

## Randolph County Commissioners

November 21, 2022

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

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Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

### **Duane Petry – Paramedic Schooling**

Mike said EMS Director, talk about paramedic schooling.

Duane said I went to the council and they were okay with it. And Gary, if you want to give them the council's thoughts.

Gary Friend said I can. Two things we did for the paramedics. One is the council's in agreement for funding schooling, even to the point of farther than where it is. Council believes there's a lot of training that goes on after hiring that he doesn't have the ability to do. And we're willing to pay to put us a step ahead of anybody to get good people in here and get them trained. We also, the council, we agreed that we would fund the ambulance he's been needing for the next ambulance out when the time comes to fund it.

Mike said okay. So, it's not going to take anything from your budget for training. So, you're just going to fund it elsewhere, you going to use his budget.

Gary Friend said well right now, we're going to use his budget. But we're also going to, the next year's budget council is actually putting more in.

Mike said okay. So that it just matters down to the terms of the contract, which Meeks, you've reviewed the contract.

Meeks said yeah I mean, this is for New Castle's. If you guys are going to go forward, we'll have to do our own.

Mike said I understand. Anything stand out to you.

Meeks said well you'd just have to figure what the terms going to be, and then I'll get with Duane. We'll get a contract and the payback terms, if the person leaves. I think this one's what, two years.

Duane said yeah.

Meeks said looks like New Castle gives \$5900 bucks, you have to pass the training. And then commit for two years. And if you don't work there for two years, you have to repay it back in 12 equal installments.

Mike said looks like 12, one year.

Tom said are those enforceable.

Meeks said I think these are all over the state. I can tell you that.

Mike said you just have to run them down if you have to enforce it. It looks like this carries an 8% interest charge if he leaves.

Gary said yes.

Mike said so would we'd have to determine that as well. I guess I would be in favor of a 12-month payback and 8% interest charge if he leaves, is that what you're thinking Duane. And he or she would stay for two years. That's not enforceable.

Duane said right.

Mike said do you need anything else on terms.

Duane said I don't think so.

Mike said Meeks do you have anything to add.

Meeks said I'll get one drawn up and have you guys look at it.

Mike said okay. Gary do you have any thoughts.

Gary said I think, of course, I've said this, and Duane and I have talked different times in his office about the issues they're having and have had. And it doesn't seem to just get better. It still wouldn't, hasn't seemed to get better period so, we certainly need to move forward to do something. And he and I talked about, talked about that here in commissioner meetings prior. So, I think that it's time that we make the effort to try to do that because it is, particularly since we've moved over to Farmland, and somewhat of an intent to stay there, I think isn't it Duane. So, I think that's even more important that we do this.

Mike said okay. Tom, any thoughts. Okay. Well we'll wait and see what the agreement looks like after Meeks prepares it. Hopefully we can do that at our next meeting.

Duane said okay.

Mike said okay. Anything else this morning.

Duane said alright. No.

Mike said okay thanks Duane.

Gary said Duane have you had anymore issued with your pager problem.

Duane said I haven't been over there to know, nobody said anything.

Gary said because they were here last week and they're coming back today.

Duane said well and, I just talked to Chris this morning, and he thought that White River and Winchester has still got something going on.

Gary said they're supposed to be working on the pagers and they're also going to be working on the highway system.

**Joe Copeland and Perry Knox - signatures for the financial commitment letters and Title VI and ADA letter for 4 Federal Aid applications**

Mike said Joe Copeland, Perry Knox. Signatures for the financial commitment letters for Title VI and ADA for Federal Aid applications.

Joe said we have four financial commitment letters for four different bridges. And then there's an ADA Title VI commitment letter that needs to be signed. And I'll take it bridge by bridge if that's okay.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said this is bridge 308 Short Street. Want to take them one at a time or pass them all out.

Mike said you might as well pass them all out, then you don't have to keep getting up and down, stay seated.

Joe Copeland said this one's 284. This one's bridge 284. This last one's bridge 114 on 300 South.

Mike said these are four Federal Aid projects over the next six years.

Perry Knox said yes, 2028.

Joe Copeland said what is it, six years, 2028, right.

Perry Knox said yes, correct.

Joe Copeland said it starts July 2027. The numbers would probably knock you over, but they've allowed for some inflation, and who knows what could happen. The problem with the state is on these, is if you submit and ask for so much money, and you come back and have to need, and you need more, it's 100% on us. So inflated numbers is not a bad thing in case we run into trouble somewhat. It could be environmental or who knows what.

Mike said we've talked about these projects and we've got the applications started, so I suppose we ought to do our part and commit the local monies to do the job.

Joe Copeland said if you give us permission, I hope to have these in, hopefully, by the end of the today. I've already started applications with the state.

Mike said someone want to move approval of the financial commitment for these four federal projects.

Tom made a motion to approve.

Mike said I have a motion to approve and it looks like it's a total of \$2.7 million dollars over the next six years. I have a motion to approve the financial commitment. Do I have a second?

Gary seconded.

Mike said anything else to talk about on the financial commitment.

Joe Copeland said no.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said okay and to go along with these, we need to appoint a Title VI and an ADA program manager.

Perry Knox said for the letter, it's just a, it's just your commitment that we will have one.

Mike said do we have an ADA transition plan?

Perry Knox said you do.

Mike said and we have a Title VI plan.

Perry Knox said correct. And this letter states that you've not been notified by anybody of any deficiencies. This reaffirms your commitment to ADA and Title VI.

Mike said right, which we are committed to that. So, I'd entertain a motion to approve the letter of November 16<sup>th</sup> regarding our ADA transition plan and our Title VI.

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

Mike said do you have anything else for us this morning.

Joe Copeland said just an update. Bridge 173 on 400 South, west of State Road 1, is under construction.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said and the one bridge on 400 East north of 800 North, the bridge deck overlay is complete. And they're finishing the one on 700 North east of 700 East.

Mike said okay. Thank you.

### **Mike Haffner – Utility agreements**

Mike Haffner said I've got one and then Laura gave me one. I've got great concerns with that one. First of all, there's no contact person, no phone numbers, they don't have detailed information on what they're doing. They don't understand that part of that project is in the city limits that require them to go to them. So, I guess I don't understand the project at all. And when I've reached out, and the person that calls I can't understand him. And I'm not sure what he's wanting.

Mike said says they're adding this to the common council to the city of Randolph County, Indiana to be approved by the Randolph County Street Department. So, I guess I would want to table this for more information from the provider.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Tom said now who is that again.

Mike said Bright Speed.

Tom said they've taken over for Charter.

Mike said that, I don't know that. Is there anyone here from Bright Speed? Hearing none, we will table this until your ready to bring us a recommendation, along with the city of Union City. I mean they're going to have to recommend it as well. This is your copy. I'll give that back to you.

Mike Haffner said then I've got another very large project, Troyer Group with Frontier. Let me explain, because I've had multiple conversations and emails with their people. The biggest portion of this project is along State Road 32, basically from Farmland clear over to Parker. Now there is a small section.

Mike said excuse me Mike. Are you part of this.

