

## **Randolph County Commissioners**

**March 17, 2025**

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

Pledge of Allegiance

### **Council's update**

Gary said we'll open up the commissioners' meeting. First on our agenda is the council update. Who do we have for the council today for update? Larry come on up. You have to come up so we can hear you.

Larry Preston said I'm here, but I don't think there's any updates, talking to fellow councilman so, we'll see what happens next meeting.

### **Jake Donham - RCFFO HVAC Controls repair**

Gary said Jake, good morning. How are you today?

Jake Donham said doing good. You guys?

Gary said great.

Jake Donham said so, I brought up earlier, a couple quotes from Honeywell. I got hit these past couple months at the old hospital pretty good with a couple of larger expenditures, one of them being the backflow and another one being a mixing valve on the hot water side. And we kind of came to the conclusion that you're doing a lot of water main work right out front of the old hospital, and they had to change out a water shut off valve on the main. And when it did, I think we just got enough dirt and debris and got stuck, and caused a lot of issues. So, that absorbed quite a bit of my Cum Cap building maintenance line item pretty quick the past couple of months. And then we had some computer problems with the HVAC. I'm not real techy, but we have a computer in my office that runs everything that's programmed that talks to more computers to talk to all the devices. And so, the in between devices are the jaces and there're two of them. One of them has been on the fritz, and we've had it looked at a couple times now

and it finally did just die. So, I have no communications with the boiler, the chiller, the rooftop units or the first floor or the basement. I have no communications. I can't see what they're doing and I can't adjust anything. And we're having problems with hot and cold spots. The remedy to this is to have one possibly, the one that went bad sent off, rebuild, which I don't think they recommend the way they priced it, and they also said that those devices are four to five generations behind the newest ones that they're putting in now. To replace those two jaces was that quote.

Gary said sixteen, seven hundred?

Jake Donham said yes. And so, I was wanting to see if I could get some funding for that and get that. He said they got the, there's a common device, they got them, he said it's a simple fact as soon as he gets the okay. He's already got the programming, he can get them loaded up and get on site within a week or two and get it back on line hopefully. So, it's not something, there's no lead time on it or whatever.

Gary said okay. And then the other?

Tom said that's just a rebuild.

Gary said was just the rebuild?

Jake Donham said yeah, yeah. One is to rebuild the existing.

Gary said okay. What you need is your Cum Cap is running out?

Jake Donham said yeah.

Gary said we can use the Commissioners' Cum Cap to do this.

Jake Donham said yeah, because I'm sitting at, I only have about forty-five hundred in my Cum Cap right now for the rest of the year. And I've got a rooftop unit I'm having looked at tomorrow that had a bunch of fried wires. So, that's not good. So, I'm probably going to eat that up pretty quick.

Gary said Missy, anything?

Missy said no.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said no.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve this payment for \$16,700.29 using Commissioners' Cum Cap?

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

Jake Donham said and also, while I'm here, I got a couple quotes for all the lawn care and spraying the tower sites and all that from a couple different vendors, one being All Brothers, the other is Myers Landscaping and Excavating. And I recommend going with Myers Landscaping and Excavating. They were about \$500.00 cheaper on a weekly roughly.

Gary said okay. This is in your budget, we just need to pick the vendor?

Jake Donham said yeah, yep. I just wanted to make sure everybody is on the same page. We got some different quotes.

Gary said do you have a recommendation?

Jake Donham said Myers. We used them. He gives us a pretty good price.

Gary said does he take care of our towers too?

Jake Donham said yeah, yep. Yeah, that's everything.

Gary said alright.

Jake Donham said he gives us a pretty decent price. He's also one of the contractors, snow removal and so forth.

Gary said do you need to enter into a contract?

Jake Donham said or just okay the estimate, or his yearly estimate.

Gary said everybody familiar with these estimates?

Missy said yeah.

Tom said yeah.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve the one from Myers Landscaping?

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

Gary said SBOA, you, what office are you looking at?

Jake Donham said Laura and I kind of interacted with that. She had the lady contact me. I wanted them to see the office to make sure it's going to be a fit or not.

Gary said right.

Jake Donham said so, she called me, kind of explained what was going on, and I explained the only real room I have is in the basement kind of centrally located. And so, WIFI is going to be out for her. She said I'm a 100% WIFI, phone, internet and everything. I'm like well you may want to look at other options. I don't know. She was going to contact her people and go from there. But that's really the only empty space I have is in that basement.

Gary said the one that the commissioners last year allotted for the small business association lady that was here, is there any activity in that particular room?

Laura said tornado.

Gary said tornado.

Jake Donham said oh, I haven't seen anybody in there. They set up shop and I haven't seen anybody back, and my girls out there haven't either. The old commissioners' meeting room?

Gary said yeah.

Jake Donham said yeah, yep. They got some tables and chairs and some filing cabinets in there, but other than that, I don't, haven't seen anything out there.

Gary said alright. Tom, you anything for Jake? Missy?

Missy said no.

Gary said I do not either. Thank you.

Jake Donham said thank you guys.

#### **Mayor Bob McCoy - update**

Gary said before I go on, Mayor, I'm sorry I skipped you. Do you have anything this morning for commissioners?

Bob McCoy said Animal Shelter, finally going up. Very slow process. You'd think you could put up something like that and not have to deal with all the red tape. I mean you guys found that out on the ambulance building. Hopefully, that building will be finished the next month or so. Basically, going to be, basically, building a shell and trying to get as many volunteers to do a lot of the interior work, just do the cost and what it cost to maintain the shelter and budgets and

everything else, because we don't know what's coming in the future. Community Crossings 2025-1 was awarded last week, so, one million, I think one million, two, the project's worth one million 486 is I remember right. Think we'll open the bids on April 17<sup>th</sup> and completion date is October of this year.

Gary said anything else?

Bob McCoy said nope.

Gary said any questions for the mayor anybody?

Missy said I do. Bob, if you don't mind, and I know you worked diligently on it, and I see one of your photos here, and it is a real issue, the blight around Randolph County, and within cities itself, and to say that well the cities can take care of it, often times they're LLCs that you can't even get to correspond back with you. So, what's an answer on that? I mean, we need to have some, we need to find out who should be citing these, whether it's from the Health Department, wherever it's going to come from. But, they just tend to grow in every community you go to?

Bob McCoy said well I think we had talked about it a little bit, with the LLCs, it's a game they play with money. I think it's just building a portfolio. They basically assume a property through a tax sale, throw a yellow sign up in the yard for sale or actually for sale on contract, they have no interest in selling it outright. It never gets occupied.

Missy said they depreciate it on their taxes.

Bob McCoy said yes, exactly. So, the intent is not to rent it out or anything. It's about building a portfolio. I mean, I've got so many of them, so shutting their water off, sewage, that really doesn't affect them any. I mean that will work in some cases. I really don't, I mean the Health Department, that right there and unsafe building laws, but getting things through the court, Meeks will tell you it's a very slow process. And then if you have squatters in there, I just saw where the State House did nothing with the bill that would have helped us with the squatter situation. I don't know why. I mean when you're talking about somebody's own property, can't get rid of somebody that just decides to show up, we just keep plugging away. I mean, I had Losantville in last week asking me how we went about tearing down houses. I gave him all the information I had. I just told him to stay on your lawyer's rear end and I mean, just keep documenting it. Isn't that right, Meeks? I mean, just keep push, push, push.

Meeks said it's not just in the cities either.

Missy said yeah, I know.

Bob McCoy said you've got one out on 27 North that's just slowly fell apart right before the storage buildings. And I don't know who owns that now but I mean, it's ugly when you come into the community and if that's one of the things you see, you know, we do need to address that.

Missy said yeah, and do we go through our Health Department and have them go out and do some inspections or you know, we need to figure out how to handle that.

Bob McCoy said I don't know and I don't know who has authority over the Health Department other than Dr. Sowinski. I mean, do you guys have any authority whatsoever? That's a questionable thing and then, I don't know.

Meeks said you need to budget money into enforcement line in the Health Department. They don't have any budgeted money in there. Or the council needs budget money in there.

Gary said right. But you've got to put teeth in.

Meeks said that's your problem. I mean, there's no money allocated to draft or tear them down.

Gary said well maybe it's a start, something we need to start taking care of.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said the authority the commissioners have over the Health Department, they've got a Health board. We've got a Health office, Dr. Sowinski. Our authority over them goes through them, to my understanding.

Tom said can the building inspector be involved in that?

Gary said I do not know, if the building inspector would be involved.

Meeks said well you have a housing ordinance if you look up in the ordinances, you have a housing ordinance.

Gary said and again, you've got to put some money in.

Meeks said well you'd need, yeah, that's exactly what needs to happen.

Gary said okay. Maybe we can start by putting, this year, council can look at putting some money in the enforcement of starting to take on the blight in the county. It's everywhere.

Bob McCoy said yeah, and it's a slow, no matter where you're at, it's a slow process. I mean, that Ludy Road, I mean, we're going to be at a year.

Meeks said you have a hearing.

Bob McCoy said what's that?

Meeks said you have a hearing on that.

Bob McCoy said we do. I mean, and that's the crazy thing, it's been bounced from court to court. Now we're in Superior Court. We do have a hearing, but now I have a court order to clean it up, but I got people in there squatting. So, I have to have them removed, which I had to move out of Union City in the Superior Court because they couldn't hear the case. And again, I mean, I think the Health Department is involved, that would be great getting something out of them that may expedite the process.

Gary said you've got a lot of experience. You could be the blight czar for us down the road.

Missy said it's definitely changed in the last 5 years.

Gary said you've got a lot of experience on how to get there.

Bob McCoy said well I mean it's, yeah, we've took down, I think we've took down 18 houses.

Meeks said you go to the tax sales, not put them in the tax sale, give them back to the cities.

Bob McCoy said and that's another thing. I mean, when you have a tax sale, certificate sale, maybe it's going to stay in the best interest of the counties and the cities to not allow them to go to bidders or maybe somehow lock some of these people out. I don't know how you'd do it, but I know they are very good at creating LLCs. But it's crazy, all these LLCs all go to the same address on McFarland Road in Indianapolis. Hmm, 5454 I think, matter of fact.

Gary said you probably can't lock a buyer out, but you can probably lock out a property in this location. So, okay. Well that's the information, I think.

Missy said I think you need to look at them individually and decide which ones you want to allow to go to tax sale, if it was somebody who passed and there's no living heirs to take it, and it's still a pretty nice house and it would sell, versus these that have just junk spewed all, and it's growing across the county.

Bob McCoy said it's a, I'd say it's probably a national problem. I mean, it's definitely a state problem.

Missy said and empty lot is better than these, and it's not dangerous. And some of these are really dangerous. And some of them, you have vagrants who are squatting in those, like you

said, over time periods and that's a danger if your house is 12 feet away from that and they'd somehow start a fire because they're cooking something in there.

Bob McCoy said well, and I was actually going to get a little bit more information before I got that all to you, is, I don't know how many times we've had to go down there for domestic fights between the squatters. I mean, threatening each other and then we've had fires down there because the guy was using an old Naugahyde chair to cook over. He lit it and was smoking chicken on, I mean, black smoke, I mean it's just crazy.

Missy said and it was brought up, you and I had talked about this, several months ago it was brought up to get to the State Legislature to address this and they have not moved on it at all.

Bob McCoy said there's actually a bill in the House and the Senate that I think are both dead.

Missy said yep, they are.

Gary said okay. Anything else, Mayor?

Bob McCoy said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said no, thank you.

Gary said Tom? Okay.

