said I don't have anything this morning unless you guys have questions for me.

Gary Friend said do you have any legal problems getting called out there or is that all Winchester, to the Journey Home?

Art Moystner said do we have any legal problems?

Gary Friend said do you have any calls, not legal, I mean.

Meeks said it would have been Winchester.

Art Moystner said it's all Winchester. I would share, the only concern I had, and I talked to Jake last week, the only concern that I have at times, is that they have someone come in that is staying there and they're either intoxicated or on something else, they make them leave until they're sober which, to me, the only thing it does is transfer that problem from where it's at to out in the public.

Gary Friend said to the streets.

Art Moystner said so, that would be the only comment I would make with regards to that.

Mike said any questions, Gary?

### Minutes of August 19, 2024

Mike said that brings us to our minutes of August 19, 2024, which we received a copy of these minutes via email. Are there any additions, corrections or deletions to these minutes?

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

## **Payroll Claims \$ 321603.74**

Mike said next item is our payroll claims in the amount of \$321,603.74. These are at our place. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

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

### Regular Claims \$1,878,324.29

Mike said next item is regular claims in the amount of \$1,878,324.29. We all received a copy of these via email, and have had an opportunity to review them. Are there any questions?

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

## Club 720 Claim \$2,000.00

Mike said next claim is the Club 720, Housing Resource Hub claim in the amount of \$2,000.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

# Randolph County United Claim \$20,134.34

# Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$2,365.66

Mike said next two claims are from Randolph County United, the first in the amount of \$20,134.34, and the other is the Randolph County United Tourism claim in the amount of \$2,365.66. I'd entertain a motion to approve these two claims.

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

### New Handbook memo

Mike said next item is a handbook, new handbook memo which Laura has prepared for our signature to send to all departments regarding the handbook changes that came out of the committee meeting with Wagner. And we received a copy of this, but it talks about the elimination of comp time. It talks about combining personal time and sick time, and to personal time off. And it talks about the hours to work could be flexed back at the direction of department heads. Hours of operation remain the same, and all employees are non-exempt, except for

elected officials. And vacation will remain the same with an added 4<sup>th</sup> week of vacation after 15 years and holiday schedule will remain the same as well. It sounds like what we've been talking about.

Gary Friend said yeah, the only thing that I've seen that I think we need to talk about is what is a day, and the discussion, I mean, because we've got 24 hour shifts at the ambulance, what 10 to 12-hour shifts sometimes at the EMS? The discussion was a day is an 8 hour work day. So, if you get 3/4 of a day.

Meeks said we'll have, that will all be in the handbook. We've talked about that extensively, kind of, I thought.

Mike said okay. So, do we want to move on this memorandum so Laura can share it with the department heads?

Gary Friend said yes.

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

Meeks said I had sent an email about two issues, about the handbook. But I just wanted, and why I sent it was to clarify so we can tell the employees, at least you guys discussed it, the first one is any new hires, really after 6 months, you would have gotten 3 days of sick days. Now with the formula, you're going to get 1.5 sick day hours, although we do give a lot of other benefits. I mean, you are accruing you know, paid time off during that time. I really think that's only going to affect people that got hired from July 1 until the end of the year. So, just so you guys are understanding with that.

Mike said okay.

Meeks said the other one is the vacation. And like I gave the example, if I'd been here 18 years and my day is February 1<sup>st</sup>, my hiring date, I get that extra week of vacation. But you Gary, if there's 22 years and your hiring date is December 1<sup>st</sup>, you don't get that extra week December 1<sup>st</sup>. Again, I think we give a lot of time off. I just wanted to make sure that you guys, that, if that comes up, you guys have thought about that and are aware of it.

Mike said I'm not sure how to address it.

Meeks said I don't think we need to.

Mike said one way you address it is make, I guess, vacation at the beginning of our next calendar year and that will punish a lot more people.

Meeks said I think how you address it is, we've talked about it and you know, and you get it at your hire in date.

Mike said but we appreciate you bringing that up.

Meeks said I just see it coming.

Mike said okay.