Elizabeth James said we are with Charter Spectrum and Bright House, that is our legacy. So, we're, Charter Spectrum is here. We can answer any questions.

Mike said so this is your application.

Mike Haffner said this is over in Union City.

Jeffrey Phillips said we have projects all over, but we're not Bright Speed.

Elizabeth James said Bright House. Just wanted to be clear.

Mike said okay I just wanted to make sure we were letting everybody have an opportunity so, my fault. Okay let's go back to

Mike Haffner said okay. So, basically, and they're perfectly aware, and they've got all their documents through the state and everything. On 1000 West, north of 32, just north of the school, they're going to be installing some underground connection boxes, but they do have one utility cabinet. But it's way off the property in that other business, because they're going to use it as a joint connection box for future projects. But, if it was close to the roadside, then I would recommend ballards as protections, but it's going to be way off that. And everything else that I've seen going in our side of things, it's just splice boxes, and minor stuff, and just, and nothing in the intersections or roadways. So, yeah, we've had multiple conversations back and forth. So, I don't see a problem in giving my recommendations. And that's all fiber into a pretty big project.

Mike said okay so you would be recommending this utility.

Mike Haffner said yes, yes.

Mike said any questions of Mike. Someone want to move approval of this utility agreement.

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

Mike said anything else this morning Mike.

Mike Haffner said no and I'll try my best to reach out to these people or when they contact me, sit down with them and see what this project is about.

Mike said you might try to reach out to Union City as well to see if they've contacted Union City and what the status of that would be.

Mike Haffner said okay.

Mike said so then maybe they would help you with that.

Mike Haffner said that would be fine.

Mike said okay. How's the new assistant superintendent working.

Mike Haffner said he's working out great. Still a lot to learn because he's a pretty new employee, but he's been great help, and very understanding. And I think he'll be what we're looking for.

Mike said good. Okay. Thanks Mike.

**Rick Fisher, BSM – Comcast Install Pedestal In Right of Way**

Mike said Rick Fisher from BSM, Comcast to install a pedestal in the right of way. Mike you might want to stick around for this one as well.

Mike Haffner said okay.

Mike said morning Rick.

Rick said yeah, Comcast is wanting to try to extend their service plan in the right of way down south, Huntsville.

Mike said have you seen this before Mike.

Mike Haffner said no I have not.

Mike said do you want to take a few minutes to review it with Rick while we go ahead with the, sorry Rick. We need to do this.

**Karen Dillow and Kathy Stephens-Miller, Promise Indiana update**

Karen and Kathy Stephens-Miller, Promise Indiana update.

Karen Dillow said well we just want to give you a yearly update. Last year, following our meeting here, we were able to complete all of our activities with the Promise Indiana, worked around COVID outbreaks, but everything was completed. This year we took up our original schedule, and we've completed everything in the fall, other than next month, we will do reading service challenge. So, everything has really gone well. This school year, we're seeing a little uptick in enrollment, and we have asked IYI and they're working with us to come up with a widget to put in power school, so that when parents enroll their children in school that they also can then enroll right into Promise Indiana through the same power school site. And we're hoping that we'll see our numbers go back up to what they were pre-pandemic, since they no longer go to this school to enroll a person the way they used to.

Mike said they're still not letting that happen.

Karen Dillow said they are very, they do allow it to happen, but very few parents are taking advantage of that. Most of them do it on line now, because they can do it with their cell phone or you know, whatever that situation is. We've gone to the schools some of the days that they've

had in person registration to be there in case somebody wanted to enroll while they were there. But we see very few people like that. The most we see is when we go to parent teacher conferences. We've seen more parents at that than really anything. IYI and Promise Indiana are aware of our declining Indiana college co-rate, and so they are working to reorganize Promise Indiana statewide to try to help with that situation. One of the things that they're going to do is in the new enrollment process, there will be a checkbox that will automatically enroll children into 21<sup>st</sup> century scholars. And we need to see some other changes coming in the year, but we haven't received the agreement yet so. I don't want to address too many things until I've seen it. But I know that's one thing that's going to happen. We want to thank you for your continued support over these, this will be your fifth year. And it has helped immensely. Kathy is going to address our history and where we are headed.

Kathy Stephens said if you remember when we started this program, we came to you and asked for \$25,000.00 a year to get the program going. We're kind of proud of the fact that we came like in November or December, the application was due in January, Promise told us oh just sent it in and we'll see how it is and give you some ideas how to improve it, but you probably won't get approved the first year. Well thanks to your commitment and many other commitments that matched yours, we were approved the first year. And got the grant from Lilly, which no longer exists, but we had it for a couple of years. We have, we, Karen and our board members, have done such a great job of fund raising that we're giving you a year to think about this, but we really feel like in the future, if you could support us at the level of \$10,000.00 a year for five years, that will help, along with what the community foundation gives us, that will pretty much pay for the operating budget. And we're very comfortable that we can raise the money for the kids. It's easy to go out to the community and say you know, this is for kids. And we've been successful at that. Karen's done a very good job. We have been killed by COVID. We couldn't even get into the schools for two years. And Karen get's very emotional and frustrated because she doesn't think you know, we're doing everything we could. Well we just found out with IYI came to us and said what are you guys doing, you're doing better than anybody else through this. So, I really want to give her a pat on the back that we're not where we want to be because we want to have 70% of our students enrolled every year. This is Indiana's, I think, biggest economic development issue. It's the fact that we are not going to have a qualified educated work force if we don't get people going to post-secondary education. So that's why we're coming to you and saying thank you for the \$25,000.00 each year, we don't think we need that much in the future, but we will need some. So, today we're just pretty much giving you a report. We've given the bill to Laura for your last year of your five-year commitment and just want you to think about this can make a real difference in having an educated, prepared workforce for Randolph County.

Mike said I must be having a lot of fun up here. I didn't think it had been five years.

Kathy Stephens said yeah and you got me into this. Just remember that.

Mike said so how many did you enroll in 2022.



Karen Dillow said since, I was here a year ago. We have, we've enrolled 64 new accounts since November of last year. So, we're working at it. And we did see a little uptick so that's an improvement.

Mike said so I'm looking at your budgets. And you have incentive, enrollment incentive for third graders of \$25.00. So, you have a, you're hoping to enroll 200, is that what that.

Kathy Stephens said we'd like to yes.

Mike said that's what that, that's the way that budget. And then, so you are helping even 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders that missed their opportunity in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Kathy Stephens said yes. We've felt like we really needed to do that because we weren't able to contact the kids or the parents.

Mike said do we know what the total, 529 Promise Indiana, Randolph County balance is.

Karen said as far as the number of students.

Mike said well the number of students and how much money are in their accounts.

Karen Dillow said we have 544 students that are enrolled. As far as what their balance is total, that I do not have access to.

Mike said I suppose that's private information.

Kathy Stephens said because what happens is we put the money in to start it.

Mike said the \$25.