#### **Brad Mullens – Surplus ambulance and internet issues**

Gary said next up on our agenda, Brad.

Brad Mullens said good morning.

Gary said good morning. Surplus ambulance and internet issues.

Brad Mullens said yes. The ambulance that wasn't traded in on our last one, I'd just like to know what you guys would want me to do with it. I mean, right now, it's just sitting out at the county barn. It's cleaned out.

Gary said is it under roof?

Brad Mullens said yeah, it's underneath the roof. I've transferred the certification to our new ambulance. I didn't know if you guys just wanted it to sit out there, if you wanted me to get the information to Meeks so we can sell it. I mean, who knows what you get in a sale. I mean, you

take a chance whenever you get with one of the auction sites. We get with either Wagner or Tarter and see you know, they've done them before. I just want to get you guys.

Gary said I guess my opinion right now is it's paid for, we own it, it's not eating anything. And its wholesale value on the auction market, it would be worth more to me, I think, to leave it out there for a little bit in case we all of a sudden have a wreck need to put one in service or a failure.

Brad Mullens said and if that would happen, I'd have to contact the State of Indiana and get, start the whole process over again of getting it recertified, because once you buy a new ambulance and it replaces one, you take that certification and it roll over to the new ambulance. So now, that is just a box sitting out there that has no authorization to take any calls.

Gary said oh, okay.

Brad Mullens said so, if you would want, say, we have two ambulances go down and you want to put that into service, then I have to contact the State and I have to get it fully restocked and then I have to have the representative from the State of Indiana come down and recertify it.

Gary said that would take what, how long?

Brad Mullens said 60 days. From the date I have to send the application in and then she comes down, she makes sure it meets everything.

Gary said that doesn't really help us then, if it's just sitting there rotting, right?

Brad Mullens said right. And my biggest concern is sitting there, we've still got to have insurance on it and all that stuff. If it's not going to be used, I mean, who knows what it might get, I mean, you know, you might get a decent amount of money, you might not get any amount of money. But I don't know why it wasn't put in on the bid when we.

Missy said to trade it in?

Brad Mullens said yeah, because it's always in the past, you trade one in to get the new one. And it just wasn't done on that one.

Gary said I do not know. If I did know, I don't remember. Okay well, I guess with that other information then, what do you think, Tom?

Tom said I think we just get rid of it. Don't think there's any reason for it to be out there.

Missy said I agree.

Gary said okay. I agree.

Brad Mullens said I will get all that information to you Meeks. I'll email it to you. You just need the year, the VIN number?

Meeks said the VIN number, yeah, VIN number, make and model.

Brad Mullens said okay.

Gary said alright. Internet issues.

Brad Mullens said yes. We're having horrible problems out of our station.

Gary said Winchester station?

Brad Mullens said yes. I'm not able to get logged in. Like this morning, I logged in and it took about 45 minutes. It just sits there and thinks and thinks and thinks, and doesn't get in. I contacted LEAP. They called me back and said it's a switch, which is going to be like \$1,800.00 or \$2,000.00 that we need to put in there. I was wondering if we could just change and go to our own internet that we pay for, and I have it in the budget.

Gary said changed to who?

Brad Mullens said to Frontier, the fiber. That's what we just went to at Farmland in their station and they're having great luck with it over there. It's very fast. It's very secure.

Missy said I've seen Comcast going all around, at least Winchester, dropping new lines down and pulling them through.

Bob McCoy said Frontier.

Missy said Frontier, thanks. Would that be anything that can go that way? Sometimes the security on that on Municipal is not that great.

Bob McCoy said I think what he's talking about though, and I'm sorry to interrupt but, we switched to fiber through Comcast and that whole switch was supposed to be, basically, save us money, ended up costing us more money because once you switch to fiber, you have to have additional switching. So, I don't, have you guys recently switched to fiber or has it always been fiber?

Brad Mullens aid we just went to fiber at the Farmland station Friday.

Bob McCoy said but as far as the Winchester station, have you always been fiber?

Brad Mullens said no, no, we just had the county internet.

Bob McCoy said got you. Okay. I didn't know, maybe that, because I know we had to buy a lot of switching when we switched to fiber. So, I'm surprised LEAP can't figure that out though.

Laura said I did talk to LEAP and they said there's not an issue on speed out there. He said the only issue he seen was your tv and it needs a new tv.

Gary said could that bog it down?

Brad Mullens said the tv is working fine. I cannot get on. I have a 116 run reports that I need to get the billing to get mailed and it's not letting us in.

Gary said well let's get LEAP out there and make sure, but if that doesn't work, changing, it doesn't bother me as long as it's not changing from one to the other and we don't get anywhere. But I think we've got to keep the county security going on.

Laura said they're on the same internet as us and RCFFO, and they're the only ones having problems. I don't understand that.

Gary said yeah, that's what we need to find out. Why we're having a problem there and you don't have as good

Brad Mullens said and we've had problems for years out there at the county, where some days it works, some days it doesn't work, some days it's very, very slow.

Gray said then we just need to look into that station and find out where the hang up is it.

Brad Mullens said every time that Joseph comes out there, he says your speed looks great, but it's something, and this time it was a switch they said they needed to change.

Gary said a switch they needed to do at the location?

Brad Mullens said uh huh.

Gary said okay. Well, I think we need to let them do their work there first and see if we can, I mean, see if there is a route through getting it corrected, and just stay with the county internet. As far as which internet it is, I'm not totally, I don't, I mean, I don't want to switch just over the fact that we haven't figured out what the real problem is.

Missy said we need to do it quickly though.

Brad Mullens said my big concern is that if we can't get these runs sent off, they just keep on building and building and building and building up and then you know, we're getting behind and

we're not you know, getting the bills sent off in a timely manner but our billing company can get collections on us.

Gary said the only thing I'm concerned with is will Verizon internet be the answer?

Brad Mullens said it's not, it's Frontier.

Gary said or Frontier, I'm sorry. Will that internet be the answer or, is there something else going on out there right?

Tom said sounds like an equipment issue.

Gary said yeah. I think we need to find out what's going on and then make a decision on all the information, what's going on. But I agree with Missy too, it's got to be quickly. You can't be sitting there because two weeks from now, what would your run data be?

Brad Mullens said it will be over probably 300 runs.

Gary said how long does it take to put one in?

Brad Mullens said they're in the computer. We just have to send them off to the billing company. So, the runs are done. Once they get done by whoever takes the call, then it comes to us, to me and Dalton. Me and Dalton make sure that all the information is in there, all the billing information, then we send it off to the billing company. They're just sitting dormant in our file that we can't send them off.

Gary said okay.

Missy said and that goes from having the daily ones that couldn't go, then to the weekly ones that couldn't go, and now the monthly ones that couldn't go.

Brad Mullens said right. That could be a month's worth of them then.

Missy said so, it's one that there was a huge amount that they can't push through that portal. It's yeah, can you get somebody to come out and look at that?

Gary said yeah, I mean I want you to, I agree, I want you to have the best. We pay LEAP to make sure this doesn't happen. So, if LEAP needs to get it.

Brad Mullens said I sent emails back and forth with Joseph and I'm going to give him a call today when I get back after this meeting just to you know, see what exactly needs to be done.

Gary said can you just ask it to download? I mean, it will not download at all?

Brad Mullens said huh uh.

Gary said that's got to be something going on out there.

Brad Mullens said yeah, they're just sitting out and.

Gary said yeah, we just need to get that, we pay them to make sure that doesn't happen. We just can't switch internets every time something doesn't get fixed. If it's unfixable, yeah. Then I'd say we've got to switch right away. Does that make sense?

Brad Mullens said okay. Yeah. I'll get ahold of Joseph.

Missy said Brad, how about the computer itself that you're trying to manipulate that through? Is it older?

Brad Mullens said they just updated it. He said they put the Windows 11. They said that should be up to date for now. They said within the next two years, it probably needs to be, the ones in the office need to be re-changed. We just re-changed the ones that are on the truck doing the run sheets, so.

Gary said Brad, let us get LEAP out there like immediately and report back, report or just report to the commissioners directly exactly what's going on in an email, because if it's equipment failure, we just can't switch internets to overcome what we're paying to already have taken care, I think, in my opinion. But we can't leave you hanging either. So, I'd say, if we're not fixed the next time we meet the first of April, and then something has to happen.

Brad Mullens said okay.

Gary said what do you think, Tom?

Tom said I agree.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said yeah, I agree.

Tom said I think he should be out here today.

Gary said yeah.

Tom said if it's been down awhile.

Gary said because you're the same internet as this whole entire courthouse is on, and that's a lot of data that's transferred daily and you should be able to do the same thing. We need to find out from him, Joseph what, I can't hardly, I mean, I don't know if a tv could just stop you, but, we just need to know why you can't have internet there and everybody else can. And that's what they get paid to figure out for us. And if it's unfixable, then we'll know that. If it's fixable then I think we continue on, because we already have all of our security set up. Anything else on this, Missy? Tom? Anything else, Brad?

Brad Mullens said I was just going to give you an update on the Farmland station. We got released by the building inspector to have people stay there now. As of last Wednesday, the crews have moved from the Farmland station to the new Farmland station. We've got everything moved in, had the internet put in, our paging system, has got some minor stuff done. There is some brick that had fallen down. It looks like the whole front of it had been fixed sometime since Friday, and when I went by today, I didn't look at the back because the back is a lot worse than what the front is. I mean there were 2 or 4-foot chunks that were coming out in the back. There're some odds and ends stuff that you know, underneath the shower needs to be caulked. There're some doors that go out in the garage, the brackets weren't molded in, some minor stuff. Did have some issues with the painters.

Gary said did they clean up?

Brad Mullens said but, our crews took about 4 or 6 hours of scrubbing, finally got the paint that the painters dumped down the drain in the bathroom.

Gary said but he's aware of that?

Brad Mullens said yes. He is aware of that. I was there with inspection with Danny. He says he plans on coming back as soon as the weather breaks to get the landscaping, the grass done, and put in the generator and the AC.

Gary said and when I spoke to him, he's going to check every rock on it and make sure. The way that happened is they were rocking on a colder day, at the same time on the inside, they were nailing on three quarter inch plywood and drywall up front and it was shaking it off as it was going on. I seen a huge section come off when I was standing there.

Brad Mullens said we got everything moved in. I'm going over later on this afternoon to get everything out of the Farmland fire station, get it cleaned up and have a meeting with the fire chief to go over and make sure everything is kosher, the way we took possession of it is the way their getting it back. So, we'll be totally out of there this afternoon.

Gary said are you ready?

Brad Mullens said yes.

Gary said crews are ready?

Brad Mullens said yep, crews are happy, you know.

Gary said are your rolled runs out of there already?

Brad Mullens said oh yeah.

Gary said everything working fine?

Brad Mullens said yep.

Gary said good deal. Missy, anything?

Missy said thanks for your tour on Friday. I appreciate being on, I don't know anything about building, but on the west side of that, looks like there's a water pipe that's coming out of there that's not insulated or anything. Brad, do you, have you noticed that?

Brad Mullens said on the west side?

Missy said yeah.

Brad Mullens said yeah, there's one, right by the sink, be on the outside of the sink?

Missy said yeah, yeah.

Brad Mullens said there's a pipe.

Gary said is that exterior?

Brad Mullens said yes.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said water?

Brad Mullens said there's a big pipe and then the little pipe that's inside of it.