### **EDIT Plan**

Mike said okay. Next item is our EDIT plan. Which adds the Achieva \$5,000.00 for 2025.

Mike said so what if we were to change our, I mean, should we act on this right now? Do we wait, I guess I'll share this, that, as you know, the council voted to reduce the Randolph United Budget by \$35,000.00. And I found out at their meeting that it was, although the minutes didn't reflect that, but it sounds like the meeting at the budget didn't reflect that, but it sounded like at their meeting that they reduced it by \$35,000.00 because Tourism was no longer going to be part of Randolph United is what they told me at the meeting. And I think 3 council people shared that. And it even got to the point that Randolph United was kicking Tourism out, and that was not, to my knowledge, nor has the, and I found since, and I think they found out later in that meeting, that they are not being kicked out. There is no, well there hadn't been a full-time Tourism director for a while, and I think Tourism has since hired somebody as a consultant to work with them. Randolph United has a marketing person that is working to promote Randolph County, whether that be in the name of Tourism or that be in the name of promoting Randolph County. It's yet to be, I guess it's a matter of semantics to me. But, it's my understanding that tomorrow night at the Randolph County United meeting Tourism is coming forth with a proposal which would either say that, and I think it's either going to say we don't want to be a part of Randolph County United anymore, or we do want to become part of Randolph County United, and continue to march the way we're going. If that's the case, then I think council's action, for the reason they said was inaccurate. And opposed to them changing that, changing the budget, if that becomes the case, and Tourism stays within Randolph County United, I would, heads up at our next meeting, I would propose that we grant Randolph County United \$35,000.00 back to their budget from EDIT funds to support Tourism in their office as it has been doing. And so that would be, if that were passed, that would be an amendment to the capital plan. So, there's no reason to.

Meeks said you never reduced the capital plan.

Mike said well I know. I don't know how that works.

Meeks said well you need to get an appropriation from the county council. I mean, that's how it would.

Gary Friend said first of all, that Tourism discussion was not the discussion. The discussion, well, when I was there, it could have come up again. It was more.

Mike said it came up later in the day I think.

Gary Friend said oh, okay then I won't comment because I.

Mike said but you're right. I read the minutes from that morning and it was not.

Gary Friend said the reason.

Mike said I mean, one councilman, person, said from the chair that they didn't feel like Randolph United was fulfilling their contract. And anyway, so that's, so we wouldn't need to amend the plan, we just ask for an appropriation of 35,000 on that.

Meeks said I don't think you know, Achieva is not until next year, so you're going to have a couple more minutes.

Mike said I think so.

Meeks said you can do.

Laura said we can table that.

Mike said let's table this.

Meeks said at least that's what Laura and I agreed, that I got it out, just to have it.

Laura said yeah, the Achieva letter was for 25. We've already done 24.

Mike said okay.

Gary Girton said so what's the discussion on Tourism?

Mike said well I think it becomes a matter of whether or not they want a Tourism director to have, if they want a Tourism commission director to stand alone its own office space with its own staff, with its own expenses, or they continue to be part of Randolph County United and have a tourism office within the Randolph County United office.

Gary Girton said how do you justify that financially?

Mike said that's yet to be seen. I mean, obviously, it's going to cost the county more money.

Gary Friend said the Tourism commission has the autonomy of all that.

Mike said they do.

Gary Friend said so, if they choose to do it, they'll have to either operate on the funds that they get in from the Innkeeper's tax or ask Randolph County government for supplemental funding, which might be part of what was already going to RCU. I mean, they might want to add that \$35,000.00 to them, to their Innkeeper's tax, and still, they're going to have to get their own

network set up of payroll, insurance. They won't have an umbrella to work underneath. They'll have to create one. And they're allowed to do that if they choose to.

Gary Girton said that's definitely going to reduce the funding they're going to have for advertising and promoting tourism for the county.

Mike said well they're going to have additional expenses that they're not paying for now.

Gary Girton said that's what I say. That's definitely going to decrease what they're going to have to use. It doesn't make much sense to me, but that's not my decision.

Gary Friend said well it will be blended in with our decision, when they come and ask.

Gary Girton said I mean right now.