Kathy Stephens said the \$25. We have incentives along the way that if kids do certain things, parents or grandparents who are friends put money in their account, we can match part of that. Our matching money goes into what's called the mirrored account. Their money goes into their own account. If for instance, a student does not use the money by age 26, they've got until that time, then our mirrored money comes back to Randolph County to go for other kids. So, we never lose that. But we don't have access to what they're putting in. And that, and one of the things that we really want to do is to somehow get parents to understand how important it is for them to continue to put money in, because we're only thinking that we're getting about a third of the parents that are continuing with that at the elementary school now. We've done some work with high school students to let them know that you know, it's not too late to start a 529 account because Indiana gives a great tax incentive for people to contribute. So, that's one of the goals we have is to really work with people on their contributions as well.

Mike said okay. Anybody have any questions of the ladies. Gary.

Gary said I think it's a great program and you're doing a great job. And I know you really pretty much run into the wall there for a while, but, you've hung in there and kept moving, and that's the important part particularly for our children and what their futures are.

Mike said and you're right in that, anybody that pays Indiana taxes gets a credit against those taxes not a deduction, but a credit. So, Indiana is supporting it in that way.

Kathy Stephens said and I think tying it to the 21<sup>st</sup> century scholars will be very helpful. Randolph County has issues with that, getting kids to sign up, getting kids to follow up with that. And that gives certain students an opportunity to have almost a free education.

Mike said what, you're not necessarily looking for an answer today of our support in the future.

Kathy Stephens said not in the future. We wanted to give you time to think about that. I know you guys don't like to be hit, I've heard that before, so, we want to give you time to think about that. We're proud of the fact that we feel like if you can help the operating, we can raise the money for the students. We do need approval, either this meeting or next meeting of your \$25,000.00 commitment.

Mike said yeah, we've committed to that. We're not going to change that. I trust we won't change that.

Kathy Stephens said okay.

Mike said the new one, I mean if, I'm just going to say it out loud, if Tom wants to be involved in that commitment, then we're going to have to decide between now and the end of the year. If Tom doesn't want to be involved in that commitment, we're going to have to wait until after the first year because we'll have a new commissioner. I'd stand up and introduce Gary Friend as our new commissioner elected in November and he's here as a council member this morning as you all know. So, let's just, we'll just table it until our next meeting and that'll give us three weeks, two weeks to think about it, and we'll see where we go from there. Thanks for the work on the project.

Kathy Stephens said okay thank you very much.

#### **Jeffrey Phillips, Elizabeth James - Charter Communications fiber optic project**

Mike said so Charter Communications, Jeffrey Phillips, Elizabeth James, are they in the hall way. Okay do them altogether then, okay. Our agenda is a lot shorter than what I thought it was going to be this morning.

#### **John Ashburn – Look for artifacts on the courthouse lawn**

Mike said okay John Ashburn, look for artifacts on the courthouse lawn. Is John here this morning.

#### **Jeff Plasterer, Executive Director, Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission**

Mike said and I've, Jeff Plasterer is not here, but I've also told Jeff that he wouldn't have to appear this early because I didn't think we would be at this point in the agenda.

### **Council report**

Let's go on to the end of the agenda. We have a couple of council members I see here this morning. Dave and Gary, do you guys have anything you want to share with us this morning.

Gary Friend said the only thing we really had to talk about, we've talked about the EMS and the training, is that we've tabled the non-reverting fund, so the council people can all read the language that concerns the airport about federal granting. That was a pretty standard meeting. Everyone should have their new pdf files of the budget reporting we got back from Baker Tilly, which is a pretty good budget. So, did you send that report to the commissioners.

Laura said I did not, but I will.

Mike said I got it. We did get a copy of the salary ordinance for next year. Dave do you have anything to share.

Dave Lenkensdofer said no.

### **Minutes of September 19, 2022**

Mike said that takes us to our minutes in September 19<sup>th</sup>. We received a copy of these minutes via email. I trust everyone's had a chance to review and would entertain a motion to approve as presented unless there's additions, corrections or deletions to those minutes.

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

### **Payroll Claims \$236,661.06**

Mike said next item is our payroll claims in the amount of \$236,661.06 and they've been presented to us this morning. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

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

### **Regular Claims \$1,603,879.63**

Mike said let's go ahead and do regular claims. I'd entertain a motion to approve the regular claims, which we all received a copy of via email.

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

### **Jeffrey Phillips, Elizabeth James - Charter Communications fiber optic project**

Mike said okay. Rick, Mike, Jeffrey, Elizabeth.

Mike Haffner said I guess on this one, I would have a question because all of it is going to be on this side of Huntsville by the golf course clear up to this new housing addition. Did the city officially annex that. Is that no longer ours.

Laura said I believe they did.

Mike said I think it's been annexed into the city. Out to 100 South I believe.

Mike Haffner said not this, but from my understanding, everything's been annexed clear up to this, and all along that. And everything they've got going on is on this side, inside the city.

Mike said Meeks is in the hall. He would know how much.

Mike Haffner said they're going to be installing pillars it probably shouldn't have their blessing.

Mike said I don't think it's ours.

Mike Haffner said I don't think it's ours or if it is ours, I think.

Mike said did the city annex Huntsville Road.

Meeks said that's a good question. I think half of it might be in the city, and the other half's not. But I don't know about the actual road. I was looking into that for Bob.

Mike said Joe Copeland has indicated to me that. Half of it Joe or all of it.

Joe Copeland said all of it.

Mike said all of it.

Meeks said I know the GIS map shows that, but I'm not sure the GIS is correct.

Tom said that goes over the right of way. That goes all the way to the.

Joe Copeland said anytime the city or town annexes along the road, they are required to take that road in its entirety.

Meeks said okay but I don't know what's on our GIS and what's not. That's, that was what I was talking about to the mayor, whether the GIS is right.

Tom said Joe that goes all the way to the field. It's not just the road surface.

Joe Copeland said it's the entire road.

Meeks said well if Joe's right than yeah.

Mike said I don't think you have an issue with it do you Mike, other than.

Mike Haffner said I don't have an issue, although they are going to be installing above grounds wall structures.

Tom said at the edge.

Mike Haffner said that the city needs to be aware of since it's going to be theirs.

Mike said well I think the city probably needs to approve, approve this.

Jeff said we'll take care of that portion of it. They thought that it was county property.

Mike said well it was until they annexed it a few months ago. And with that, we've been advised that, and you just heard, that when they annex that portion of the subdivision of the golf course basically, they've annexed the entire golf course, it includes Huntsville Road as well.

Jeff said so we'll apply for a permit through the city.

Mike said yeah. And it they, I'm not sure we have anything to do this morning.

Mike Haffner said we're having a lot of questions in the procedures and permitting and they're saying that we've received stuff, and I'm saying I didn't. And I guess I've kind of talked to them about our concerns with the electric cabinets and where they're located and doing that. But there's a lot of confusion on process, who to notify. A lot of times they'll go through Laura and then I learn about it last minute.

Laura said I usually include you when I forward it to the commissioners.

Mike Haffner said yeah.

Laura said on you email.

Mike Haffner said I mean I get it that way but I guess it really should start, I guess, just asking they're kind of wanting to know future stuff, what the process is.