Gary said okay. I'll check with Danny on that. The other issue with the water line is, and I spoke with Danny Stamper from Thor on that specifically, there's supposed to be a frost protection blanket put in there for the shallow water line heading down deep. I don't know

any more details. I asked him about it and he told me that it was going to be taken care of. But if there's an exposed water line, that's an issue. I mean, I'll stop by and look at it too.

Brad Mullens said I mean, I'd like to set up times with the rest of you.

Gary said I know the riser for the sewer is there. I seen that when I drove by, the cleanout riser.

Brad Mullens said I'd like to set up times with Gary and Tom just to go over there and you can look at it, you know, and then when we do the final walk through with Danny, I would like you guys to come also to make sure we have more eyes looking at it and we're not missing little, I mean, there's some little stuff that you know, the mirror that's been on back order for a while, has not been put in yet. There's some holes where they mis-drilled some stuff and they didn't fill them. I mean, just minor stuff like that, if we could just catch it.

Tom said you got a list?

Brad Mullens said yeah, I'm making a list, yeah. We're going to have a list and.

Missy said that one window, they didn't miter that trim.

Brad Mullens said yeah, the trim. The trim out in the bay. They just basically put wood up there and didn't curve them in to sit in properly. Looks like it was done very quickly.

Gary said probably was.

Missy said just little things.

Brad Mullens said just little stuff I'd like to let you guys go over with me and we can look at it and you know.

Gary said okay. Well, make us a list so we know exactly what if we miss you, we can be guided by it.

Brad Mullens said yep. I can do that.

Gary said alright. Thanks for your effort on that Brad. It's been quite a load to take on with being the director. So, I appreciate you.

Brad Mullens said thank you.

Tom said while he's up here, the coroner facility.

Gary said the coroner facility, yeah. I have some information from Maze Design. Maze Design is willing to do the design work on it. The design work is about 8 to 12% of the cost of the project. But he can fix a fixed price farther into it, and he's willing to do it. I think the commissioners ought to make a motion to approve to hire a designer. It's the same designer that's doing the animal shelter. It's the same designer that did the Farmland EMS, very familiar with how to work here. So, that, saying all that, that's going to take some coordination between you and the coroner, Darin. And Tom, you said you already been over to?

Tom said Area Planning?

Gary said yeah.

Tom said she said she could get everything started for a BZA hearing that we'll have to have.

Gary said we're going to, what did you find out BZA about our land, or the Area Planning?

Tom said well we have, not matter what, I'll have to go to the state, but we have 25.6 feet to the west of there. So, it's the idea, your current bays are about 14 foot wide?

Brad Mullens said yes.

Tom said and the idea is to put another bay on, larger, probably front and back with a raised roof so that he can get his vehicle completely in and close the door, with the coolers and everything in there, and then we would just take one of your bays is the concept right now of what we're looking at. And you'd lose your parking. So, your guys would have to park the extra vehicles across the street. Now where the one bay is, which I assume, coroner parking, where your current bay, the bay we'd lose would be the office side, so somebody could probably park right in front of that door, so there would be one spot there for, I assume, for the coroner. But yeah, with 25 ½ feet, we could still put a bay in and have the 10-foot setback, which is what the set back is. That's a residential area, so, that building wasn't initially built as an EMS building. But even with that, we still have to go back to the state to get special.

Gary said the BZA has to approve it.

Tom said BZA has to approve it too.

Gary said and the process is starting with the BZA now, we're starting?

Tom said yes.

Gary said okay. This next step, it has to be.

Missy said the City of Winchester owns the land back behind all that. If we would need, Bob just left, but if we would ever need any of that, the parking across the street is where we're going to have to do it, but then it, if you need to visit something in that building, there's no parking with our employees parking in those lots.

Tom said behind, I think, trying to think. I think we have 30 or 40 feet behind the building.

Missy said do you? Okay.

Tom said but that's the drainage and it drops off pretty quick.

Missy said I know.

Brad Mullens said that's what I thought. We probably owned a little bit of that and the rest, which that drainage tube.

Tom said there's about as much behind is as there is, I should have brought it. I have the drawing of it. There's about as much behind it as there is in front of it. But it would be tough to do too much behind it just because of access, and the drainage area there from the, there's a large drainage pond or runoff area there back behind there.

Gary said okay. So, what we need to do now is Commissioner's approve, and I can reach out to Maze do the design work on this.

Tom said yep.

Gary said and then that design will need to be in, get to the BZA to have them to approve. I'm sure they're going to want to see the prints on it.

Tom said yes.

Gary said the neighbors definitely will.

Missy said I'll make that motion.

Gary said okay. We've got a motion to hire, and I'll reach out to them.

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

Gary said I'll contact him today and then I will give him your contact number too, as well as Darin James, as you two will be leading to the commissioners on this.

Brad Mullens said okay.

Gary said Missy, are you alright with that?

Missy said uh huh.

Tom said do you have our, you have my number?

Brad Mullens said right, right.

Tom said you think you're okay, make you three bays?

Brad Mullens said yeah, that'll, I mean, that'll make a big difference.

Tom said and we may want to keep this one bay, okay. Is there water in any of the bays or just in the main office?

Brad Mullens said we have it in the middle bay. I mean, we have two bays to the west and two to the east, right in the middle there's a water line there.

Tom said okay.

Gary said a couple primaries that I will tell Maze design is we're looking at a 14-foot expansion to the west.

Tom said probably 14-foot interior space.

Gary said interior space?

Tom said so, I'd say put 15-foot expansions, so we end up with 14 foot.

Gary said now we want isolation between the two facilities?

Tom said well, and do we want, we probably don't need to put a new restroom in the, on that end, or do you think we need a restroom on that end? And part of that will be talk to him, Darin, can they use their current, that was one of the advantages of using that building, of not going to that extra expense if we could use the same facilities.

Brad Mullens said the good thing is, all the people that's on the coroner's office has either worked for EMS or are working for EMS. It's not a huge to do. I mean, they're still welcome to.

Gary said I don't have a problem with that.

Tom said okay.

Gary said Missy, do you have a problem with that?

Missy said no, that's fine.

Gary said when I say isolation is you don't have air flow from side to side.

Tom said oh, there you go.

Gary said not if it's totally away. Two heating systems, one for each because we don't want to cross over anything in the air duct system. And I, do you agree with that?

Tom said yes.

Missy said yeah.

Tom said I wanted to look at upgrading the current.

Gary said yeah, I would like the exterior to match as close as we can to the existing exterior. Any other major parameters Missy, you can think of, I can talk to them about the design?

Missy said no. You guys got the expertise on that.

Gary said okay. So, the broad things I'll tell them, then when we get down to the details, we'll have a meeting to go over the interior designs. Anybody else have anything for Brad?

Missy said thanks for all your work. You've done a lot, taking over and sometimes, new young ideas really go a long way. You've worked hard. I know you have.

Gary said okay. Thank you.

Brad Mullens said thank you.

**Joe Copeland and Jay Long - Paser ratings for Randolph County by SJCA. Total fee for 2025 and update for 2026 is \$66,100.00. Updated Task Order #4**

Gary said Joe and Jay.

Joe Copeland said morning. First, paser ratings. I don't know if you're familiar with paser ratings?

Gary said uh huh.

Joe Copeland said Community Crossing matching grants are based on.

Gary said I am. Tom?

Tom said I'm not.

Missy said I've been working on reading about that.

Gary said go ahead and explain what it is.

Joe Copeland said Community Crossing matching grant funds are directly related to paser ratings. You have, each community has to do paser rating and have them done and sent to LTAP at Purdue before December 1<sup>st</sup> of every year. If you don't do that, the next year's Community Crossing grant, you will not be able to get. They cut you off. So, it's really important. Now these are done every two years, for the whole thing. Then in the intermediate years is like a catchup, or recap. You know, we did this road, we did this road. So, we need to go out and have someone look at our roads and rate them for paser ratings. Asphalt is done numbers one through ten. Ten is the best, one is the worst. It's, the problem I see with paser ratings, I'll get on my soapbox but, is that you've got different people looking at them. And you're not always evaluating the same. You know what I'm saying? So, it would nice to have someone that would consistently look at them and have the same type of ratings for each road, alright, so that in the future, you could look back five years and say are we doing better, are we doing worse, how are we doing? But if you get garbage in, you're going to garbage out. So, that's the only thing I've got with that. But anyway, SJCA has given Jay and I a proposal to do the work, both for this year and an update for next year for \$66,100.00. And that includes running all the roads and evaluating. So, I didn't know if, did you get a copy of the?

Gary said I did.

Joe Copeland said so, I would recommend that you take advantage of it and have them run the roads and evaluate.

Missy said I'm in favor of this, but just one question. Do they look at bridges at all while they're?

Joe Copeland said no

Missy said okay. That's what I thought.

Joe Copeland said just roads.

Gary said I mean this is necessary.

Joe Copeland said oh, yeah, I mean, without it, you don't get Community Crossings.

Gary said where were you planning to pay for this out of if we choose to do it this way?

Jay Long said I mean, we have money in lines to do it. I mean, we just have to look at it.

Joe Copeland said you can take it out of Wheel tax.

Jay Long said yeah, I mean, it can come out of Wheel tax.

Joe Copeland said that's an allowed item because it's Community Crossings.

Gary said okay. I like that too, if SJCA, if they're doing it, we're going to have a good record. I think it is possible to have a certified person within your county doing it, but I don't, if they're not.

Joe Copeland said time is it.

Jay Long said time.

Gary said time and well, engineering experience too.

Joe Copeland said yeah, right.

Gary said while you're asking about that on Community Crossings, did we have anything coming from Community Crossings right now, submitted?

Joe Copeland said no, not for January. We're planning on doing it in July application.

Gary said July application, and is there a chosen project yet?

Joe Copeland said yeah, the first one would be bridge 42.

Gary said which is which one?

Joe Copeland said the one up on 750 North, west of 700 West. It was a culvert, large culvert. It was 19 feet and 10 or so inches long. I mean, it was this close to being actually a bridge. And it's in very, very poor condition. So, now, it's going to be a bridge. Clark Dietz designed it. But I've got an extra here with the contractors, an extended contract, \$5,000.00 for them to put together the bid documents for that bid. So, if we get the money from Community Crossings, I have to turn right around and bid it real quick.

Gary said okay. Any questions on the paser rating proposal, Tom? Missy?

Missy said no.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve this using Wheel tax?

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

Gary said what else?

Joe Copeland said next item, while you're talking about bridge 42, here's the proposal. I sent one to Laura and I think all three of you and Meeks, for a look at the contract. \$5,000.00 to put together bid documents is pretty reasonable. And sometimes they get to be about that thick too.

Tom said I move to approve that.

Gary said we have a motion, what are we approving?

Joe Copeland said we're adding \$5,000.00 to the original contract for them to put together bid documents so we can bid this project, this bridge.

Gary said okay. We have a motion. We have a second?

Missy seconded the motion.

Gary said do we have a funding source on this? Is it coming out of the same?

Joe Copeland said Cum Bridge.

Gary said Cum Bridge. Okay, we have a motion and a second to fund the extra 5,000 out of Cum Bridge. All those in favor?

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said go ahead.

Joe Copeland said next is culverts, box, concrete box culverts. I've got 4 put together and I got quotes on them from Civil Con and E3 Bridge. I tried to get a third but County Materials is an actual manufacturer, and I've been asking them for a quote. Problem is that they give their price to Civil Con, so they usually don't quote me. They won't, I hear nothing from them. The 4, Civil Con is low on all 4. It ranges anywhere from \$39,966.20 to \$68,203.52. We got to keep up with these culverts. There're so many of them and they're so bad. I've got 4 here. I'm looking at more, probably another 6 or 8, I've got on the radar. I have to visit the site and actually look at the length. That's the biggest thing. But these are ready to roll. I would recommend to approve them and I can get them ordered.