Mike said if they come to the county and ask for funding from any source. Well, I suppose they could go to council and ask for Rainy Day fund. They wouldn't need the commissioners.

Laura said well it doesn't matter where the appropriation comes from. You guys would have to approve it too.

Mike said what happens if we don't?

Laura said then it doesn't get appropriated.

Meeks said then you don't pay it, it doesn't get appropriated.

### Ordinance 2024-18 Amending Speed limit

Mike said let's go on to an ordinance. This is ordinance 2024-18, an ordinance for the county commissioners Randolph County Indiana amending chapter 71, schedule 1 speed limits, and this is what we discussed a few meetings back about Martin Street from the Winchester city limits to Stockyard Road, to maintain speed limit of 30 mile per hour on that street, which is a continuation to the city speed limit east of the city limits on Martin Street. I'd entertain a motion.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2024-18**

An Ordinance for the County Commissioners of Randolph County Indiana

Amending Chapter 71, Schedule I, Speed Limits

BE IT ORDAINED that the Randolph County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 71, Schedule I, Speed Limits is hereby amended by adding the following to subsection I:

Street/Road	Location	Speed Limit	Penalty	Ord. No.	Date Passed
Martin Street	From the Winchester City Limits to Stockyard Road	30 mph	Class C Infraction		

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the above speed limits shall commence upon the passage and due publication of this Ordinance.

Gary Girton said I'll move that we approve ordinance 2024-18 by title only on the first reading.

Gary Friend said I agree, the enforcement of that is going to come from the Winchester police department or Randolph County, or both?

Meeks said nope, it will be county. You're not on a city street, if you're on a county street. I guess you can do both.

Gary Friend said they can do both? I'll second.

Mike said I have a motion and a second to approve an ordinance for the county commissioners, Randolph County, amending chapter 71, schedule 1, speed limits.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Girton said I suggest we wait, I mean I suggest we wait for one more, until the next meeting so that we can have any discussion, if not, we approve it and adopt it next meeting.

Mike said we'll have the second reading at our next meeting.

Gary Girton said 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, yes.

Mike said okay.

# Carl Street bridge - condemnation

Mike said Carl Street bridge, condemnation.

Meeks said I talked to Joe Copeland. He couldn't be here today, but they're having trouble obtaining, I think they've obtained all but one of the parcels. And they can't get Mrs. Ruthers, and so, we need to hire somebody. Joe had somebody over in Indy. I reached out to John Brook, who is the county attorney for Delaware County, and he said he'd be more than happy to help us. I probably can't get a local attorney, because one of the heirs would be the prosecutor's wife.

Laura said is that email from Joe or you?

Meeks said I sent an email, a while back. And I don't know, my dad's represented Mary for a long time and I represented at least one of their kids. One of the other kids is incarcerated. I mean, it's just a mess. So, I would like to get authority to hire somebody so we can go on with the project.

Mike said is there no one in authority that could just grant this?

Meeks said you have 5 co-owners, so, Mary passed away, did a transfer on death deed to the 5 kids.

Mike said and we can't convince them to just give it to us?

Meeks said apparently the people we hired can't convince them to just give it to us. And I, knowing what I know is, I think it would be very difficult to have them convinced to give it to us.

Mike said okay. And you're recommending we hire.

Meeks said either John or that Stump lady. I forget her first name.

Gary Friend said that's from Indy?

Meeks said yeah.

Gary Friend said John would be.

Meeks said yeah, I'd say John would be.

Gary Girton said I move we give Meeks approval to hire a representative for the county to deal with this issue.

Gary Friend said yeah, I'll second that.

Mike said have a motion and a second to have Meeks contact John Brookes, Delaware County attorney to represent us in the condemnation of the Carl Street bridge right-of-way. All in favor of the motion, signify by saying aye.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Friend said where would that fund from?

Meeks said I think you have the money in the bridge.

Mike said it comes from the bridge.

Meeks said bridge funding. I can't imagine, I mean, I saw the thing. I mean, we're talking a couple feet. We're not talking the big, we're not talking taking half the yard.

Mike said brings us to the end of our agenda.