Mike said well typically, the utility would come directly to you with the right of way approval.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said and if they're not, if they're sent to the auditor, as Laura said, the auditor shares them with you right away. So, I'm not sure if that's last minute or not. So, I guess the question becomes, what are we, what are we presenting this morning. And do we have a copy of it, I guess, that's.

Jeffery said well Rick, in our behalf, actually sent the permit over. And then we were asked to be here because it was a power supply permit. And then, you know, I spoke with this gentleman, went over what you guys are expecting, and we're absolutely willing to abide by those rules.

Like I told him, what we normally do is when we pick out a location, there's usually an existing transformer next to a pole. We get with the coop, make sure that they're okay with that location, and then we submit a right of way application with the county, and make sure that you guys are okay with that location before we proceed forward with anything else.

Mike said that sounds like the way it's supposed to work.

Mike Haffner said I think we're on the same page now.

Jeffery said the only difference was, he said you guys were asking for like a concrete post next to the power supply to protect it. And we normally don't do that.

Elizabeth James said typically that would be something we work out between ourselves and the cooperative. In other areas of the state that's what I've seen but if the county is wanting to see that done, I'm sure we can.

Tom said ad these pedestals are in the right of way.

Jeffery said correct.

Tom said how big are they.

Jeffery said there's two different sizes that we use. There's what's called a 2 in 1 which if the device needs to be underground, it's a little bit bigger than your standard one, but not bigger. But yeah, a lot of times, I mean they're no taller than this, about this wide. Sometimes like I said, the 2 in 1 is maybe just a little bit wider. We're not going to block visibility of a driver or anything like that.

Mike said it sounds about the same size as those out in front of the wind turbine driveway. I don't know if you've seen those in the county or not, but they're green boxes that are about that big and about that deep.

Jeffery said yeah roughly.

Mike said and about that high.

Tom said with Frontier we required to have breakaway, and they were putting them out there. We wanted them to be, to break away with a certain amount of force so it wouldn't mitigate a car.

Jeffery said oh these will. They're only down with four little bolts into the concrete. And like I said, what's in the city, I've seen them and they do fall off. That's why I was concerned about the concrete posts because that would actually create more physical damage than like this cabinet being pushed into like a field or something like that.

Elizabeth James said I think if the county did want to go with the concrete post, we would just want to have something in the agreement.

Mike Haffner said depending on where it's at, and if it needs to be.

Tom said well I mean it's, it's really, it's protecting their property, I don't think we would want that would we.

Mike said I'm not sure where that came from.

Tom said yeah I don't either. Well if we do that in front of the building, we'd like to protect our property. If we don't have a dog in the fight.

Mike said no I'm not sure we need that.

Mike Haffner said the only thing I've ask is if there's electric power to this box to have it labeled on the box so if somebody does have an accident, they're aware that power is in.

Tom said well I think that's a standard requirement.

Elizabeth James said yes.

Jeffery said yeah absolutely, 100%.

Elizabeth James said so Mike going forward, we will work through you directly and then is there a form permit, or does the county require an agreement in the form of permitting.

Mike Haffner said yeah just contact me.

Mike said okay very good.

**Other Business:**

**Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

**Contracting a food service for the jail and Resolution 2022-15**

Mike said Art, Sheriff, Randolph County. Do you have anything for us this morning Art.

Art Moystner said I just wanted to follow up. I'd sent an email out last week. One of the things we're looking at the jail is the possibility of contracting out the kitchen. I don't believe that's a contract the commissioners enter into, I think it's something the sheriff enters into. But obviously, I would like all the bodies to be on board if we're going to do that. I think with part-time employees and the interesting times we in with getting employees, there's been a few situations over there where we've had to substitute stuff, and I think this is a good way to go. And I would just like the blessing of the commissioners so that I could do that with cooperation of everyone.

Mike said I don't, I guess I see that as a good thing. I think you'll probably will, one of the difficulties I think you'll find though, and I may be wrong on this is that when you do enter that contract, their pool of employees are going to be the same pool of employees that you're trying to find. And I would, they may have a difficulty in doing that.

Art Moystner said sure.

Mike said that'll relieve you of that responsibility. And I suspect the service will be the same.

Art Moystner said and the, I know the companies that I'm looking at have several different sheriff's offices within Indiana. So, they kind of pool some of those in the general regions, so that they can share employees if needed from one jail to another so. I just think it's a good thing.

Mike said I do too. My experience with that is we contract to have our facility cleaned and when I go looking for another facility cleaning company, they come in with a new manager. And then you start talking to them about who they're going to hire and if they'll hire local people, so they're probably going to hire the same people the old company had. I hope that doesn't happen. I know there's some good contract food providers out there so.

Art Moystner said there are. Some of the employees we have will have the opportunity to stay on with the company so. I definitely wanted them to have that.

Mike said the school tried that several years ago, or did that several, I don't know if they're still doing that or not.

Art Moystner said I just wanted to bring it to your attention so that everything's nice and up front.

Mike said Resolution 2022-15, a resolution to declare a certain personal property of Randolph County as unneeded and to be considered surplus property for disposal, and it is a 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe, a 2014 Dodge Charger, a 2016 Dodge Charger, and a 2016 Dodge Charger, four vehicles.

Art Moystner said correct, yes. We've gotten replacement vehicles for all of those and the last one finally came in. So, all of those are getting outfitted and we'll sell the others.

Mike said very good. I'd entertain a motion to approve this resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 2022-15

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

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



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

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board that:

1. Pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8, the items listed on Exhibit "A", attached hereto, shall be considered to be surplus and worthless property ("Property") for purposes of disposal.
2. The value of the property is less than the estimated costs of the sale and transportation of the property.
3. The Property may be sold at public or private sale, and the Board shall allow the Department for which the item is used and noted on the attached Exhibit "A" to sell or otherwise dispose of the Property.
4. Proceeds from the sale of the items set forth in Exhibit "A", shall be placed in the fund from which the item was purchased. If no fund can be identified for a particular item, the proceeds shall be placed in the General Fund.
5. If the Property fails to sell at public or private sale it may be demolished or scrapped, or, if hazardous, be disposed of for recycling.
6. The Property may be removed from the Randolph County Indiana fixed asset inventory.

Sheriff's Office

2015 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN# 1GNSKBKC7FR150818

2014 Dodge Charger VIN# 2C3CDXAT6EA208247

2016 Dodge Charger VIN# 2C3CDXKT5GH286732

2016 Dodge Charger VIN# 2C3CDXKT6GH136838

EXHIBIT "A"

Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-15 as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said anything else for us Art.

Art Moystner said no sir that's all I have.

Mike said any questions of the sheriff, Gary, Tom. Thank you.

**L&M Regional Water District OCRA claim \$21,200.00**

Mike said we're ready for the L&M Regional Water District OCRA claim in the amount of \$21,200.00. This is for grant administration. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

Gary said do you know how much is still outstanding.

Laura said I don't. If you want to check with me later, I can look that up for you.

Gary said that's fine.

**Cellusite, LLC Claim \$12,375.00**

Mike said next claim is the Cellusite, LLC claim. This is for Tower King's efforts on consulting our technology committee and the Randolph County for a broadband tower located in the north part of the county, northwest part of the county as well as over off of Greenville Pike. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim for \$12,375.00.