Gary said is it these culverts that are numbered 1368, 2001?

Joe Copeland said those are the actual numbers on GIS, yes. And I've had Ed look at it. Ed is good with it.

Gary said and the amount of money we're looking at is 255 or 206? Civil Con or E3 Bridge?

Joe Copeland said 206 with Civil Con, the low quote.

Gary said okay.

Laura said you need that quote signed. I think there're three.

Gary said while we're doing that, Missy, what are you thinking?

Missy said yeah, I'm for it.

Gary said Tom?

Joe Copeland said yeah, we need it signed or I'll sign it and just say it was approved by the commissioners this day. So, either way.

Laura said there're 4 here. 4 Civil Con quotes, right?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary said alright. We have a motion for all 4 Civil Con quotes?

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

Gary said I forgot to ask, where are you funding from? The funding?

Joe Copeland said this will come out of Cum Bridge also.

Gary said what else, Joe?

Joe Copeland said I've got a title sheet here for bridge 32, which bids in July. We've been talking about this one for a while. And there was a little agreement that had to be signed. INDOT requires that the title sheet be signed by the commissioners and I have to sign this, and I think you have to have the auditor's signature requirement on it too.

Laura said that's the same as this, right?

Joe Copeland said yes. It's just, Perry brought, there're two. Perry brought 2 full sized 24 by 36s, engineer size.

Gary said I don't think I've ever signed a large print before? Why is this?

Joe Copeland said really?

Gary said no.

Joe Copeland said Perry brought it. It doesn't matter. I could do it on 11 by 17.

Gary said no, it's fine.

Joe Copeland said do you have something?

Jay Long said yeah, I do. I've got two things, touch on the internet.

Joe Copeland said hopefully, we're still up. I've asked for it in an email for 100% money for this bridge. So, hopefully, they've still got some money and we can get the money. I had the project manager INDOT also give us an atta boy to get it. So, hopefully, we'll be able to get that 100%. That's worth, you know, better than \$200,000.

Gary said right.

Joe Copeland said it's well worth it, yeah. And that's all I had this morning.

Gary said don't go anywhere. Maybe you can sit right over there, and you can stay there. Perry, maybe you and your gentleman can go over there. Chad Roots.

**Amendment to the original contract with Clark Dietz to put together bid documents for CCMG project. Bridge 42 on 750N West of 700W (originally a large culvert). Adding \$5,000.00 for task.**

Perry said Joe, do they need to make a motion to approve that CE contract? Do they need to make a motion for the CE32?

Gary said I'll ask Meeks. Do we need to make a motion for the contract we signed?

Meeks said you just sign it. Yeah, probably should.

Gary said alright.

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

**Chad Roots-800 N / Fairview Quarry**

Gary said Chad, you can sit up front. You're the presenter.

Chad Roots said well thanks for adding me to the agenda today. I wanted to give you guys a quick kind of update on, since we got two newer commissioners. We started discussing a project over at our quarry with the county about a year ago this month. So, last March of 24, it was discussed about a proposed possible bridge over the Mississinewa, over to State Road 28. We quickly realized that that was a preposterously sized project. Talked to Joe quite a bit there. We realized that that had no traction. We then kind of looked at some options there about what made some logical sense. And for some background information, we're essentially closing down what we call the Ridgeville quarry. The Ridgeville quarry is located just east of the town of Ridgeville. We expect our final blast there to be this summer, at which time we'll be essentially kind of closing down activities. We'll process the stone that's there. The sales activity will continue for probably another year or two at that location. But we'll be ramping up activity at what we call our Fairview location, which is about State Road 28 and Highway 1. So, the state road highway, or State Road 28 and Highway 1 is kind of that location where we're, we've been talking about the difficulties in access. The roadway heading west known as River Road, is very winding and not reasonably good access. The entrance is located on 1000 West right at the bend

of River Road. And the best access and most importantly, the access most likely taken by independent truck drivers is from that entrance south down 1000, east on 800 North, to Highway 1. So, we've focused in on that route and we noticed that there was originally a safety issue at the intersection of 800 North and Highway 1. We brought that to the county's attention, explored that, the county engaged SJCA to do some preliminary study on cost. Among about 3 different alternatives, that ranged between 4 to 7 million dollars. So, a little bit of a sticker shock I think, was an understatement. Those were conservatively done on the high end. So, we looked at things and said well, where can we value engineer things, where can we assist to really help make this work for all parties? We undertook ourselves to meet with a multitude of other firms, other companies and see what we can do to try to create a solution for the county and for us. We looked at various products, such as cold mix asphalts with Asphalt Materials Incorporated. There was a product that is useable, but only on existing pavement base, which I don't think would be applicable here, given a nasty S curve that would need to be straightened out on 800. We also looked at some kind of public/private partnerships, which I don't think fit the needs for Randolph County. So, essentially, we're kind of at that point now where the need for not only public safety, but for the continued business flow is really for two-way traffic on 1000 West and 800 North, which does include probably widening not only roadways, but the intersection, and then straightening of the, what we call the S curve. We did kind of I think, collectively kind of move away from the concept of moving the intersection of 800.

Gary said right.

Chad Roots said yep, for two reasons, one, cost, number two, really that, there's a flood zone there. The floodway, and putting a road back into a floodway is not a logical move. And then finally, I don't think we were getting probably the traction that we were looking for from INDOT as a partner in that. So, now, we're kind of at this point, bringing some, bringing two alternatives. I've emailed Mr. Copeland kind of two thoughts, one of which is, as we stated, the whole reconfiguration. US Aggregates is committed to helping with the project. And when I say that, we want to, obviously, we have a lot of stone available right on site, that would be something we'd want to contribute. And then we also looked at what can we do in a monetary sense and how do we contribute and how do we figure out what that means in a monetary sense? So, we did look at another alternative, which was completely moving our entrance to the S curve. And that cost associated with moving to that S curve is, I think what we kind of saw as that break even balance point to say hey, if we've, if we're going to move it, all the cost associated with moving it to the east, scale house, scales, drive entrance and eliminate the needs to redo quite a bit of roadway there, then at least we can, if you guys choose to do all the roadway, we can contribute that quality of dollars. So, at this point, I think I can probably yield the floor back to you guys and address and questions you might have.

Gary said I'll tell you the quality dollars will have a whole lot to do which route the county wants to take, right?

Chad Roots said yeah.

Gary said so, I'm thinking, and I've spoke with you, if the county chooses to move, to work with you while you move your weigh station clear to the S curve, then you're not going to have any dollars to do?

Chad Roots said correct?

Gary said right now, I personally feel I don't want to set that weigh station by that person's house, actually.

Chad Roots said yeah. It would be right at the.

Gary said right at the S curve.

Chad Roots said right at the, yes, correct.

Gary said so, I guess now up to the commissioners is what are we going to do? That's why we have Perry from SJCA. Sir, I forget your name.

Sam Majors said Sam.

Gary said Sam.

Sam Majors said Sam Majors

Gary said road people, of course, our engineer. So, I think we could ask some advice from the people that know road building where we should go, how we should go.

Joe Copeland said want me to start? I'll start.

Gary said start with Joe. Joe, you'll probably want to come around. The speaker needs to come to the microphone.

Joe Copeland said right now, are you saying that you don't want the weigh scale near that house, is that what you're?

Gary said I said my opinion is I would, I would look at the options, but I would not like to set the weigh scales close to his house.

Joe Copeland said okay, alright.

Gary said the homeowner or the next buyer of that house. I don't want to inadvertently just ruin that property by dropping the gates to it. There's a lot of traffic coming in and out of there really close.

Joe Copeland said to widen the road, we need to redo the road. I mean, it's total rehab. And you can do that with stabilization, okay. Now, there're different ways to do stabilization. You can

use just powder cement, lime, if it's got the right soils. And here a few weeks ago, we talked with the Ready-Mix Association about the idea of cement slurry, which is made up of cement, water and sand. And that can be placed on the roadway and ground into the road base, everything, down, and the highway can go 12 inches deep with the asphalt zipper. Right Jay? So, my thought is to try to control cost as much as possible is to see how much this material is going to cost, the cement. Now, they'll bring it to the job site, but the county would need the asphalt zipper, it would need a pad foot roller, which they just purchased a used one, okay. So, we have that. We have a road grader. We have the tools to do it, okay. We've got to take care of some drainage, some pipes and things. But I really think the highway could go out there and in cooperation with a local concrete company, go out there and stabilize that base. Now, it's not going to be done in a day or even two days. But I mean, the first day will be limited to what they do to get used to, you know, what's entailed. But then once you get that done, then we're going to have to put something over the top of it. And I don't think a chip seal is enough. It would be too rough. So, you're going to either do one of two things. You're either going to put some stone on it and some asphalt or you're going to put some asphalt, one of the two, okay. And it'll make a pretty good road. Now, have I seen cement slurry done? Yes, we did a private project in Hancock County when I was there. It works. We had a couple spots that they missed, or we missed, and had to go back and do a little work on it, but it wasn't big spots. And it sets, it can set up quick. You know, within 3 hours, you're seeing it get hard. So, you've got to get on it and get it done in a fairly decent time. Now, the question in my mind is do we do all 800. Of course, if we're going to use 800, clear from 1000 West, you've got to do it all. You've got to go clear to 1. And we've got to fix those curves. I reached out to SJCA about the idea of designing those curves, flattening them out so it would make it easier for trucks to get through there. We're talking 22-foot wide pavement on that road. And that way, we can, I mean, we'd have to purchase property off of the south property owner. But I would set it so that the property that the house is on would not be bothered. We'd stay away from his, because his comes down to that first curve. I think it's in that first curve. And we stay away from him and bring that curve off before we get there, and then smooth it out to 1. And they brought a, they have a price to do that, and I believe that includes right-of-way engineering, right, so, which is legal descriptions.

Gary said any utilities that are involved in this?

Sam said there're overhead utilities that we'll have to deal with so, that'll be part of it.

Gary said is that part of the scope will you work on?

Sam said yeah. We can include it. I don't think that we included that in that original number, but I think we could include it.

Joe Copeland said it shouldn't be, that shouldn't be a big, depending on what company it is.

Sam said I think it's just one, it may be just one company. I'm not sure who.

Gary said what about the right-of-way going to the south, what if we can't get the property? Do we have to take another step?

Joe Copeland said then we've got a problem. Then, you're either looking at doing something else, or eminent domain.

Gary said okay. While we're talking it, this is a 50-year project for stone, is that correct? Does that still stand?

Chad Roots said correct. More than.

Gary said more than 50 years. Go ahead and continue.

Joe Copeland said well, so, the biggest question in my mind is, do we do all of 800 or does he put that weigh station over there near the curve and we do a shorter piece which includes the curve over to State Road 1, which would cut our cost dramatically. I mean, you know, not do all of 800 that way from 1000 West over to where the curves begin.

Gary said I guess some of that too, would depend on what the amount of monetary support would be coming from US Ag. Would there be enough monetary support or at least close enough to get the whole road taken care of, or not? And then we do go to 1200, are we going to go around the culvert, jog off into US Ag property and you build the road to stay off the culvert. That's in this design too, right?

Chad Roots said to stay off the culvert. Well, we do anticipate, as part of our contribution obviously, to donate all the land necessary for any changes. As far as the culvert, I am not sure what the.

Gary said I didn't know if we were going to jog off, to stay off of that culvert with the heavy equipment?