### **Building Commissioner inspection contract**

Gary Friend said want to talk about Randy's contract?

Laura said that's what this is. Meeks sent it to me like last minute.

Mike said oh, it's not on the agenda.

Meeks said I sent it to Randy to

Laura said oh, so we're not

Mike said \$35.00 an hour?

Meeks said I thought that maybe let Randy look at it and we could do it next week?

Gary Friend said I thought Randy sent it to you.

Mike said I've not seen it.

Meeks said I sent it out last night. Basically, what I said was 35 bucks an hour, you're an independent contractor, and I, we're just going to attach the job duties that what Randy does now. So, we're going to attach this job description to it.

Laura said do you want this?

Mike said well do you want to?

Gary Friend said do we want any contractor?

Meeks said we don't really have other contracts for part time employees, and he's going to become a part-time employee.

Mike said did council fund it?

Meeks said 35 bucks an hour. They put like \$10,000 bucks in it.

Laura said they probably won't need all that for this year. I don't know when he's going to be off.

Mike said he may be off before our next meeting.

Meeks said well you can approve 35, you can approve the contract.

Mike said well I would entertain a motion to approve the contract of the independent contractor, Keith Pugh to take over building inspector's duties in the event building inspector is incapacitated to do so, subject to Randy's approval.

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

Meeks said you might amend that to just, because if Keith can't do it, they're going to get Bill Pearson or somebody else.

Mike said amend the motion?

Meeks said yeah, just to whoever Randy can get to do that. I hate to be stuck with Keith when Keith is, well he's still doing architectural work. I forget what for. I saw Keith. He told me and now I forget what he's doing.

Mike said do you want to amend your motion?

Gary Girton said yes.

Gary Friend said I'll second the amendment.

Mike said have a motion and it's been amended, and it's been seconded that it would be a contractor that's qualified to do this work. All in favor, signify by saying aye.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said okay. Is that the end of our agenda, Meeks?

Meeks said I had one other thing.

Mike said Laura, is that the end as far as you know?

Laura said yeah.

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

Laura said I do not.

Mike said Meeks, do you have one other thing?

## Meeks - New Solar project

Meeks said I do. I got a phone call from a Mary Solada. She did a wind project for EDPR, how long ago was that? Maybe the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> one.

Mike said I thought she did it for.

Meeks said the north one. Yep, the one, she did not represent EDPR. She represented the people for Bluff Point. They have a new solar project that they want to put in north east of the county, a 150 megawatt. They're going to be, ask to be on your agenda next month. I told her to get in contact with Laura. I just wanted to give you guys a heads up that that is coming down the road.

Mike said is that going to be multiple counties?

Meeks said just us. She said 150 megawatts. I think it's over by Saratoga is what I took it.

Gary Friend said how bi is our biggest one?

Meeks said I actually asked her how many acres that was, and she's like, that's a good question. And I'm like, that's the first question the commissioners are going to ask you when you come. So, she's going to get that information to you, Gary.

Gary Friend said next era, right?

Meeks said this is AES, yeah, next era is one, but the people that are putting in this one is AES.

Mike said AES.

Meeks said yeah.

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

Gary Friend said no, I do not. Thank you.

Mike said Gary Girton?

## Gary Girton - Announced Ceann Bales is officially a Doctor

Gary Girton said well, I have one thing. It may be, it's not directly related to the commissioners, but Ceann, as most of all of you know, has been involved in county work for 20 some years and last Friday, a week ago, she ended her dissertation and her major professor at the end of it gave a thumbs up and she now officially a Doctor.

Mike said wonderful.

Meeks said good for her.

Mike said and that's in community development?

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said wonderful. Congratulations.

Gary Girton said in fact, her major professor said you did a stellar job.

Mike said and that was out of Indiana Wesleyan?

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said well congratulations.

Gary Girton said she's worked on that for 5 years. Lot of work.

Mike said that's a lot of work. I don't have anything else.

# **Citizen Comments (3 minutes)**

Mike said do I have any citizens here that would like to make a comment?

## Adjournment

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

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

Mike Wickersham

Gary Friend

Gary Girton