Tom said is there any, do we gain anything from this information or anything.

Mike said I think there was some. I mean there was some presented to the technology committee. We've not seen it here, but they did do work to justify this expense, at least that's what was shared with us at our last meeting by two members of the technology committee. So, I think we probably have a location in the northwest part of the county, or at least two or three locations that would be appropriate for a broadband tower if we decide that it's economically feasible, and it makes sense to the county to put it there. So, from that respect, we did gain that. So, I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

**J&K Communication Claim \$10,000.00**

Mike said that brings us to our J&K Communication Claim in the amount of \$10,000.00, which is the balance of retention that we've paid some on each of the last two meetings. Are we ready to pay the final installment of the retention or do we want to wait and see what they do with the pagers and the highway issue?

Gary said they're still working on it today, so I think it needs to be held.

Mike said are you okay with that Tom.

Tom said yeah.

Mike said we're going to table that until our next meeting.

**Community and Family services lease**

Mike said that brings us to our Community and Family services lease, which we modified at our last meeting to reduce their rent for 2023, and then with an increase in 2024, and another increase in 2025.

Gary said that's three years.

Mike said okay yeah, starting in December. So, the first year will be \$5.75 a square foot, the second year will be \$7.75 a square foot and the third year would be \$10.00 a square foot. Any other questions or comments. Anybody here from Community and Family services. No. Okay. Do you have anything. I'd entertain a motion to approve the lease, which calls for my signature on behalf of the county.

Gary said I'll move approval. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Cripe Section 179 Allocation form**

Mike said brings us to the Cripe Section 179 Allocation form, which we tabled at our last meeting. Is anyone here from Cripe this morning.

Tom said I don't think they're coming. I talked with Frank and explained our situation and reminded him that if we helped them out on that, and he's sort of agreed, he didn't really agree that they'd share, it's a tax credit. I said would you share half of it with us, and he said I think we can probably find enough other projects that we won't have to do that. So, I think we just forget it. I mean it's a tax credit and they're eligible on a number of different projects, so they'll probably max out their tax credit on other projects without having to give us half of it. I think we're done, you know.

Mike said okay. You understand that.

Gary said yeah.

Mike said so we won't act upon the Section 179D energy efficient commercial buildings deduction allocation form, which would go to the benefit of Cripe.

Gary said I wouldn't be in favor anyway.

### **Ordinance 2022-29 – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading**

Mike said that brings us to Ordinance 2022-29, which would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading. It's an ordinance of Randolph County, Indiana prohibiting cellular telephones and other electronic devices from the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse. This is proposed to us from the Judicial branch of the government, our government. And it says basically, no person may bring on to the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse, an electronic device including but not limited to a cellular telephone, camera, video camera, any device capable of audio or video recording, VDAs, Ipads, pagers and any device that has internet capabilities, except for the following: Authorized officer of the court, including, but not limited to judges, attorneys, probation officers, case managers, casars and guardians ad litem, any Randolph County employee appointed or elected official who are on the third floor of the Randolph County courthouse for

business, any other individual whom a judge authorizes to bring in such a device, and cameras may be allowed for ceremonial purposes especially, specifically authorized by each Court, which includes but is not limited to educational functions, weddings, and final adoptions, the sheriff of Randolph County and court personnel authorized to monitor and enforce compliance with this ordinance. This ordinance does not prevent anyone with a disability that necessitates the availability or use of electronic device to possess one on the third floor of the Randolph County courthouse. A person is not prohibited from bringing an electronic device to record any public meeting held on the third floor of Randolph County Courthouse. The person may only bring that electronic device on to the third floor of the courthouse to record the public meeting and must turn off that electronic device after the public meeting has concluded. The person will only record the public meeting and may not record anywhere else on the third floor of the Randolph County courthouse. A person violates any provision of this ordinance shall be fined not more than \$2,500.00 for each events, each offense. So basically, what this is, is keeping anyone from filming the courtroom activity as well as the hallway outside of the courtroom to protect persons that are involved in court proceedings. Now we've approved it on two readings. This is the third and final reading, and I would entertain a motion to adopt ordinance number 2022-29 an ordinance of Randolph County prohibiting cellular telephones and other electronic devices from the third floor of the Randolph County courthouse.

ORDINANCE 2022-29

AN ORDINANCE OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA,  
PROHIBITING CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES FROM THE THIRD  
FLOOR OF THE RANDOLPH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

WHEREAS, the Judges of the Randolph Circuit Court and Superior Courts have determined that the carrying of cellular telephones and other electronic devices into the Randolph County Courtrooms presents security issues related to the proper functioning of the Courts;

WHEREAS, the Judges of the Randolph Circuit Court and Superior Courts have advised the Randolph County Commissioners of those security concerns, and indicated that those security concerns do not apply to everyone who enters the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse;

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Commissioners are responsible for the Randolph County Courthouse and the items that may be brought into the Randolph County Courthouse by members of the public;

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Commissioners have determined that the carrying of cellular telephones and other electronic devices onto the third floor of the Randolph County Courtrooms presents security issues related to the proper functioning of County government;

WHEREAS, the video recording of County employees in the Randolph County Courthouse causes disruptions leading to ineffectiveness in those offices; and

WHEREAS, IC 36-1-3 et al grants the Randolph County Commissioners the powers it needs for the effective operation of county government offices.

NOW THEREFORE, the Randolph County Commissioners, in order to protect the health and safety of the employees of Randolph County and the members of the public and for the efficient operation of County Government hereby issues the following:

1. No person may bring onto the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a cellular telephone, camera, video camera, any device capable of audio and/or video recording, PDA's, iPods, pagers, and any device that has Internet capabilities, except for the following:

- A. Authorized officers of the Court, including but not limited to, Judges, attorneys, probation officers, case managers, CASAs, and guardian's ad litem.
- B. Any Randolph County employee, or appointed or elected officials, who are on the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse for county business.
- C. Any other individual whom a Judge authorizes to bring in such a device.
- D. Cameras may be allowed for ceremonial purposes, as specifically authorized by each Court, which includes but is not limited to, educational functions, weddings, and final adoptions.

2. The Sheriff of Randolph County and Court personnel are authorized to monitor and enforce compliance with this ordinance.

3. This ordinance does not prohibit anyone with a disability that necessitates the availability or use of an electronic device to possess one on the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse.

4. A person is not prohibited from bringing an electronic device to record any public meeting held on the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse. The person may only bring that electronic device onto the third floor of the Courthouse to record the public meeting and must turn off that electronic device after the public meeting has concluded. The person may only record the public meeting and may not record anywhere else on the third floor of the Randolph County Courthouse.

5. A person violates any provision of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than \$2,500.00 for each offense.

Gary said I move approval of Ordinance 2022-29 on the third and final reading by title only.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

#### **Purdue Extension Office contract**

Mike said Purdue Extension Office contract. This is an annual contract which we enter with Purdue University for support of our extension office and the work they do in the county. This year's contractual appropriation for our extension educators is \$119,020.00. Do you recall what it was last year?