Chad Roots said I don't think there's a way to avoid it.

Gary said okay.

Joe Copeland said we've got to replace it.

Gary said you got to replace it?

Joe Copeland said it's way under, the one on 1000 West is way undersized.

Chad Roots said unless you're talking about the legal drain that's going straight due north.

Gary said no, I was talking about your land, wondering if we could jog around the culvert?

Joe Copeland said because the culvert up stream from that one has to be replaced. It's bad. Gary said well, before we go another step, I guess, Tom, some input?

Tom said I agree, I'd rather not move it next to that residential property. What's the distance, additional road that you'd have to widen.

Sam said the whole stretch is 1.4 miles on 800 and 1000 West combined.

Joe Copeland said was it 6/10 of a mile maybe roughly.

Tom said stuff we could still do in house.

Joe Copeland said I mean, are the trucks going to go east, or west I mean on 800 North, if the weigh station is moved? Possibly, but you know, you could put signs up, no trucks or something, to try to keep them off of it.

Gary said anything else, Missy?

Missy said no, I'm just listening.

Gary said I have another question too. Were you coming out of the stone quarry pit itself, and your jogging over by the property line to come over to the S curves, what if you come straight down, back that property off, back the weigh station off.

Chad Roots said we could, I think the way we've engineered that so far, is to take that all the way to the property line, only to minimize the amount of stone that we cover up in the future.

Gary said oh, as you're coming that way, then you'd have to split the road. That makes perfect sense.

Tom said what's the access like once you hit 1? Is it safe?

Gary said no, INDOT is aware of it.

Tom said well I thought it was an issue.

Joe Copeland said I mean, it's, we build the road and INDOT of course, got to put some signage, there's no doubt about it. But then, some of the liability, I would think, in turn goes to INDOT.

Gary said oh, I agree.

Joe Copeland said INDOT has got to come up with some ideas to, we're forcing some action out of INDOT.

Gary said they're not going to jump ahead of us from what I've talked to them.

Joe Copeland said oh no, they're not going to not going to spend any.

Chad Roots said they want to see the statistics first. They want to see the counts at that intersection, and unfortunately, they'll probably want to see something worse than that before they're going to do something. We've talked internally about funding our own solution for INDOT, but I'm not so sure that that's, taking on that liability for the state, it makes the right appropriate amount of sense either.

Gary said can we get engineers involved now? Perry? We're working on getting this all corrected. Now, during this conversation here, could you give us a ball park figure of the two scenarios of where you're thinking may or may not land, what to expect from what you know?

Sam Majors said so, Joe had asked us to specifically come up with a cost for what it would take to design those curves, just specifically the S curves and the county, itself would handle the rest. So, with that, we came up with a dollar amount of \$94,000 and that includes survey, design and right-of-way engineering, and construction engineering if assistance is needed during construction. But that's to design those S curves and for survey.

Gary said \$94,000 to design the S curves?

Sam Majors said yes. Well, \$94,000 for everything included.

Joe Copeland said and includes legal descriptions.

Sam said yeah, legal descriptions, right-of-way engineering.

Perry Knox said not right-of-way acquisition. That would be different.

Gary said is there any thought on what the cost of the acquisition would be, as from your experience?

Sam said I'm not sure. Joe, do you have?

Joe Copeland said you mean as far as appraisals or?

Gary said what the county, what the county could expect to have to pay for that land?

Joe Copeland said going rate, whatever farm ground is going for.

Gary said how much acres would we need to acquire?

Sam said not a ton.

Joe Copeland said less than an acre?

Sam said yeah, less than an acre, for sure.

Joe Copeland said less than an acre.

Gary said well it doesn't belong to us, so, it could be that times whatever.

Meeks said you have to get appraisals.

Gary said okay. So, that'll take care, what do you call the S curve when you straighten them up? Is there a name for them? I've been looking for a name.

Sam said reverse curve is an engineering term. But S curve is.

Joe said horizontal reverse curve.

Sam said yeah, horizontal reverse curve.

Tom said so, who does the negotiating with the land owner? Is that you Joe or where's that come in at?

Joe Copeland said well, we have a company on contract to do that kind of work.

Gary said so, part of this scope, somebody would be taking care of the acquisition portion of this.

Perry Knox said yeah, that would be in addition to the quote he gave you.

Gary said working with our attorney to make sure we're doing it the proper way.

Perry Knox said yeah, there would be an addition to the quote he gave you, yeah.

Gary said I know, yeah.

Chad Roots said this is a locally funded project. I'm not sure that US Aggregates could pursue that as a private purchase first, and then donate that, I don't think without it being a conflict, once we have that description.

Gary said so, that would simplify things a lot if US Ag could acquire that piece of property from the landowner and then donate it to the project.

Joe Copeland said yeah.

Gary said so, right now, let's just say we're looking at toward a \$150,000.00, just to get the curves ready. I know that's high, but at least we won't be caught off guard. Well, it may not be high. I hope it is.

Perry Knox said are you putting in using forces for the culvert? Are you doing that one? You're going to replace that culvert on 800, or excuse me, 1000? How are you going to replace?

Joe Copeland said well if they do this, it's not going to be, I planned on replacing the upstream one anyway, and the down, if I replace the upstream, I might as well replace it.

Gary said so, we got two questions in my mind right now, and it would be commissioners' decision to decide, one, are we going to build a road from the S curves or are we going to build a road to 800? What would be the cost to get to 800, knowing the 150 we're going to straighten up the S curves, what will that cost from Highway 1 to 1000, forget the S curve? What would that cost me with us building that road?

Joe Copeland said did you get a price for per yard for what that slurry would cost?

Jay Long said no, he just, basically I was looking at the email.

Gary said while we're figuring this out, then what's the price from the S curves to the highway? That's what we need to know, the two different parameters, I think.

Joe Copeland said I mean the biggest difference is, are you doing, you know, you're doing, how much of 800 are you going to end up having to do, okay, number one.

Gary said right.

Joe Copeland said and if we have to do it clear over to 1000 West, how much can you rely on money from US Aggregates to help with that?

Gary said I think once we get a decision here, then that would give Chad at least something to go back to his people. And we could have a firm number before we ever put the shovel on the ground, of what the contribution would be. Some of the contribution will be in kind with support of the stone, right?

Chad said correct. So, I, we were prepared with a number today.

Gary said well good.

Chad said the, that was earlier on, like I said, the electrical cost, moving the scales, the scales, the entrance and everything else. It wasn't very costly, but there was about 150 there alone, and an additional anticipated about another 50 to 75 related to the legal drain. That legal drain was incorporated into the project, as well. So, we are between a 150 to \$200,000.00 that we're prepared to contribute to the project.

Gary said 150 on the low side for sure?

Chad said right.

Gary said okay. So, now.

Tom said it's really 225 potentially.

Gary said 225 potentially, yeah.

Tom said the other question is, if they move the scale, there's less road to maintain in the future.

Gary said sure. Well that's a decision we'll have to make.

Tom said I don't know how close and how it would look.

Gary said we will probably make the final decision in two weeks after everybody gets all this information. So, what are we thinking here because we've got to get moving on. When I was talking here too, we have all this information, the final decision I would think from the commissioners will be in the next meeting in two weeks. So, everybody can take all this and come up and then we'll call for a vote, and see which way it goes. I personally don't think there's any doubt we need to get something going there to get the stone quarry taken care of one way or the other.

Tom said I would like to see some numbers on what it's going to cost to stabilize the road.

Gary said yeah, that's what they're doing right now.

Jay Long said it's around \$350,000.

Gary said for the whole way?

Jay Long said for a mile.

Joe Copeland said for a mile. Material only.

Jay Long said yes.

Gary said material only.

Joe Copeland said so, at 6/10s of a mile, you're talking \$210,000.

Gary said that's extra, right?

Joe Copeland said that would, yeah, from the curve over to a 1000.

Gary said for material only.

Joe Copeland said for material only.

Gary said so it would be about a wash.

Tom said they're contributing.

Joe Copeland said now County Highway is going to have to put in a lot more work, yeah, labor and equipment.

Gary said so, the cost of this project is going to be somewhere in a half a million dollars?

Perry Knox said are you doing any, are you including any work from the intersection north to the quarry entrance, that culvert?

Joe Copeland said no, I'm not.

Gary said okay. So, how about just do this and get some direction here at the April meeting, we're going to make a decision and I, with both commissioners, will weigh in, I would like to know the cost including what we'll have in it, the Randolph County Highway, of doing it to the S curves and the cost of doing it to 1000? And then that would give us what we need to know to look at and decide how much we're going to invest. We've got to do one or the other, I believe. Do you agree with that?

Missy said yes.

Tom said yes.

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary said and then it gives the commissioners time to go out there and take final look, give you time to get real good hard numbers. We've definitely got two weeks to decide on this, I would say Chad, if your company would be okay with that?

Chad Roots said yes, absolutely.

Gary said can you get us a solid number from them, how much money that we can, is this solid to give us or is this the first run?

Chad Roots said I guess the one question would be is if this would take care of that county drain that's heading north, we incorporate that to run parallel with the road way.

Gary said Ed? Come up here so we can hear you, Ed. I can't leave you out now.

Ed Thornburg said our original discussions, I told him he could do anything he wanted to with the drain as long as he paid for it.

Chad Roots said and it's, thank you. We did open it up and have improved the flow on it. The section we're looking at now is from where it crosses under the county road, it's got to be worked on to where it connects where we've opened it up, that leg. We would, in the future, have to look at having to run that parallel with the road, north up 1000, release into the creek. And if we were looking at doing the road project, it would make sense if we could ditch that.

Ed Thornburg said parallel to the road, it helps the road drainage, gets the water away, makes the whole thing work.

Gary said so, the answer to the questions that include the drain, you've already included the drain with our surveyor, right? So, I mean, that's kind of already been.

Tom said where was the 50 to 75,000 that you talked about with that addition?

Chad Roots said no, no. That's what we anticipated the cost would be to run new tile. We'd have to do that on private property. If we were doing this at the same time, it would make logical sense to just go ahead and improve that ditch while we're working that new roadway.

Ed Thornburg said while it's all torn up anyway is the right time to do it.

Chad Roots said that's kind of what we thought.

Gary said so, I would say, me, I would say yes, it would have to be taking the drainage. Tom?

Tom said and that's the culvert you're talking about replacing?

Joe Copeland said 1000 West, north of 800.

Chad Roots said to that, yeah. It would head to that culvert.

Joe Copeland said yeah, it needs replaced.

Gary said okay. Go ahead Chad.

Chad Roots said nope, I was going to, and I'm sorry, I did send Laura those two exhibits that I showed to you so you guys have access to those if you want to reference those after the meeting. I apologize I didn't bring printed copies.

Gary said yeah, we've got them and I like them that way. So, we'll end this part of this meeting discussion with we will have hard numbers, Joe, or next meeting, which is April 7<sup>th</sup> I think?

Joe Copeland said as close as we can get.

Gary said well I know, as close as you can get.

Joe Copeland said there is one more item I'd like to go over, and since time is of the essence, I mean, they're going to start hauling out of there this summer.

Gary said they already are.

Joe Copeland said and the curves are going to have to be done no matter what, right?

Gary said right.

Joe Copeland said either way we go.

Gary said yes.

Joe Copeland said can you approve SJCA to get started on those curves and that design and let's get moving down the road on it?

Gary said yes. I think so. Do you think so, Tom?

Tom said yeah.

Missy said yeah, that's good.

Gary said where would we fund this one at particularly from, this a road project? I mean, we have other means of funding.

Jay Long said yeah.

Joe Copeland said Motor Vehicle Highway?

Jay long said yeah.

Gary said if this project gets to a place where we think it's going to stress on the account we can look and call on the council to, I mean this is certainly a renewable energy project too, that would be acceptable, it's infrastructure.

Jay Long said we have a couple different lines we could pull that, yeah.

Gary said do you think so, Missy?

Missy said yeah, that would be fine.

Gary said so, would somebody like to make a motion to approve the engineering on taking care of the curves?

Missy made a motion to approve.

Tom said one question. Is that the \$94,000 or is there going to be additional in that because of the power?

Sam Majors said the \$94,000 did not include the utility coordination.

Tom said do you want to put a number on that or just leave it the 90,000 and have them come back with a utility?

Gary said 94 would come back. That would get the engineer, that would get you going on it?

Perry Knox said can you, could you make a motion to, up to a certain amount and then authorize Joe to sign it, see if we get it moving faster?

Gary said on the utility part?

Perry Knox said no, on the task order of the contract.

Gary said the \$94,000?

Perry Knox said yeah.

Gary said we're doing it right now.

Perry Knox said well I mean with the utility coordination, you know, I don't know what that is.

Tom said would six grand do it?

Gary said six thousand will do it?

Perry Knox said I think that would be.

Gary said okay. We'll have to see the contract. We'll make, would you like to make a motion for up to not to exceed 100,000?

Missy made a motion to approve. Tom seconded the motion.

Gary said okay, we have a motion and a second, all this out of Motor Vehicle Highway right now. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said Chad, can you see if you can acquire that land for us and make it part of the contribution?

Chad Roots said yes.

Gary said along with the 150?

Chad Roots said yes.

Gary said so, if we had the 150,000 from US Ag and that parcel of land, is something I'd really chew on, I think. Do you think?

Tom said yep.

Gary said alright Missy, do you think?

Missy said yeah, I think it's fine.

Chad Roots said I'll bring a signed commitment back to the next meeting.

Gary said Meeks, do we need anything else right now?

Meeks asked who's the land owner?

Tom said Levy.

Gary said do any of you gentlemen have anything else to bring up right now. I think we're moving forward.

Missy said I'm going to a road school for 3 days to listen to more of this. I'm getting more confused. And that's why you talked me into it. I need to go to this road school.

**Jay Long – Internet service and 50 W and 900 N culvert**

Gary said Jay, what do you have?

Jay Long said two separate items. Basically, our internet, we called, figured out our internet. Only thing is, we're trying to figure out how to get it started. We've got to have some means of like, a credit card, to get it started.

Gary said so, this is different than the county internet we were discussing with the EMS because we don't have internet out there that's any more than air to air?

Jay Long said yes sir. Well, to touch base, his email, something went wrong with his email. They logged on to the computer and tried to fix it over the computer. It was only showing like 3 MBPS at that time. So, we're supposed to have 25.

Gary said you can't get it?

Jay Long said no, if you get 4 people on there, 5 people, it's, and it's not just searching your phone, we're trying to make orders, things like that.

Gary said just so we get this quickly, to get Star Link Business out there, which will certainly take care of everything, we have to pay by credit card.

Jay Long said yes.

Gary said and I discussed with the auditor's office, we don't want a credit card floating out in the county.

Jay Long said no, right.

Gary said I don't see any problem with putting a credit card in the auditor's office under the auditor's domain.

Jay Long said yes

Gary said to pay prompt pay. They put a limit on the card so it can't get away from us. So, the question here is one, do we want to allow the highway to pursue getting Star Link hooked up out there so we have internet?

Tom said I'm okay with that.

Missy said me too.

Gary said somebody make a motion for that?

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

Gary said now we need a motion to allow the auditor to carry a credit card in the auditor's office only, limit of, Laura?

Laura said well, I was talking to Jay and he needs basically, almost a 1,000, so I would say no more than.

Gary said 2500?

Laura said yeah, 2500.

Gary said a limit of 2500, Tom?

Tom said if we do that, are we going to put a restricted use on that where it has to be approved ahead of time, or how would we manage that?

Laura said it would have to be approved by the commissioners to be able to use it.

Gary said would go to commissioners

Tom said okay, I would approve then.

Gary said are you making a motion?

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

Gary said what else?

Missy said can I say something on this?

Gary said yes.

Missy said there are some other situations too like, just like this road school, you know, I know you guys are going to another conference, but I think your other employee's going there. It is tough for people to use their own credit card to pay for a conference if they need to, or to pay for hotel if they need to, and then you know, get reimbursed. It could be 3 weeks later. And I, we need to somehow, think about that when we have, I mean for us, if we're going to, we claim it when we get back, and that's okay. But we're asking employees to use their own credit card for gas, if they're going for, I mean, gas charges, hotel charges, and it can sometimes be, I'm just guessing, I don't know this, so, correct me, but you guys are going to a different educational conference this week, you know you're going to have gas, you're going to have hotels, you're going to have the conference fee and I'm guessing one of you is doing it for the group, okay, so you're doing it, so you could have a pretty hefty bill, and have to carry that until the end of the month. You've got to pay it.

Jay Long said I think it was 543 just for the conference, but it's 4 days. It's World of Asphalt. Tom, you're familiar with that. But then I'm going to have the gas to get there obviously, which, and then our hotel stay, I think they were 200 and some dollars, which we're going to split. You know, we're sharing rooms, two apiece. So, it's a lot. I mean we do get it paid back to us.

Missy said I know, but at some time, it's something to think about.

Gary said I think it's something, it's more than just the highway, it's county-wide.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said I think it would take a committee being put together. How we want to do it and what's going to be the standard protocol, you'd have to have the auditor on there, because the auditor's office deals with the nightmare when the things don't line up.

Laura said well and to do that, we would have to hand people the credit card. Tom and I had that discussion. I'm not in favor of that, but that's just my opinion. I'm not the one that decides it.

Missy said yeah, I agree.

Tom said we could probably at least pay for the conferences through the auditor.

Laura said well we already do that. The registration, that all gets paid through the county. So, when you register for a conference, you do it on line, and there's a drop down to bill the county, and then the county pays that direct. So, basically, the employee is paying their mileage, gas or whatever, their meals and their hotel, and then turning in the receipts for that and getting reimbursed. That's the way it's always been done since I've been here, not that always been done is the right way, but I'm just saying you know, we've had the discussion on credit cards.

Meeks said we've had a lot of problems with that.

Missy said they can be abused pretty quickly.

Laura said other counties have had some major issues.

Meeks said major, like criminal.

Laura said criminal, yes, type situation. I'm just not a big fan of credit card.

Missy said maybe that's not such a good idea, then.

Meeks said the big cost usually is the conference cost, and that's paid by the county.

Laura said and Jay and I had the discussion on this, and I'm okay with doing a very small limit credit card that that we, they have to get approval from you guys to actually use, and they'll keep that in my office, but I'm just not a big fan of handing out credit cards here and there.

Missy said yeah, I'm not either. I was thinking one that would be used for whoever needed it.

Laura said but what if several are going to the conference.

Missy said yeah, I know, several are going, yeah.

Laura said I mean, AIC, we've got usually 7 or 8 that go to that.

Missy said yeah, yeah. Now that you explained that, I understand.

Gary said okay. What else?

Jay Long said second one was 50 West and 900 North. They had a road condition up there, had some water on the road. We actually went up and looked at it. We met with the resident on the west side. I still need to contact the one on the east side. We have some, our right-of-way is out there where we're going to put a couple bowls in and actually replace a pipe. Some trucks are turning, going west and they've smashed the pipe down so far so no water is getting anywhere. It's just held there. So, we're in the process, we've got locates out for that and that's something we're hoping to start here within the next week.

Gary said 50 West?

Jay Long said 50 West and 9 North. Be 27 North.

Nate Moore said 9 North and 50 West. Half a mile west of 27.

Jay Long said yeah.

Gary said oh, okay. There's a lift station for gas there?

Nate Moore said there's a big high pressure gas line going in there.

Gary said yeah, okay.

Jay Long said so, we're in the process of that.

Gary said what else?

Jay Long said that's it

Gary said alright. Thank you.

**Other Business:**

**Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

Gary said Sheriff.

Art Moystner said the only thing I have today and I didn't put this on the agenda was we're getting to that time of year to look at cars. And I know with the new statute for contracting usually those dealers have a signed commitment for those. So, you're looking at probably, there's going to be 3 is what we'll get. We're looking at Tahoes, and you're in the neighborhood of 55,000. I haven't got an exact quote for the 2026 model years, but I guess what I'm asking you is, if there's time, I'll get those contracts and email them to you. We'll go that route. If it's something that has to be a turn around pretty quickly which is what I've gotten into the last couple of years from the auto manufacturers, I would like permission to go ahead and sign that contract for those three vehicles. They are already budgeted.

Gary said they're already budgeted?

Art Moystner said well, they will be. I mean, it's a budgeted item we get three every year.

Gary said okay.

Art Moystner said and you're looking at 55,000 is what I'm assuming they're going to be, in the neighborhood of 55,000. But I know at times, I've had a turn around where I've had a week to get that back to them. And obviously, unless you guys have a meeting that week, I'm not going to see you.

Gary said okay. So, what's the ask again?

Art Moystner said if I can sign that, just the commitment to get those cars.

Gary said oh, okay. Tom?

Tom said uh huh.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said yeah.

Gary said somebody make a motion the Sheriff can sign that?

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

Art Moystner said I wanted to make sure we didn't get us in a bind. Other than that, I don't have anything. I did not get that email.

Gary said you don't have the email for the?

Art Moystner said no sir, the jail?

Gary said yeah.

Art Moystner said Argo. I cannot find it.

Gary said Argo, thank you. I was trying to get it here, but I don't have any internet for some reason.

Art Moystner said that seems to be a theme today.

Gary said I think it's four million 1, somewhere in that range. So, we need to talk about, there's a lot on there. We're going to have to talk about that.

Art Moystner said sure.

Gary said and it'll be part of a bonding discussion. We're going to have joint meeting. Is that right, Meeks?

Meeks said yes.

Gary said okay. When is that joint meeting?

Laura said May, I want to say May 19<sup>th</sup>. Do you have it on your calendar, Meeks?

Meeks said not on the calendar.

Gary said the council has called the meeting, so the commissioners have to motion to go there too.

Meeks said joint meeting May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 o'clock.

Gary said okay. We haven't, the commissioners haven't approved going to it. Council called a meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 o'clock. Missy, you have any problem with that date?

Missy said no.

Gary said Tom, do you have it?

Tom said yes, I got it.

Gary said we be discussing bonding, and this is one of the number one reasons.

Art Moystner said and I will try to be here that, at that time, too.

Gary said somebody make a motion to join a joint meeting with the council on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 o'clock.

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

Gary said I will, when I get internet, I'll get you that.

Art Moystner said perfect.

Gary said Missy, have you looked at that jail contract?

Missy said yeah. I can forward that on to you.

Gary said is your internet running?

Missy said yeah,

Art Moystner said if you want to forward it, that would be great. I'd like to look it over. Maybe it's something we can, at that point in time discuss essentials on it for what that is.

Tom said and is that all we do, is there any other big projects coming up at the jail while we're, I mean, we need to look.

Art Moystner said not that I'm aware of. I mean, we're looking at the HVACs. We're looking at the heating and air. We're looking at the domestic water side, replacing showers, all of that stuff, I think structurally, that building is very sound. Beyond that, we've done a lot. I know we've done some things with the septic and drains and all kinds of things. So, there's nothing that I can think of, but again, I've shared freely that is not my area of expertise.