Laura said I don't, but I think Gary do you remember, wasn't it like 3,000.

Gary Friend said in that range yeah, like 116, 117.

Mike said that's not a bad increase.

Gary Friend said council approved it in the budget.

Mike said it's a good project so, we need to sign this contract, and it looks like the contract really hasn't changed from previous years, so I'd entertain a motion to approved the contract for my signature.

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

**Tarter Surplus Property Auction agreement**

Mike said next item on the agenda is the Tarter Surplus Property Auction agreement, which doesn't say a whole lot although they're going to sell the aforementioned miscellaneous county property, as well as some other matter that we approved as surplus. I'd entertain a motion to approve this contract.

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

Mike said that bring us to the end of our agenda, but for Jeff Plasterer, Executive Director of the Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. Jeff is not her yet is he. I don't see him so, Laura, do you have anything for us.

Laura said permanent minutes.

Mike said permanent minutes. Anything else.

Laura said no.

Mike said Meeks you got anything for us.

Meeks said yes, I have two fiber optic agreements that I need you guys to approve and sign. One's for Chamberlain and one's for Cardinal Greenway.

Tom said is that for Jason

Meeks said I think it's already signed. Hold on. I brought that with me. I believe Sylvia has signed. I don't want to say that for a fact, but I'm very sure she has.

Mike said shouldn't we approve these.

Meeks said probably, yeah, probably should approve them.

Mike said is there a motion to approve the two fiber optic easement agreements with property owners Chamberlain and Cardinal Greenway.

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

Mike said anything else for us this morning.

Mike said Tom do you have anything for us.

Tom said no.

Mike said Gary do you have anything for us.

Gary said well I mentioned that J&K is here today, along with some other people working on the pager problem, and also the antenna problems at the highway garage. They were here a week ago and with a couple of companies and they think, at that time, when they left, they thought that the antenna that was up there was not functioning properly. So, they were going to do more testing today, and if so, to replace the antenna if that was the issue.

Mike said is that a highway department antenna.

Gary said that one is, yes. Some other work they are doing is on the pager system.

Mike said okay. I saw where Modoc received a grant for new pagers.

Gary said I hope.

Mike said I hope they do. So, that's a good thing. I appreciate the community foundation recognizing that so, thank you Lisa. Anything else Gary.

Gary said how's the IT department working out with the new people, Laura.

Laura said seems to be going well. I'm not getting much complaints.

Gary said good.

Laura said and Mike Stultz from Leap meets with me once a month and gives me an update of what they're doing. I think it's going 4 well.

Gary said good. We made a good transition then.

Laura said I feel like we did.

Gary said good. I don't have anything else.

Mike said okay. I had it on mine, the highway closing. Is that the folks that are coming in at our next meeting. The group that's for I&M that wants to close the street or the county road that we talked about last.

Laura said is that the one Tom, you sent to me.

Tom said yeah.

Laura said because I have them tentatively on here, but then they called and wanted it on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mike said okay. Okay, so, young man, we're ready for you, citizen comments. Come on up.

**Citizen Comments**

Brian Werner said sorry for the interruption.

Mike said that's okay.

I'm Brian Werner. We're doing the western area construction for AEP. And I think that might be us your speaking about we need to close the county road down for about four days.

Mike said okay. So that's not the one coming in next meeting. Have a seat.

Brian Werner said this is Jessie Richards. He's with Phillips and Jordan.

Jessie Richards said I'm project manager of Phillips and Jordan.

Mike said okay. So, we appreciate you reaching out to us and letting us know you want to do this. It's, we've had some issues in the past, and I'm not sure if it's with your firm or not, but with the people who have hired you, AEP, that they just go ahead and just do it on their own. And we're not aware of it and we have highway issues, and we have public safety issues when that happens.

Brian said we try not to do things that way.

Mike said well again, I appreciate you reaching out to us. I'm trying to, I thought I had, we had information on that at our last meeting. I'm not finding that document.

Jessie said if it helps, I think we submitted our written proposal last Tuesday.

Mike said okay, so I've not seen that then. Who did you submit that to?

Jessie said it was, well, you guys submitted it.

Brian said I don't know if we, I don't know the name of who submitted it, who it was submitted to.

Tom said was it in the courthouse or was it the highway.

Jessie said so, they had reached out to the highway department previously, and they had proposed that we send it up to you guys, and that we were required to submit a written proposal Wednesday, prior to today's meeting.

Mike said okay. Well, I've not gotten it.



Laura said I'm looking back through mine to make sure I didn't miss it. Who would that have come from, do you know.

Brian said I'll see if I can find out. I don't know.

Mike said our highway department, Joe's here but I don't. Mike's still here.

Laura said was that Frank?

Brian said that's who we deal with. I don't know whether it came from him or not.

Laura said I did talk to him. And he says I've sent information to the commissioners, no that's me sending him, and they, so it says I sent it. I'm not seeing. I think I just sent you an email saying what they wanted, and asked them to be here today. That was the last thing I heard. But I have no attachments from him.

Mike said well as I understand it, you want to close the road for how long.

Brian said four days.

Mike said four days.

Tom said did you get that.

Mike said I'm trying to find, what's the title of that document. I know we talked about it last meeting.

Tom said it came Tuesday from AEP road closure, Mike and Laura.

Laura said did it have attachments.

Tom said yeah it did.

Mike said there we go. There we go. Phillips and Jordan.

Jessie said yes sir.

Mike said okay sheriff, have you been apprised of this.

Art Moystner said I do not, which road is getting closed.

Mike said it's County Road North 200 West.

Jessie said it's between Highway 32 and 200 North.

Art Moystner said I have not, I can get with them after the meeting and get my information so they can let me know the date, then I'll put it out.

Mike said and again, we don't want to disrupt this construction. We just want to be aware of it. That was the issue that again, we've had in the past.

Jessie said if there's school routes or something like that needs to get through, we can work around those times as well.

Mike said well then that probably should be addressed as well. And Mike you don't have an issue with it do you.

Mike Haffner said on what now.

Mike said the road closure at County Road North 200 West, which is just north of 32.

Mike Haffner said no, I don't have any issues as long as the proper peoples' notified.

Mike said and you're going to close it from 8 to 4.

Jessie said like I said, we can adjust that if there's anything going on that's going.

Tom said the school buses will be a little bit different times than that. Yeah, they'd be between that.

Mike said I'm not seeing the date on this.

Jessie said we were kind of leaving that open in case you had a particular time in, sorry, particular time in mind. Or if not, we can just propose some dates that works with our schedule.

Mike said well I'd just coordinate the date with the school corporation, the sheriff's department, and the highway department.

Jessie said okay. Who can we get the school corporation's contacts from.

Mike said Laura do you.

Laura said Randolph Central.

Mike said Randolph Central.

Laura said yeah, I can get it for you.

Jessie said okay. Thank you.

Mike said just so they're aware. I guess that's the issue. So, do we want to approve this request this morning.

Gary said as long as everybody in the room is in agreement, I would think so. So, I'll move approval.

Mike said I have a motion to approve the request to close 200 West north of 32 from 8 to 4 at a date later to be determined.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I'm glad you guys came in this morning and stuck around.