Gary said well I think we ought to have some numbers too, for the addition of the EMS building for the morgue. We can roll it into a bond probably.

Tom said what about potential of the airport?

Gary said oh, we'll have to get them in here and ask them.

Tom said if we're going to do something at the airport.

Gary said it's time to get it all done.

Tom said if we're going to bond.

Gary said Art will you be prepared to speak about the jail in two weeks from Argo?

Art Moystner said am I going to be prepared to speak?

Gary said well no, to look at that contract.

Art Moystner said absolutely, I will look at it and give you my opinion.

Gary said it's not a contract, it's a proposal.

Art Moystner said sure.

Gary said and then Jake will be here and he'll give us his thoughts.

Art Moystner said I'm always willing to share an opinion.

Gary said okay. Anybody else have anything else to share? Tom?

Tom said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said I would really like, I'm not criticizing you, but you know things are coming up ahead, let's work out a couple months at a time, what's coming up so we can kind of keep it all on our mind. You know what I mean? Like, let's say you need new guns, or need new cameras or need all that stuff.

Art Moystner said we've done that, and I've tried really hard to communicate ahead of time before it happens.

Missy said yeah, I know.

Art Moystner said to be honest, the vehicles just dawned on me this morning that we were getting into that time of year. And just so you guys are aware, we are down one road position, currently have been since November, I think. So, just to keep you in the loop. Thank you.

Gary said thank you.

**Minutes of February 18, 2025 and March 3, 2025**

Gary said minutes of February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and March the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Somebody like to make a motion to accept these minutes? Everybody should have had them.

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

**Payroll Claims \$361,304.55**

Gary said okay, payroll claims, \$361,304.55. Somebody like to make a motion to accept the payroll claims, approve them, I'm sorry, approve?

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

**Regular Claims \$1,886,851.60**

Gary said regular claims, \$1,886,851.60. Someone like to make a motion to approve the regular claims?

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

**BF&S Vision Trail Claim \$10,200.00**

Gary said okay. BF&S Vision Trail claim, \$10,200. Everybody read the email that Mike had sent that Laura sent to us?

Missy said yes.

Tom said does this claim take us through that?

Laura said it's for January, so it might be a small one, but, I don't know that.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve?

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

**Coblenz Construction (Airport) Claim \$91,931.04**

Gary said Coblenz Construction, airport claim, \$91,931.04. Somebody like to make a motion to approve?

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

**Randolph County United \$20,134.34**

**Randolph County United Tourism \$2,365.66**

Gary said two claims here, Randolph County United and Randolph County Tourism. One for \$20,134.34 and the Tourism, \$2,365.66. Somebody like to make a motion to approve these claims?

Missy said I'd like to take those one at a time.

Gary said okay. Number one, Randolph County United, \$20,134.34.

Missy said so, they've hired a new director.

Gary said yes.

Missy and show, I guess at some, in my head, I think I'd like to see, can we see what they spend money on, because this is still holding, Meeks, I got your email on that's still holding at the \$270,000.00 agreement per year.

Laura said huh uh.

Missy said no?

Laura said no, it's changed. I gave him the numbers and we are going to address that at the EDIT Plan.

Missy said oh, okay.

Laura said this is, these numbers and Meeks, tell me if I'm wrong, we have to continue to pay them until we change the contract.

Meeks said the contract, yeah.

Missy said right. Okay.

Laura said so the contract is based off these two numbers right here.

Meeks said those numbers are based on the contract.

Missy said and the Randolph County United Tourism funding is going to Tourism.

Tom said through Randolph County United.

Meeks said for March.

Missy said okay. I make a motion to approve.

Gary said we have a motion to approve the RCU claim of \$20,134.34. Do we have a second?

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

Gary said and now the Randolph County United Tourism claim, \$2,365.66.

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

#### **Salary Study Committee Appointee**

Gary said Salary Study Committee appointee. Who would like to do that? I did it last year, so I'm off the hook.

Missy said Tom, could you do it?

Tom said sure.

Gary said okay. Missy, do you want to make a motion for Tom Kerns to do it?

Missy made a motion to approve Tom Kerns for salary study committee. Gary seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said thank you, Tom.

**Transfer of IROWCO parcels from DNR**

Gary said Transfer of the IROWCO parcels from the DNR to Randolph County. Everybody has that information. Before we can go any further, commissioners have to say yay or nay. I spoke to Meeks about that and he can fill it in it would be easier for us to do it and give it back to cities so it is not up to the state to do it.

Meeks said if you have the state do it, I don't know if it'll ever get done. At least, if you have control over it, you can figure out what to do with it.

Tom said yep.

Gary said okay. So, would somebody like to make a motion that we accept those properties?

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

Gary said we had done the same last year, but now we have quit-claim deeds and all that stuff that need to be, so the next meeting, we'll just sign them?

Meeks said well you just accept them. They'll send you that stuff, yeah.

Gary said I think we already have it.

Meeks said then you sign it at the next meeting, unless you have them?

Laura said I've not received them but I'll respond to those people and said commissioners approved moving forward with those or whatever.

Gary said I'm sorry if you didn't have it. I thought you already had it. But when I was looking at everything, I seen the other two commissioners didn't have those parcels, so I sent it as an informational email.

**GIS Data request**

Gary said okay, GIS data request.

Tom said that was what we talked about.

Laura said well NLBC had already paid for it. But this is sounding like they want to share it.

Tom said that's what we talked about at Drainage Board. Remember we talked about it, Gary?

Laura said here's the contract. If you decide to do it.

Gary said we didn't make a decision on it, mainly because, who we going to pick gets it for free and who don't.

Missy said right.

Gary said that's not a government entity. That's a private sector.

Tom said well they came back and you know, we had that in the drainage board meeting. We said there's a form for them to fill out. They need to fill the form out first and then we would make the decision. Is that correct, Ed?

Ed Thornburg said uh huh.

Laura said but basically, NLBC paid the \$1,200.00. I think there's a \$100.00 fee for upgrades, right Ed?

Ed Thornburg said yeah.

Laura said but, I don't understand why they're asking for it for free when they've already paid for it, other than maybe they don't want to pay the \$100.00 upgrades.

Gary said well I, yeah, well they got to. I don't want to give it to them for free. We have to get their internet provided out there for free. Everybody has already paid for it themselves.

Meeks said do they know it? Do they know they paid for it?

Laura said we talked about this regarding that this is an issue because they, they're cutting into drains, farmers' drains because they don't have this map.

Ed Thornburg said true.

Gary said but so does all the other people burying fiber optic. They're getting their own. The farmers' drains, that don't hold any water anyway because farmers' drains are going through the side ditches, they don't always log them on there.

Ed Thornburg said if it's not a county drain, it's not on the map.

Gary said right, so.

Ed Thornburg said now they actually, they have asked about, they are doing a large amount of territory over on the southwest side, but every other company that's burying fiber, I've directed them to the public GIS site. When they're working off google maps, that's not convenient. I mean, it's beyond not convenient. It's just not handy. One consideration I had would be putting the drain layer on google maps. And to be honest, I don't know if I could even, if I had permission, I don't know if I could do it or not. I do know EDPR puts their projects on google earth and you can, you know, you can view them on google earth even if we don't get a TIF file to put on our map. But they asked, they asked nicely.

Tom said they've already paid for it.

Ed Thornburg said if they've already paid for it.

Laura said well we found where they had paid the 1200 previously, so, the most they would really need to pay, I mean, they're asking for waiver of fee, but the most they would have to pay would be the \$100.00.

Ed Thornburg said just the \$100.00 upgrade.

Laura said right.

Gary said yeah. I'm not personally in favor of wavering private industry fees.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said when you waive one, you waive them all.

Missy said right.

Ed Thornburg said it turns into, you know, it turns into do we view this as an economic development tool and furnish it to everybody, or do we you know, do what we've done and I'm good either way. I'm not, like I say, they do have, they do have access. , I've had two complaints in the last week, and one of them, I checked out Friday. And yeah, I'm thinking you probably got a private ditch. There's water standing here, there's no water standing here. It's pretty obvious. The other one, I didn't go and see, and it involves, it looks like they plowed cable through a, I'm going to say 500 feet of 12-in tile that's private tile in the side ditch.

Gary said which wouldn't be on your maps.

Ed Thornburg said no, it's not, it was not on the map. It wouldn't be there anyway. It's something they have to repair and they know it.

Gary said right.

Ed Thornburg said I've been in fairly constant communication with the project manager. Yes, he's in Houston, but I talk to him fairly regularly. And I went and checked their area to see what

they were digging up. I told them, I tell all of these developers early on, if there's a swell, there's a tile in it of somebody's. And they have done a really good job. You can see where they trench in, you can see where they go from trench to bore, and that shows everywhere they do it. And they either go overhead or they bore under, and they, like I say, they've been doing an excellent job.

Gary said okay well I think we just got to get down to what we want to do with this. Do we want to provide this to private industry. And this is good for the county to put it in there, they charge a fee to the people. They don't lower their fees because we give them a fee overlay map.

Ed Thornburg said right.

Gary said so, I'm personally. They're not a government entity.

Ed Thornburg said like I say, if all they're, if all they need to do is furnish a \$100.00 for their upgrade, that's pretty easy.

Gary said they should do that.

Laura said well, I was kind of confused on it because they have, NLBC has paid for it, but then it says something about sharing. It says they want county commissioners to approve to share the Randolph County GIS data at no charge with NLBC for overlaying maps. Who are they sharing it with? NLBC already has.

Ed Thornburg said they'd be sharing it with their sub.

Tom said which is.

Laura said I don't get that.

Ed Thornburg said they would be sharing it with their subcontractor.

Laura said okay. It wasn't real clear, so, I wasn't quite, why they were getting that.

Ed Thornburg said right, right. That's the only person they'd have any reason to share it with because that guy works for them.

Gary said then they can get it from them?

Laura said from NLBC.

Ed Thornburg said yeah.

Gary said and NLBC is, their sub, they have a right-of-way on there already.

Ed Thornburg said sure. They have a right to use it.

Tom said so they can spend a \$100.00 to do that.

Ed Thornburg said I'm wondering if management at New Lisbon realizes they've already, maybe they don't realize they paid for it.

Laura said well, that's true.

Gary said maybe not.

Tom said they've been in contact with me.

Meeks said well that's obvious.

Gary said okay. Alright. As far as they hadn't, I mean what are your thoughts on what the private sector have a waver?

Missy said no, I, you've put a lot of time in doing updates and everything else.

Ed Thornburg said I'm still not done.

Missy said yeah. It takes a lot of time. No, I think it's.

Tom said I'm okay with that.

Gary said you're okay with that?

Tom said yeah.

Gary said okay. So, they just need to pay the \$100.00 fee and move on.

Missy said yeah.

Tom said I'll contact them.

Gary said okay.

Ed Thornburg said I think they just, I think they've changed some management and they just don't know they've done it. Might be helpful for Tom, if you could get him a date that they initially paid that so they can reference it.

Tom said when they damage a tile, what's the timeline for them to get that repaired? I know farming season is coming up, if they damage it, and there is ½ a field flooded.

Ed Thornburg said we don't, we never set a timeline on that. That's one of them things we never addressed when I took it over from highway.

Gary said we probably ought to do that in a drainage meeting, put that on there.

Tom said next month.

Gary said yeah.

Ed Thornburg said yeah, we can discuss that.

Gary said I think it's a good idea.