Jessie said just sorry I interrupted you guys.

Mike said well that's okay. We thought you were going on the agenda for next month. Any other citizen comments this morning. Yes sir.

Eric Lewis said I'm Eric Lewis. I'm fairly new to Winchester. And let me give a little background first. I'm an Honorary Admiral, thanks to Governor Joe Kernan, he commissioned me. I'm also a retired civil rights investigator, and Federal civil rights investigator. And have been talking with the mayor and different people on city council about handicap access, wheelchair access, disability issues around Winchester. I can't speak for the entire county, but I can speak for the city itself. And I've ran into something that is a real problem that I'm hoping you can help with. Some of you may know, some of you may not know, when a business remodels or when a business that puts up a new facade, signage, change of ownership, things that require permits, they are required to become ADA compliant. And regardless of the type of business, the type of building, historical buildings have not been exempted since 2008. I apologize for my voice, my breathing. I'm recovering from lung cancer. Sometimes I get a little winded when I talk. Nothing has essentially been exempted since 2008, and with that reinforced in 2012 with ADA. What I found on going around and checking out accessibility around town, that's not being required here in this part of Randolph County at least. And I'm not able to drive because of my health issues, so, I don't get outside of Winchester. Because of that, and I've had several other disabled people here in town approach me, who are afraid to speak for themselves. I'm not at all. It's part of my nature, the military service, 30 years, state and federal service after that. So, what I would like to do, and I'm not asking for a decision, I'm just asking for consideration and a decision may be asked for later, is look to see if funds can be set aside to assist businesses to become accessible. And because this has not been required. Part of the main process, part of the inspection process, is supposed to be insuring ADA compliance. And that simply has not been happening. Business owners I've talked to around town who aren't accessible and have told me there was never any discussion in the planning or inspection stage of getting the businesses together when they remodel. And businesses here in town are very accommodating. There's not an issue with that. I've even had proprietors offer to bring their wares outside to the sidewalk to me, which is great. But that removes me being able to participate as a non-disabled person. And it removes that ability. It makes me dependent on other people instead of being independent. And an example, and I'm not throwing a business

under the bus, but two examples that are really good, one is the meat market. Excellent business. I enjoy their products. I had an employee tell me well since you can't get in the business, we can just bring stuff out to you. No, I want to choose my own meat, as I'm sure all of you would. I should be afforded that opportunity, as well as other wheelchair users around town. Another of those is with the gun shop. Now they are on their own, making themselves accessible. But they feel that they've been told and again, this is going to become second hand, there again, what they explained to me is they thought they were told they couldn't put a ramp in front of their building because it would impede the sidewalk area. It's an 18-foot sidewalk, 18 foot wide. A ramp would not impede it, not for a 4 to 6-inch rise. And I've had other business, businesses make similar comments that they were told it would take away from historical view, or the optics of the buildings. And that is still required regardless to become accessible. So, I would ask that you consider that as businesses are approached by the state, because I will do my duty that was commissioned to me, as an ambassador, as a voice for the people of the state. And I am reporting these issues to the state as I find them. The other issue that I have was with the issue that you passed today, the prohibition of any cameras, recording devices, anything like that on the entire floor of the courthouse.

Mike said third floor.

Eric Lewis said the third floor, yes. And the, I'm sure if you look into the constitutionality of it, and existing supreme court decisions, you may find that that may not be a viable option. I guarantee that cases will be brought on this because the third floor of the building is not just courtroom.

Mike said it's courtroom and this room.

Eric Lewis said I just wanted to state my opinion on that. That actually angered me when I heard it. I also own Winchester Independent News Agency, which is something I'm just now starting up. So as a journalist, that, hearing that, my ear is still ringing, the one good ear I have left. My ear is still ringing. And I don't mean any offense by that. I just wanted to let you know that I know that that is going to be challenged, and there already is standing case law on it. With that, I thank you.

Mike said and your, your comments are taken, well taken, and I think what you are suggesting is a two-fold approach. One is that we probably should address the permitting process in the county, which we have a permitting process that as I understand, any remodel permits are typically and required to go through the state of Indiana. And I would suspect that if the requirement for an ADA accessibility is required in that, the state would tell us, tell the property owner to do that. And I'll address that with Randy Abel. He's our Area Plan Commissioner, or excuse me, he's our building inspector and he's also our ADA county representative. The other side would be a fund to assist business owners. And although we don't have a fund, any business owner that sees a need he can't afford to upgrade their building, whether by ADA standards or any other standards you want to require, or he needs or she needs, then we have an EDIT, Economic Development Fund that if they request funds from that, they have an opportunity to receive funds for that. So, we sort of have a fund there for those building

improvements. It's not designated ADA, but it is designated for improvement so. But I will, I'll share your comments with Randy Abel and see where he goes from there. Do you know Randy.

Eric Lewis said in name only.

Mike said okay.

Eric Lewis said I was debating putting a carport up to make it easier for me to get in and out of the van in the weather, then ended up not doing that yet. I needed a fence for my service dog more than that. She's in training, so I didn't bring her in here with me today.

Mike said okay.

Eric Lewis said but I do appreciate that. And I'm hoping businesses will simply start complying. It's normally part of the inspection phase. And the state doesn't approve or disapprove based on ADA statements. And I know that from my own experience as a Federal Civil Rights Investigator, and many claims that I've assisted with.

Mike said so the state would not require that then.

Eric Lewis said it's a federal issue. The state defers to the federal. And it's not a federal requirement that they see it if something comes before them in a planning phase, the expectations that it's implemented, that the law itself is implemented. And that responsibility falls in the inspection process. At the gun shop, as soon as they realized there was an issue, they're already working on that. They already have a ramp. All I have to do is let them know I'm coming over. And they come out and assist. Richards, they found that it costs a \$100 to take some concrete and put in front of the, put in front of the door. And so, it's not an expensive process typically. So, we're not talking like a ramp in front of my house, which is multi-teered to get up to my front door. And we're just talking something to get over the curb entrance into the business, into the restaurant. But, thank you sir.

Mike said okay. Thank you. Appreciate your comments. Any other citizen comments. Yes. Morning.

Mindy Peed said I was approached in the last week by the ARCA Search people that are helping the auditor's office with scanning. And they offered their services for us too. We don't know a price point or anything yet, but to clean out the rest of the second-floor storage area, to get that scanning finished, and hopefully move over to the old hospital where we store the books to start working on those too. So, Jake and I were discussing it this morning about emptying that room.

Jake Donham said yeah she was entertaining the idea they asked about using, is it ARPA.

Mindy Peed said uh huh.

Jake Donham said ARPA funds.

Mike said that's what we did with the auditor's office.

Jake Donham said Mindy was wondering what the availability was for, is that still an option.

Mike said well you're not going to get it unless you ask for it.

Mindy Peed said right.

Mike said so, you might as well put it together and then ask for it.

Mindy Peed said right.

Jake Donham said in the process of over the weekend, they came in and moved the filing cabinets that were empty for the auction. Speaking of that, the contract you was talking about for Tarter, I already signed that and sent back to them. They sent it to me too. And I'm like, I wanted to not slow down the process. But I did send it back to them. I may have overstepped there.

Mike said no you didn't.

Jake Donham said I glanced at it, didn't really see anything out of the ordinary.

Mike said there wasn't much there.

Jake Donham said so, I went ahead and get the filing cabinets moved from the second floor to the lobby over the weekend. They're coming tomorrow morning at 9:00. I wanted to do it so I'd have complete access to the elevator just to get them down there out of the way so we don't disrupt business tomorrow morning. Then at the old hospital, the same. There's 17 or 18 more. I got them from the basement to the lobby. That being said, the room downstairs is getting emptier. I still think we ought to entertain the idea of looking at Community Corrections Probation coming over here and being done with that building over there. That's just my opinion, but I think it needs to be explored.

Mike said okay that's worth exploring.

Tom said that's a safer roof, right.

Jake Donham said yeah I had the roofers over. They did a full inspection of that building and went ahead and done the old hospital as well. He said everything right now, they went ahead and touched up a few areas on that building over there. But they, they might be able to buy another year or two out of it, but we're getting close. You know, they're looking, you know, they're doing cameras over there kind of, a couple of them. And trying to do some more security issues whereas, if they were over here, we already have that in place. It is a court services building, so all their business is court related. To me, it makes sense to be in the courthouse where the courts are. That's just my thought.

Mindy Peed said and I'm willing to give up my space as long as we, I mean it's not really my space, but you know what I mean. I'm really, I'm ready to get rid of my stuff so that you guys can use it again.

Mike said okay. Still valuable for the county, so, we'll consider that. And get us your quote for that we'll talk about it after you receive that.

Mindy Peed said okay.

Mike said and then we've, I've done it for a couple offices.

Laura said yes we have. Recorder and myself.

Mike said very good.

Mindy Peed said alright, thank you.

Jake Donham said thanks.

Mike said any other citizen comments.

**Jeff Plasterer, Executive Director, Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission**

Mike said Jeff Plasterer with Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission and Wayne county.

Jeff Plasterer said I've got a few things for you today. Let me just start by acknowledging that Randolph County has been a partner with five other counties in Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission since it's inception about six years ago. We certainly appreciate that. I am the executive director of EIRPC for about another five weeks or so. The search process is ongoing to find my successor, so we're very hopeful that we'll be in a position to move from my position as a part-time director to a full-time person in 2023. And that brings me to the issue of dues. And the board did vote to raise dues from their current level of 20 cents per resident of, and said raise, but they're putting them back to the original dues structure of 40 cents per resident of the county. That's what we started with several years ago. During COVID we reduced that by 50%, so 20 cents per resident. The new structure, and I will give you, pass out copies of an invoice that brings you for 2023, to \$9,676.40. On the back of this sheet, is how we calculated that number. We started out, we took the 2014 census estimate and we stuck with that until the 2020 census was available, actually in 2021. These are the original numbers that we got from the 2020 census, so we have not changed those, although there have been some modifications since. But the estimate for 2020, the original numbers were 24,191 residents of Randolph County, which works out to \$9,676.40. Uh, it's also time for you all to consider your appointment to the board. I certainly hope, and I'm not sure if Mike will agree with me, but I hope that you'll re-appoint Mike Wickersham. He has agreed to be the vice chair.

Mike said subject to my appointment.

Jeff Plasterer said subject to your appointment. So, hopefully, he hasn't prodded you to pick someone else, but if you appoint him, he has agreed to be the vice chair.

Mike said we do that in January of every year, so we'll take care of that in January.

Jeff Plasterer said and I also brought a form for the county council. County council has a little bit tighter restriction, and these appointments are based on statute. But the county council representative has to be a currently serving county council member. The appointment for the commissioners gives you a little more flexibility.

Mike said okay.

Jeff Plasterer said and then the final thing that I would ask is, as you know, we've been engaged in a planning process for about 18 months now to complete a comprehensive economic development strategy that would replace the current plan we've been operating under since 2017. And this is based on requirements from the Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce. So, it touches a lot of bases in terms of being eligible for federal funding on a number of potential projects. And so there's a requirement that each of the member counties have something approved by their county commissioners that would state that they support this. I have forwarded that through Mike. Hopefully, you've had a chance to see that. This is a letter that the Wayne County commissioners adopted a week or two ago. And I actually, this morning, sent you a template for this.

Mike said we've revised it on our letterhead.

Jeff Plasterer said so I would ask you to consider adopting a resolution and signing off on a letter that would be included with our plan when we send it to EDA for their final approval. Says that you support the plan.

Mike said Union City, Union City has a plan don't they.

Jeff Plasterer said yes.

Mike said is that Vision Park.

Jeff Plasterer said I believe so and then Winchester has a project that's included as well. So, I'd be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Mike said other than lowering dues to 20 cents on the population since COVID, and basically, this 40-cent is what the original agreement was, so, we're back to that. So, I don't have any questions Jeff. Gary.

Gary said no I don't either.

Mike said Tom.



Gary said the population is an issue somewhat, but then the 40 cents is not a problem with me at all.

Tom said do you anticipate a dues increase when you have a full-time director.

Jeff Plasterer said we believe that this will allow us to have a full-time director. We do have a few other sources of revenue, primarily, we have a contract with INDOT to do some transportation planning across the region. And we do traffic counts for each of the counties.

Mike said well let's take a look at the letter supporting the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. I think as part of the region, we should offer our support like the other county commissioners have. So, I would move approval of the signing a letter.

Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said when do you need it by.

Jeff Plasterer said it'll be in mid-December before we send it on.

Mike said we had the letter done, but we didn't have our typed names under our signatures and I think you probably want that, so.

Jeff Plasterer said yes please.

Mike said okay.

Jeff Plasterer said that'll be great. Thank you so much for your continuing support. We really appreciate it.

Mike said okay. And we have some, we can pay our dues out of EDIT. So, we have some other EDIT matters to consider at our next meeting, so we'll just table that until our next meeting and consider the dues at that time.

Jeff Plasterer said thank you very much.

Mike said thank you Jeff. Have a good day. Mike said did that raise any citizen comments at this time. Hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn. You got something Gary.

Gary said yes. This bill we received from J&K for the, on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the \$12,000 that Chris talked about.

Laura said I haven't had a claim on it unless. This is a quote.

Gary said right. Do we need to approve that or what's the situation? They were going to go ahead and do that.

Mike said I'm not sure what we're talking about.

Gary said it's a, I think Chris sent out emails about the unit, for different unit for a paging system.

Mike said well Chris has left. I'd say we take it up at our next meeting.

Gary said I don't know what their time frame is on this. They said they were having issues and he thought that would correct it. So, I didn't know.

Laura said can I keep this.

Gary said yes.

Mike said okay.

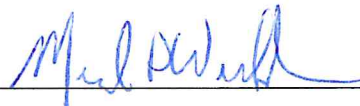
**Adjournment**

Mike said now I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

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

Reviewed and signed this 16 day of January, 2023

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
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ATTEST: Laura J. Martin  
Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County