**Comcast Service Agreement**

Gary said Comcast service agreement.

Laura said so this is, you guys did one for, I think the internet, but this one is for telephone, but they're back up services for us. So, like if what we have fails, Comcast backs us up. And Joseph negotiated this and I believe he told me it was a savings from what we had before.

Gary said it's recommended?

Laura said yes.

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

**Insurance Certificate of Compliance for bonds**

Gary said okay, now the Insurance certificate of compliance for bonds.

Laura said this is some annual paperwork that we have to do for our bonding, existing bonding.

Gary said yeah, this letter certifies the bank NY Mellon of Randolph County building corporation rental revenue bond series 2019 has in full force and effect with all insurance coverages in the amount and types at least equal to the option purchase price. Somebody like to make a motion to sign that?

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

**EDIT Plan amendment**

Gary said EDIT Plan amendment. So, the amendment's on there for the change of the amounts we talked about.

Missy said yeah.

Laura said the Randolph County United.

Gary said I mis-read it too Missy like you, I thought they both looked the same.

Laura said and then it's also, Meeks, out of the 10,000 for the park.

Gary said for the part, yeah, that's on the new plan.

Laura said and EDIT board meets once you guys, if you guys approve this, EDIT board meets Wednesday to approve it.

Gary said okay. There is the grant to support Randolph County Tourism in the sum of \$21,290.94 for 2025 and the sum of \$28,387.19 for 2026 over the year and paid monthly. Does it show a reduction in RCU?

Meeks said yes.

Laura said yes.

Missy said it's the email you sent out.

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

Gary said I think I looked at the wrong contract then, Meeks.

Meeks said well I sent out the one because I didn't know how we were going to do it.

Gary said okay.

Meeks said so, somebody probably needs to talk to RCU about the funding.

Gary said I will.

Meeks said and with the amended contract.

Gary said I will.

Meeks said because, I have not seen it.

Gary said they have not seen it?

Meeks said I haven't, no. I didn't know who to contact. They should know because it all happened at budget time. But there's lots of new people.

Laura said basically, coming up with those numbers, I took off the \$35,000 that council reduced our budget for them. I took off the amount that we pay Tourism because we're going to pay it separate out.

Gary said so we reduced it by the appropriation for the county council to match that, and then reduced off the Tourism amount.

Meeks said yeah.

Laura said correct.

Meeks said correct.

Gary said we meet tomorrow night and I'll tell them all.

Laura said we are not approving this contract today?

Meeks said they need to present it, then the commissioners can sign it.

Laura said do we need anything with it right now?

Meeks said no, no.

Gary said present it to them.

Meeks said present it, get approved, and then you guys sign it.

#### **Grant Approval**

Gary said and then we have the grant approval that, from Missy requested.

Missy said I'm going to table that at this point.

Gary said you're going to table it? Okay.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said that brings us to the end of our agenda. I knew there would be a full agenda today. So, Missy, you have anything for commissioners?

Missy said no, can't think of anything.

#### **Tom Kerns – EMS Contracts with townships**

Gary said anything I have right now wrote down has already been covered. Tom?

Tom said the only other thing, and we're still, I wanted the information on the EMS contracts with the townships and such. I talked to Union City. I talked to Jackson Township. What, the contract that we have with the townships pay, what township is that, how much are they paying?

Gary said Green.

Laura said Green Township paying Albany, but I don't know the amount.

Meeks said it was not, yeah.

Tom said I knew it wasn't a bunch.

Meeks said 1500 maybe?

Laura said I don't, I can't remember. It's been too many years. I'm sure it's been renegotiated since I've been in here.

Meeks said I can tell you. I can tell you in a second.

Gary said do you know what we pay Green township pays Albany?

Laura said the county doesn't pay it.

Meeks said yeah. I know what we pay. Let me find it.

Tom said well I've been talking to Union City and then I told them to talk to the townships also, since they're.

Missy said I think we all need to see that and who's going where, what's going where? Not to open a can of worms but.

Laura said I know Green Township did a map and EMS, I know Chris probably has a copy of that map. It shows what fire departments cover what area in Green Township.

Missy said okay.

Laura said because, when I became trustee, Joel Flesher got on that board just to get that redone. He did and it was a very nice map. I'm pretty sure Chris has a copy of that.

Meeks said Albany is paid, was paid 1,250 bucks.

Gary said from Green Township?

Meeks said no, I don't know if it was Green.

Laura said that was old.

Meeks said that's us.

Laura said yeah.

Meeks said but we have not ever amended that. Then the Culberson but that's gone. And then Union City was right at \$12,500. And we would not know what Green pays.

Gary said right.

Tom said we would have to talk to the trustee.

Meeks said yeah, you'd have to ask the trustee. Who is the trustee over there?

Laura said Jeana Garringer. I have her number.

Tom said can you email it to me and I'll call her. I'm just trying to get all this together.

Gary said Brad, come up here real quick if you would. Was the Farmland coverage now, are we covering Green Township solely, or do they still need Albany services?

Brad Mullen said Delaware County is covering it. They took over all the EMS and they come up into Randolph County.

Tom said so Delaware is covering that?

Brad Mullen said yeah.

Gary said and that's still working well?

Brad Mullen said yeah. I mean, if they're busy, they call us and we go up there, but, for the most, they have two ambulances and a squad up there at all times.

Gary said yeah, kind of like we have.

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

Gary said any input on the townships and the EMS coverage, contract?

Brad Mullen said I mean, I've looked at the stats that I've got pulled you know. Union City, they have 587 calls a year and 60 a year, 60 to 70 in that township area. I think I sent you guys emails on all of those. I don't know if it came across the ones that I highlighted that were actually what they took.

Gary said what they took in town?

Brad Mullen said and there's two areas they cover.

Tom said right.

Gary said okay.

Tom said I'll try to bring a recommendation to our next meeting of what I think or from what they're currently paying and I'll talk to the township again and see where and what. I'd like to

know what Green's paying. So, as long as I get that information to see where, and what, and while we're talking about it, on the fire, I know we don't have anything to do with that, but I know I was talking to Jackson Township up there, Union City was asking them to contribute to a tanker truck, if Union City would say we're not covering them anymore, who is responsible?

Meeks said trustee.

Tom said so the township trustee is?

Meeks said they'd need to make a contract with some of those.

Tom said they would have to go to Ward?

Meeks said we don't have a fire district. So, us not having a fire district is up to the trustee to figure out.

Tom said okay.

Gary said and they have to figure it out.

Tom said yep. Okay. That's, I just, I didn't know how that all worked.

Meeks said I don't know if everybody says no, if they're force to, I don't know how that all works.

Laura said I know when I was up there in Green, we had a fund that was just for fire and EMS, and public safety, and that's all it could be used for.

Meeks said yep. You have a fire fund. They have a fund.

Gary said yeah, they've got funds. Those two townships.

Gary said anything else, Tom?

Tom said that's it.

**Meeks – Tower king amended contract language**

Gary said Meeks?

Meeks said the tower.

Gary said oh, thank you. We have a language change in the towers.

Meeks said I didn't see anything. They've just changing their name, it looked like.

Gary said so, they need this because they actually have a carrier to get on the north tower. So, that's a good thing.

Missy said right.

Gary said it's going on there, so, would someone like to make a motion to change the language on this contract that this is approved?

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

Meeks said okay. Other than that, I didn't have anything.

Gary said thanks for bringing it up because I forgot it.

Meeks said that's why I got your back.

#### **Laura - Firewall**

Laura said so, our firewall is expiring and the highway firewall is expiring, but ours, I think it's ours is the one that has to have all new equipment. The equipment is outdated. So, here's a quote from LEAP. I just received it this morning, so if you want to table it until next meeting so you can all look at it. But Mike talked to me about it last week at our quarterly meeting, Mike from LEAP, and then he, I just got the quote this morning, so I didn't get a chance to get it out to your guys.

Tom said probably don't have much choice.

Gary said no, not really.

Missy said yeah, we're kind of stuck.

Gary said those IT guys could own the county. Do they recommend we do it for us? Do you recommend we go ahead and move on? Are we going to table it and do it anyway?

Laura said well, like you guys said, we've got to do it anyway.

Gary said want to make a motion to approve this upgrade in the firewall?

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

Gary said when we get the townships and the price paid, where is that fund out of? I mean, if Randolph County is for instance, when we do the Union City \$12,500 where in the budget does that show up?

Meeks said out of the EMS budget.

Gary said the EMS budget and then comes?

Tom said yeah. I think it does, I think. Does that from Union City show up in your budget, the \$12,500.

Brad Mullen said no.

Meeks said commissioners' budget then.

Gary said the commissioners' budget, yeah. Just curious of the exact. Alright.

**Missy Williams-Joint Union City Indiana and Ohio services funding**

Missy said Gary, I've got one more thing, just a question, and hopefully, somebody can answer. So, Union City, Indiana and Union City, Ohio, so do they cross the state lines to offer services into Ohio with taxpayer money from Indiana?

Gary said I do not know.

Tom said the Ohio side, they combine services. The Ohio side equipment is part, for the most part, even the ambulance is parked in the Indiana side vehicle. And they work together. How in the mutual agreement, how the mutual agreement is put together, I'm not sure. But yes, they do. They've always offered mutual aid, but now they work together as one department. And I don't, I just had this conversation with the Union City fire chief and they, most of the equipment is parked on the Indiana side now.

Gary said Is our Indiana tax dollars funding Ohio side.

Missy said that's my question.

Meeks said it's my understanding, and I could be wrong, that if you have an agreement with another municipality across state lines, that's supposed to go through the AGs office.

Missy said that's what I've been told.

Meeks said that is my understanding because I had this big conversation with DCS, because we were trying to figure out, this family in Greenville, to place a child, a place like that, and that's how it was explained to me, that we could have one with Darke county to place children. Darke County could place children here. But those agreements would be worked out through the state.

Gary said should Randolph County have a copy of that agreement that they have with Ohio?

Meeks said we can ask for it. They're going to come up and, I mean, I don't think they have to get, I mean, it's public access, right, you can just ask them for it.

Gary said I guess the real question is are our Randolph County bleeding over for support?

Meeks said well if they come in and ask for money from you. I mean, you know, everything is public access. I mean, you should be able to get any contracts. Just call over to the clerk and ask them.

Gary said I think we're probably going to be finding out. The question is brewing. I'm hearing it more and more.

Meeks said I have been told that the police are both trained, I mean, they have the training in Ohio and so the reserve deputies, in either Ohio or Indiana and they are, or, they're both deputies in both states. So, they have police powers in both states.

Tom said because that even goes down to the city, the employees that are working on the streets and everything else that are working with both.

Gary said that would be the city tax.

Meeks said I mean, they have an attorney. I assume they contracted that.

Gary said I don't see how county tax going up would be going over right now. It would be if they access money would say where is it going. But right now, the city, the citizens of Union City ought to be knowing that answer. Okay. Anything else?

Missy said no. That's it. Thank you.

**Citizen Comments (3 minutes)**

Gary said alright, in the audience today, anybody have anything for the commissioners?

**Adjournment**

Gary said hearing nothing, somebody like to make a motion to adjourn?

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

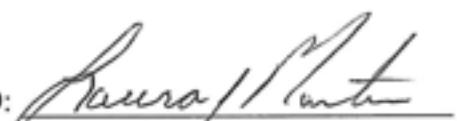
Reviewed and accepted this 7 day of April, 2025

  
Gary Friend

  
Tom Kerns

  
Missy Williams

ATTESTED:

  
Laura J Martin, Auditor

